

County Offices
Newland
Lincoln
LN1 1YL

18 July 2013

Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee

A meeting of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee will be held on **Friday, 26 July 2013 at 10.00 am in Committee Room One, County Offices, Newland, Lincoln LN1 1YL** for the transaction of the business set out on the attached Agenda.

Yours sincerely



Tony McArdle
Chief Executive

Membership of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee (19 Members of the Council and 6 Added Members)

Councillors J D Hough (Chairman), B Adams (Vice-Chairman), W J Aron, J P Churchill, S R Dodds, A G Hagues, J R Hicks, R J Hunter-Clarke, B W Keimach, P J O'Connor, C R Oxby, Mrs S Ransome, Mrs N J Smith, Mrs C A Talbot, S M Tweedale, L Wootten, R Wootten and Mrs S M Wray

Added Members

Church Representatives: Mr S C Rudman, Mr P Thompson and Mrs G Wright

Parent Representatives: Mr C V Miller, Mrs E Olivier-Townrow and Dr E van der Zee

**CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE AGENDA
FRIDAY, 26 JULY 2013**

Item	Title	Pages
1	Apologies for Absence / Replacement Members	
2	Declaration of Members' Interest	
3	Minutes of the meeting of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee held on 14 June 2013	1 - 8
4	Children's Centres Progress and Successes <i>(To receive a report from Stuart Carlton, Assistant Director of Children's Services, which provides the Committee with an update regarding Lincolnshire Children's Centres, demonstrating outcomes for Lincolnshire children and their families and identifying areas for development to ensure all centres are delivering quality services)</i>	9 - 32
5	Youth Housing Strategy <i>(To receive a report from Philip Taylor, which asks the Committee to consider the Youth Housing Strategy, which sets out the strategic vision of youth housing services in Lincolnshire for the next 5 years)</i>	33 - 76
6	Proposal to revoke the decision taken in May 2012 to expand Spalding Primary School <i>(To receive a report from Michelle Andrews, Interim Head of Property and Technology Management, which invites the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee to consider a report on the proposal to revoke the decision taken in May 2012 to expand Spalding Primary School)</i>	77 - 92
7	Proposal for a new primary Academy in Spalding (submission to Secretary of State of results and evaluation of process to identify an operator) <i>(To receive a report from Michelle Andrews, Interim Head of Property and Technology Management, which invites the Committee to consider a report on the proposal for a new primary Academy in Spalding (submission to Secretary of State of results and evaluation of process to identify an operator))</i>	93 - 122
8	Related Proposals to Amend the Age Range and Expand the Capacity at Grantham The Isaac Newton Primary School (Final Decision) <i>(To receive a report from Michelle Andrews, Interim Head of Property and Technology Management, which invites the Scrutiny Committee to consider a report on the related proposals to amend the age range and expand the capacity at Grantham The Isaac Newton Primary School (Final decision))</i>	123 - 148

- 9** **Improving Access to Post-16 Learning Provision in Lincolnshire Action Plan (Second Monitoring Update)** 149 - 170
(To receive a report from Maggie Freeman, Head of Service 11-19, which invites the Committee to consider the actions/progress of the action plan resulting from the Access to Post 16 Learning Provision review undertaken in 2011)
- 10** **Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2013/14** 171 - 186
(To receive a report by Tracy Johnson, Scrutiny Officer, which provides the Committee with an opportunity to consider its work programme)

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<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Business of the meeting• Any special arrangements• Copies of reports	
Contact details set out above.	
All papers for council meetings are available on: www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/committeerecords	



**CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
14 JUNE 2013**

PRESENT: COUNCILLOR J D HOUGH (CHAIRMAN)

Councillors W J Aron, J P Churchill, S R Dodds, A G Hagues, J R Hicks, R J Hunter-Clarke, B W Keimach, C R Oxby, Mrs S Ransome, Mrs N J Smith, T M Trollope-Bellew, A H Turner MBE JP, S M Tweedale, L Wootten, R Wootten and Mrs S M Wray.

Added Members: Mrs E Olivier-Townrow, Mr S C Rudman, Mr P Thompson and Mrs G Wright.

Councillor D Brailsford (Executive Support Councillor for Children's Services) was also in attendance.

Councillor R G Davies attended the meeting as an observer

Officers in attendance: Michelle Andrews (Interim Head of Property and Technology Management), Debbie Barnes (Director of Children's Services), Keith Batty (Assistant Director, CfBT Education Services), Andrea Brown (Democratic Services Officer), Matt Clayton (School Organisation Planning Manager), Linda Duffield (School Organisation Planning Officer), Tracy Johnson (Scrutiny Officer) and Janice Spencer (Assistant Director for Children's Services)

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE / REPLACEMENT MEMBERS

Apologies were received from Councillors B Adams (Vice-Chairman) and Mrs P A Bradwell (Executive Councillor for Adult Care, Health Services and Children's Services).

Mr Miller and Dr van der Zee (Added Members) also submitted apologies for absence.

Councillors C R Oxby, T M Trollope-Bellew, A H Turner MBE JP and R Wootten attended as Replacement Members in place of four of the five vacancies.

2 DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTEREST

In respect of Agenda Item 6 – Proposal to Expand Kirton Primary School (Final Decision), Councillor Mrs S Ransome advised the Committee that she was a Governor of Kirton Primary School and would, therefore, take part in the debate but would abstain from voting.

2

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

14 JUNE 2013

3 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE HELD ON 1 MARCH 2013

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the previous meeting of the Committee, held on 1 March 2013, be agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

4 FUTURE PRIORITIES FOR THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

The Chairman explained that he would like to ascertain the views of new Members prior to receiving a presentation from officers introducing the work of the Children's Services Directorate.

Members were asked to complete a form with what they felt should be the main three priorities of the Committee. Following this exercise, the Chairman asked that Members discuss their suggestions in groups of three, agreeing on the top three priorities for their individual groups.

The Chairman thanked Members for their participation and advised that an analysis of the suggestions would be undertaken following the meeting and compared with the views of officers.

RESOLVED

1. That an analysis of the suggested future priorities be undertaken and presented at the next meeting of the Committee.

5 INTRODUCTION TO CHILDREN'S SERVICES

The Chairman invited Debbie Barnes, Director of Children's Services, to give an introduction to Children's Services.

The presentation provided an overview of the Children's Services Directorate, the vision of the team, principles followed, services provided, previous achievements and future priorities. An explanation of resources within the department was also given.

During discussion, the following points were noted:-

- It was explained that the target set in relation to Child Protection Plans was to be able to monitor, in future, that the early intervention measures implemented were appropriate and successful. Although it was a target, this particular target was used more as a measure.
- Operational and strategic discussions, with schools, continued in relation to Pupil Premium and how this could be best utilised. Not all those eligible for this had signed up resulting in schools being unable to access the funding. In order to promote the availability of Pupil Premium to parents, the School's

Forum had requested that posters and leaflets be provided to schools explaining the benefits.

- In relation to Troubled Families, a minimum of two indicators had to be met to be identified as a Troubled Family. It was expected that the target figure of 400 families would be reached by the end of the year. Significant numbers of families had made considerable progress but had not yet met the threshold for officers to be able to remove them as a troubled family. An update was requested at a future meeting of the Committee.
- Lincolnshire reported low numbers of children based in secure accommodation, although guidance and funding arrangements had recently changed. LCC had proactively responded to the Government's shift in priorities and now have four approved foster carers who would accept children on remand.
- Children placed in out-of-county facilities are generally those with complex or unique needs and require specialist skills to meet their needs, for example severe autism. It was, therefore, need rather than cost when a decision was made to place a child out-of-county.
- The number of children being placed in Lincolnshire special schools (Bourne specifically) from out-of-county was unavailable but officers agreed to provide this to Members at a future meeting.

RESOLVED

1. That Special School Placements, including the number of children placed in Lincolnshire from out-of-county, be added to the Work Programme for a future meeting;
2. That a Troubled Families Update be added to the Work Programme for a future meeting of the Committee;
3. That a workshop be arranged for the Committee to provide greater detail of the performance targets covered by Children's Services.

6 PROPOSAL TO EXPAND KIRTON PRIMARY SCHOOL (FINAL DECISION)

Michelle Andrews, Interim Head of Service – Property and Technology Management, introduced the report which invited the Committee to consider a report on the proposal to expand Kirton Primary School, due to be considered by the Executive Councillor for Adult Care, Health Services and Children's Services on 28 June 2013.

During discussion, the following points were noted:-

- The proposed expansion was in conjunction with the capital process to ensure minimal disruption to the school by undertaking all the works together.
- Members were reassured that the expansion of the school was to accommodate 630 existing pupils living in the area and would not destabilise any other schools in the vicinity as there was a need for that number of school places.
- Sufficiency of school places remained a national strategic challenge which would eventually filter into secondary schools. The main challenge for Local

Authorities would be to find sufficient funds to be able to build enough secondary school places for the future.

- School transport and travel to school were a concern for the Committee, although it was confirmed that eight miles was the maximum expected for any child to travel at primary level, although children may travel longer due to specific circumstances (i.e. special needs). Measures were also being considered to limit parental travel by car and to encourage pupils to walk or cycle to school. The Committee encouraged officers to include these proposals in the school travel plan.

RESOLVED

1. That the Committee support the recommendation to the Executive Councillor for Adult Care, Health Services and Children's Services as set out in Appendix 1 of agenda item 6;
2. That the comments of the Committee in relation to school transport be relayed to the Executive Councillor for Adult Care, Health Services and Children' Services for their consideration.

7 PROPOSAL TO EXPAND CONINGSBY ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL (FINAL DECISION)

Michelle Andrews, Interim Head of Service – Property and Technology Management, introduced the report which invited the Committee to consider a report on the proposal to expand Coningsby St Michael's Church of England Primary School due to be considered by the Executive Councillor for Adult Care, Health Services and Children's Services on 28 June 2013.

During discussion the following points were noted:-

- Reassurance was given that work had been undertaken in close liaison with the leadership team in the school. As the school had a new Headteacher, it was felt they would be focussing on school standards as well as the expansion.
- When considering the Needs Analysis a balance to increase numbers to Coningsby and Tattershall without destabilising other schools in the area had to be achieved. The proposal was to increase places within that community and, although parental concerns had been raised around building at Coningsby only, the Council had responded to these concerns and were progressing an expansion at Tattershall as well.
- The numbers quoted within the proposal were based on the demographic currently based in the area.
- The new Headteacher and their team had been working closely with the parents who had expressed concerns to explain the future plans going forward. All concerns or objections made during the consultation had been considered, however.
- The Committee were content with the proposals and confirmed that they had no comments for consideration by the Executive Councillor.

RESOLVED

3. That the Committee support the recommendation to the Executive Councillor for Adult Care, Health Services and Children's Services as set out in Appendix 1 of agenda item 7.

11.30am – Councillor S Ransome left the meeting at this point and did not return.

8 PROPOSAL FOR A NEW PRIMARY ACADEMY IN BOURNE
(SUBMISSION TO SECRETARY OF STATE OF RESULTS AND
EVALUATION OF PROCESS TO IDENTIFY AN OPERATOR)

The Chairman welcomed Mrs C A Edwards (Headteacher), Mr Kirkman (Chair of Governors) and Mr D Pickering (Vice-Chair of Governors), of Bourne Primary Academy, to the meeting.

Michelle Andrews, Interim Head of Service – Property and Technology Management, introduced the report which invited the Committee to consider a report on the proposal for a new Primary Academy in Bourne due to be considered by the Executive Councillor for Adult Care, Health Services and Children's Services on 28 June 2013.

The Chairman then invited Mrs Edwards to address the Committee.

During discussion the following points were noted:-

- The Committee received confirmation that the school would provide an inclusive environment, welcoming children with varying religious beliefs as well as those with none.
- The impact on secondary schools as a result of increasing capacity in primary schools was discussed. It was expected that secondary school pressure would be reached by 2016 and, although Further Education Colleges could take pupils from the age of 14, further consideration on the impact on secondary school places would have to be given.
- Mrs Edwards confirmed that they were working with all primary schools in Bourne to develop joint training. They were also providing some informal support to another Primary Academy in Bourne, including their school council.
- The Committee were content with the proposals and confirmed that they had no comments for consideration by the Executive Councillor.

RESOLVED

4. That the Committee support the recommendation to the Executive Councillor for Adult Care, Health Services and Children's Services as set out in Appendix 1 of agenda item 8.

9 PERFORMANCE - QUARTER 4 2012/13

Debbie Barnes, Director of Children's Services, introduced the report which provided the Committee with a summary of Quarter 4 2012/13 performance for Children and Young People, following which Members were offered the opportunity to attend a workshop which would explain, in detail, the performance indicators included within the report, prior to the next meeting.

12.30pm – Councillors L Wootten, R Wootten and Mrs Olivier-Townrow left the meeting at this point and did not return.

During discussion the following points were noted:-

- It was explained that, although not statistically significant, certain targets were set at 100% to ensure that the team strives to reach them as they are extremely significant in children's services and the support provided to children. For other targets, a wider variation of target range was set.
- Indicator CS117 (% 16-19 teenage mothers in EET) – officers were generally made aware of teenagers in this group being mothers through conversation. As this particular indicator was 'owned' by Public Health, it was suggested that they be engaged to clarify the position and to invite them to a future meeting.
- Information relating to the comparisons of permanent exclusions in academies against maintained schools was requested. The outcome of the recent review had resulted in 15 recommendations. It had been agreed that a review of these recommendations would be brought to the Committee in September/October 2013.
- Following discussion it was agreed to add the issue of pupils eligible for Free School Meals to the Work Programme.

RESOLVED

1. That the content of the Performance Report be noted;
2. That a workshop be arranged to provide the Committee with further information around the Performance Indicators;
3. That Free School Meals/Pupil Premium be added to the Work Programme for a future meeting.

At 12.50pm Councillors B W Keimach and J R Hicks left the meeting and did not return.

10 CORPORATE PARENTING PANEL UPDATE

The Assistant Director for Children's Services, Janice Spencer, introduced the report which provided the Committee with the previous minutes of the Corporate Parenting Panel. It was explained that the prime responsibility of the Corporate Parenting Panel was to work with foster carers, adoptive parents and relevant officers in order to ensure that arrangements for the safety and welfare of looked after children and

care leavers were in accordance with what any good parent would want for their own child.

It was proposed that a workshop be held, for the new members of the Corporate Parenting Panel and all members of the Children & Young People Scrutiny Committee, which would cover fostering, adoption, Looked After Children (LAC), visiting members, private fostering and residential accommodation. It was planned to hold this workshop prior to the next meeting of the Corporate Parenting Panel, scheduled for Thursday 18th July 2013.

Committee members were asked to advise their Group Leaders if they would be interested in sitting on the Corporate Parenting Panel. The Clerk to the Committee would then contact Group Leaders asking for their nominations.

RESOLVED

1. That the report be noted;
2. That Members contact their Group Leader to express their interest in becoming a member of the Corporate Parenting Panel.

11 SAFEGUARDING BOARDS SCRUTINY SUB-GROUP - INTRODUCTORY ITEM

Tracy Johnson, Scrutiny Officer, introduced the report which provided the Committee with the previous minutes of the Safeguarding Boards Scrutiny Sub-Group. Members of this sub-group also attended the Strategic Safeguarding Adults Board and Safeguarding Children Board on a rotational basis.

Committee members were asked to advise their Group Leaders if they would be interested in sitting on the Safeguarding Boards Scrutiny Sub-Group. Democratic Services would then contact Group Leaders asking for their nominations.

RESOLVED

3. That the report be noted;
4. That Members contact their Group Leader to express their interest in becoming a member of the Safeguarding Boards Scrutiny Sub-Group.

12 CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2013

Tracy Johnson, Scrutiny Officer, presented the Committee's work programme for 2013 and advised that this would be amended to reflect the priorities of the Committee from the exercise undertaken at the beginning of this meeting.

At the next meeting, the Committee would be asked to consider three pre-decision scrutiny items.

8
CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
14 JUNE 2013

RESOLVED

1. That the contents of the work programme be noted.

The meeting closed at 1.00 pm

Open Report on behalf of Stuart Carlton, Assistant Director for Children's Services

Report to:	Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee
Date:	26 July 2013
Subject:	Children's Centres Progress and Successes

Summary:

This report provides the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee (CYPSC) with an update regarding Lincolnshire Children's Centres, demonstrating outcomes for Lincolnshire children and their families and identifying areas for development to ensure all centres are delivering quality services.

Actions Required:

The Committee is invited to comment on the contents of the report and make any further recommendations as they see fit for the continued development of Children's Centres in Lincolnshire.

1. Background

The attached report gives an overview of changes, progress, successes and development areas in Children's Centres in Lincolnshire.

2. Conclusion

Lincolnshire Children's Centres have undergone some changes in the last year in line with changes in legislation and inspection arrangements.

Children Centre performance data shows that we have mostly met or exceeded our targets and have improved outcomes for young children and their families in Lincolnshire, with a particular focus on the most disadvantaged.

The outcomes achieved for Lincolnshire children provide evidence about effectiveness of Children's Centres in making a difference for children and their families. However, there is still work to do in development areas and we have clear improvement plans in place.

3. Consultation

a) Policy Proofing Actions Required

N/A

4. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Children's Centres Progress and Successes

5. Background Papers

The following background papers as defined in the Local Government Act 1972 were relied upon in the writing of this report.

Document title	Where the document can be viewed
Sure Start children's centres statutory guidance April 2013	http://www.education.gov.uk/aboutdfe/statutory/g00224078/sure-start-statutory-guidance
The framework for children's centre inspection from April 2013	http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/framework-for-childrens-centre-inspection-april-2013

This report was written by Cornelia Andrecut, who can be contacted on 01522555020 or cornelia.andrecut@lincolnshire.gov.uk.

Children's Centres Progress and Successes

Report for Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee

This report provides Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee (CYPSC) with an update regarding Lincolnshire Children's Centres, demonstrating outcomes for Lincolnshire children and their families and identifying areas for development to ensure all centres are delivering quality services



Date of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee meeting: 26 July 2013

**HoS Cornelia Andrecut
AD Stuart Carlton**

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Summary

Lincolnshire Children's Centres have undergone some changes in the last year in line with changes in legislation and inspection arrangements and the 48 individual children centres have been constituted in 7 Groups and 5 Collaborations, enabling more effective use of resources, increased leadership capacity, and reduced number of inspections (12). We have not had any closure of buildings and we continue to have 48 delivery points.

Annual conversations were held across all Lincolnshire Children's Centres between September and November 2012 as part of the Quality Assurance process and performance framework. The emerging themes from the annual conversations have been considered to ensure continuing development of Children's Centre provision in Lincolnshire. The main themes are:

- Marketing and Participation
- Tracking Adult Learning
- Childcare Sufficiency
- Children's Centre Commissioning

Measuring Impact and Outcomes To illustrate the outcomes for Lincolnshire children and their families a number of methodologies have been used, including singular measures such as Ofsted or SEF grades, to a basket of indicators including Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) and softer outcomes measures such as case studies. The following indicators help in understanding how well Lincolnshire are performing in relation to our strategic goals and identifying needs when planning services:

- Early Years Foundation Stage Profile (EYFSP) scores
- Breast Feeding Rates
- Child Obesity
- Qualitative indicators

- Reach and Attendance
- Child poverty data

Children Centre performance data shows that we have mostly met or exceeded our targets, however, there is still work to do in development areas. The outcomes achieved for Lincolnshire children provide evidence about effectiveness of Children's Centres in making a difference for children and their families.

Parental Satisfaction

On-going evaluations and satisfaction surveys are taking place to inform on the levels of satisfaction and to help shape service delivery. A telephone customer survey is currently being undertaken seeking the views of the parents/ carers on the contact they have had with Children's Centres.

Children Centres and inspection arrangements

Changes of the revised inspection framework have increased the emphasis on the Local Authority as the responsible body for Children's Centres and the local authority engagement during inspections. Other than one group (South Kesteven - South) all other centres are within a group or collaboration where the main centre has already been inspected. We have 6 main centres that are due an inspection in line with the new inspection framework. We have a very proactive approach in ensuring our Children's Centres are inspection ready, and we have no concerns should any of the centres be inspected imminently.

Next Steps

There are a good range of services provided through Lincolnshire Children centres which meet the needs of the community well. We are looking at offering more activities in line with need. All centres have identified areas for development and have clear improvement plans in place.

Purpose of the report

To provide Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee (CYPSC) with an update regarding Lincolnshire Children's Centres, demonstrating outcomes for Lincolnshire children and their families and identifying areas for development to ensure all centres are delivering quality services.

Background / Context

Lincolnshire Children's Centres – The journey over the past 12 months

In line with the Sure Start Children's Centres Statutory Guidance (April 2013) and the changes to the Children's Centre Ofsted inspection arrangements from April 2013, in Lincolnshire the Children's Centres have undergone some changes in the last year and the 48 individual children centres have been constituted in 7 Groups and 5 Collaborations, enabling more effective use of resources and increased leadership capacity, and 12 future inspections.

At present we have 25 'Main' Children's Centres each with their own Ofsted URN, with others now called 'Linked sites' (See Appendix 1). We have not had any closure of buildings; we continue to have 48 delivery points.

The Annual Conversations

Annual conversations were held across all Lincolnshire Children's Centres between September and November 2012 as part of the Quality Assurance process and performance framework (See Appendix 2).

The purpose of the 'Annual Conversation' is to:

- Provide external scrutiny of the centre's self-evaluation process

- Provide a forum for reflection on current practice and in so doing gain a better understanding regarding how effective the centre is in achieving outcomes for children and their families,
- Provide support to tackle challenges faced within the Children’s Centre community and recognise and plan for future potential
- Ensure the centre is ‘OFSTED Ready’

All conversations were chaired by the locality Head of Service supported by the Quality Audit Manager and Early Intervention Officer with locality Team Managers / Centre Leaders identifying local representation. Discussion focused on the all important ‘so what’ question to reflect on what difference the centres are making for children and families. Consideration was given to what works well and where improvements can be made, specifically looking at:

- How good are outcomes for families?
- How good is provision?
- How effective is the leadership and management?
- What is the capacity for sustained improvement?
- How effective is the centre overall

The main themes from the annual conversations have been considered to ensure continuing development of Children’s Centre provision in Lincolnshire.

Emerging Themes from Annual Conversations

Marketing and Participation

Effective marketing of Children’s Centres has been identified as an area of development in many localities particularly where there is no dedicated resource or service commissioned to address this need. Word of mouth is the most common method that parents report to have used to find out about local services.

Work has been undertaken with Health and other colleagues to ensure early identification and engagement of families who may benefit from Children Centres services. Registration rates have started to increase accordingly. However in order to ensure sustained engagement more work needs to be done to market Children's Centres effectively.

In 2012/2013 some localities commissioned a 'Participation and Engagement' service responsible for promoting Children's Centres and developing volunteers. Successes include strong representation and engagement in Parent's Forums / Advisory Boards, safe parent led activities and enthusiastic community champions and some contracts also include targets around Adult Learning and Employability. However, commissioning arrangements were inconsistent and districts without this resource struggled to provide a full programme of activities which met the needs of local families. Future commissioning intentions needed to consider how to address this gap.

Actions Implemented 1

Commissioning plans had been agreed with ring-fenced funding allocated for core commissioning to ensure services are commissioned to meet core offer and prioritised for Enhanced Children's Centres. This includes funding for Adult Learning and Participation and Engagement activities. Additional 'Flexible Funding' has been agreed in each locality to enable local priorities to be addressed.

Key services including a new countywide Early Years Contract have been commissioned centrally to ensure PEEP will be delivered in every children's centre alongside a wide variety of Early Years activities (PEEP Plus) which are designed around local needs in consultation with families.

Throughout the Annual Conversation in 2012 locality teams requested a central resource to support with the design of quality marketing materials and development of modern technology (e.g Facebook) to reach more families across rural Lincolnshire. With the new Children's Centres arrangements, the need for effective marketing has increased, as we

need to ensure families are aware of the full range of services and delivery points across a group or collaboration.

Actions Implemented 2

A marketing group with representatives from all districts has been formed and members have developed a Marketing plan for 2013-14. The LCC website providing Children's Centre information has been updated to reflect the new children's centres arrangements and ensure consistency around e-mail addresses, centre contact numbers and 'what's on' information.

Further work around developing the website to ensure it is attractive and user friendly for parents is ongoing. Central resources through the Information Team are being accessed however a lack of capacity may require additional web work to be commissioned externally.

Negotiations have taken place with Connect Creative Media Ltd to continue to provide the existing UK Youth Chanel service within Children's Centres. Videos featuring local families engaging in regular activities (to include PEEP, Parents Forums, Health Clinics etc) will be shown on a loop with promotional videos such as Health and Safety advice, Adult Learning opportunities and Welfare Benefits information. Videos will be updated Bi-monthly.

Additional plans include

- Development of a Children's Centre App and on line booking system.
- To develop a set of standards around marketing i.e. use of corporate templates etc.
- To support the development of Children's Centre posters, information leaflets etc.
- To support development of Early Years/ Children's Centre monthly newsletter
- To monitor and quality assure the Children's Centre element of the LCC web-site to ensure content is up to date, accurate and relevant.

-

Tracking Adult Learning

This is a key issue across all localities and has been identified by OFSTED as an area for development. The annual conversations in 2012/2013 identified Children's Centres would benefit from a holistic adult learning needs analysis across all localities to establish what existing provision looks like, what are we already funding or can access free of charge and what is available to commission.

Actions Implemented

An Adult Learning Needs Assessment has been completed in 2012/ 2013. This provided information about adults of working age in Children's Centre reach areas and has been used as an evidence base to inform the commissioning of services in Children's Centres.

The Adult Learning Needs Assessment will contribute to the improvement of the performance of Children's Centres. A scorecard for all 25 main Children's Centre reach areas will be produced.

Childcare Sufficiency

Locality Teams have highlighted an on-going need to develop good quality childcare, child-minder and crèche facilities.

Actions implemented

Birth to Five Services are commissioned to provide on-going support to childcare settings to drive forward improvements based on OFSTED judgements and their own welfare checks.

Through the locality budget crèche is provided for those parents that wish to contribute to Children Centre management through the advisory board or adult learning. Crèches are quality assured to ensure they are in line with expectations of best practice.

Through Children Centre services space is provided for childminders to meet regularly and share practice.

Additional funding has been made available to spend on participation / engagement to increase the take up of 2 year old entitlement.

Children's Centre Commissioning

We have a clearly articulated commissioning strategy for Children's Centres which focuses on the Children's Centre core offer whilst still allowing for some local decision making based on local needs assessments.

As more services become managed on a county wide basis with robust contract management arrangements in place we should see the benefits of economies of scale along with consistency in standards in all districts.

Currently some of the centrally commissioned services include:

- Early Years Service – including PEEP
- Family Action – Family Support Service
- Health and Midwifery
- Homestart – Home Visiting and volunteering
- Domestic Abuse
- KIDS - CWD crèches
- NYAS- The advocacy service

Further consideration will be given to developing central service specifications around Participation and Engagement and Adult learning to ensure a consistent approach across the county.

Actions Implemented

Commissioning plans have been agreed and all commissioning has been achieved with all new services up and running by June 2013. All localities now commission Participation and Engagement and Adult Learning Activities / Services. The target for parent participation on Advisory boards is 50% and this has been met. Every District has commissioned a Participation and Engagement service that supports the Advisory board (Children's Centre Partnerships).

Measuring Impact and Outcomes

Demonstrating tangible and measurable outcomes which can be specifically attributed to Children's Centres is not an exact science and there is currently no definitive or consistent national measure or methodology in place to capture the level of impact, benefit and improved outcomes.

The DfE has been trialling Payment by Results (PbR) for Children's Centres which ran until March 2013. Ministers have now decided 'that it is preferable to allow local authorities to consider the benefits of pursuing PbR in Children's Centres through their own schemes'. This will allow LAs to organise services locally focusing on better outcomes for children delivered by services responsive to local needs. (*letter from Tom Jeffery, DfE 13/2/13*) Evaluations from the 27 pilots will be published this summer.

Currently, a number of methodologies are being used by local authorities seeking to demonstrate impact, including singular measures such as Ofsted or SEF grades, to a basket of indicators including Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) and softer outcomes measures such as case studies. KPIs provide population level outcome data and show trends over time and it can be argued that there is a causal link to activities being delivered from the Children's Centres. When it comes to measuring impact, it would be incorrect to use KPIs alone as proof of the efficacy of Children's Centre services, however, they are useful as benchmarks to help understand how well we are performing in relation to our strategic goals and to identify needs when planning services.

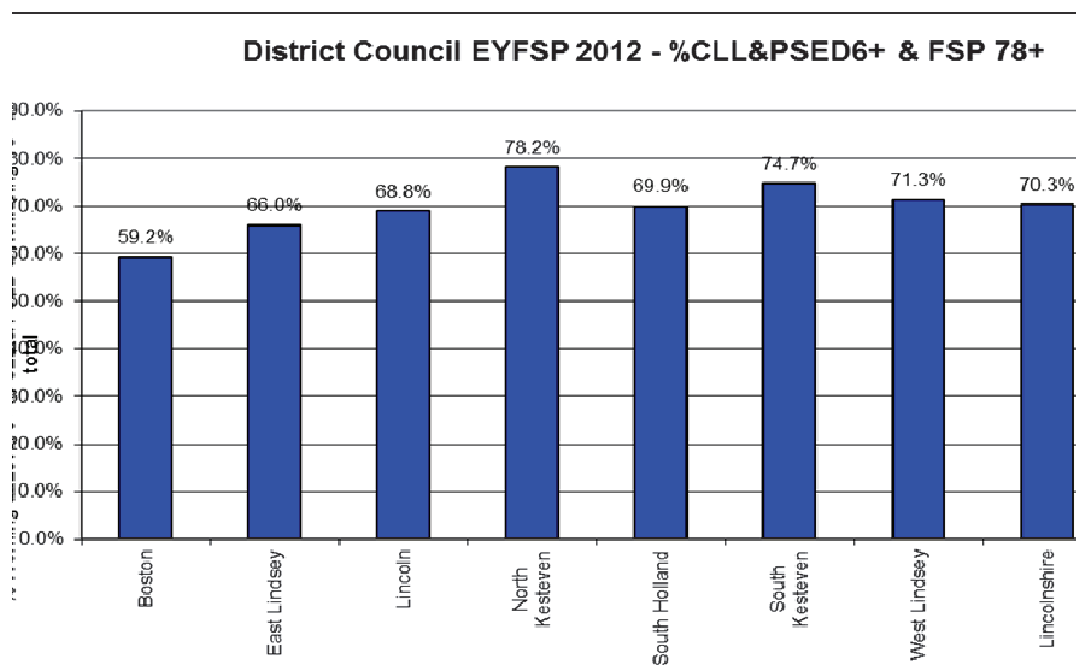
Early Years Foundation Stage Profile (EYFSP) scores

One of the key targets for Lincolnshire Children’s Centres is to improve ‘Readiness for School’ and ‘Narrowing the Gap’ which can be evidenced through an improvement in our Early Years Foundation Stage Profile (EYFSP) scores (% children achieving CLL+ PSED 6+ and FSP 78+). The tables below show how Lincolnshire average has improved from 57.7% in 2010 to 70.3% in 2012. This shows a 12.6% increase since 2010 which is 11.3% above Lincolnshire’s target and 6.3% above National outcomes.

Measure	Geography	Year							Actual 2012	Target 2012
		2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011		
%Achieving 6+ in PSED&CLL plus 78+ points	Lincolnshire	63	60.1	45.8	45.7	46.8	57.7	64.8	70.3	59.0
	England		46	46	49	62.0	66.0	69.0	64.0	
	Statistical Neighbours		47	49	52	52.8	57.0	59.1	65.0	
Narrowing the GAP (NI72)	Lincolnshire	32.1	34.8	36.0	33.8	32.2	28.7	27.1	31.0	
	England		38.3	37.2	35.6	33.9	33.0	31.4	30.1	
	Statistical Neighbours		35.8	35.3	33.3	32.3	31.0	30.9	28.8	
%6+ PSED	Lincolnshire	83	81.3	70.2	68.4	68.7	78.7	84.4	86.8	
	England	75	71	71	72	74.0	77.0	79.0	82.0	
	Statistical Neighbours			73	74	75.8	79.0	80.3	83.0	
%6+ CLL	Lincolnshire	67	63.7	49.9	50.5	51.2	60.8	67.5	72.5	
	England	51	48	49	53	55.0	59.0	62.0	66.0	
	Statistical Neighbours			52	56	57.3	60.0	62.4	66.0	
%6+PSED & CLL	Lincolnshire	63	60.1	45.8	45.8	46.9	57.8	64.9	70.4	
	England	48	45	46	49	52.0	56.0	59.0	64.0	
	Statistical Neighbours			48	52	53.3	57.0	59.3	65.0	
%8+ PBRN	Lincolnshire	79	79	69	65	66.4	73.2	78.7	82.0	
	England	69	66	67	68	70.0	72.0	74.0	77.0	
	Statistical Neighbours			70	71	72.2	64.0	75.9	80.0	
% FSP 78+ points	Lincolnshire	84.3	72.1	71.4	71.5	78.6	83.5	86.5		
	England			71	73	75.0	77.0	79.0	81.0	
	Statistical Neighbours				76	76.9	80.0	79.8	83.0	

Narrowing the Gap (NI72) figures also show excellent progress demonstrating an achievement of 5.1% decrease in gap since 2010 which is 3.9% below Lincolnshire target and 3% below the National gap figure.

Locality profiles for 2012 are shown below:



Further evidence to support this measure is found through the improvement in Ofsted ratings for Lincolnshire Early Years Settings with 81% now showing as 'Good' or 'Outstanding'.

Case studies also demonstrate some of the services delivered to support improvement in EYFSP and Narrowing the Gap outcomes and include the HELP project (East Lindsey and North Hykeham) and Chatter Matters (Lincoln St Giles). See below an 'Impact Statements' taken from Billingham Children's Centre SEFs at the Annual Conversation:

'Billingham Children's Centre has made a significant contribution to raising Foundation Stage Profile (FSP) Results. We have funded the lowest achieving schools to run FSP projects in increasing attainment. North Kesteven is the best performing district in the county for EYFS profile results with only 15% of children being within the bottom 20% with regards to narrowing the gap between the lowest achieving in the EYFSP. (Billingham Impact statement SEF 2012)

The centre has contributed towards increasing the number of children achieving 78+ points in EYFS from 60% (2009) to 88% (2011). The centre has worked with Birth to Five, local

providers and the school to narrow the gap. Billingham Primary School were within the top 15 schools to report poor FSP results, however through a specific project the results have improved the % gap between the lowest achieving from 80% in 2009, to 26% in 2010 to 6% in 2011!

The Performance Team are currently working on matching Children's Centre attendance to the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile results for Lincolnshire children in order to analyse how the results of the cohort of children in receipt of Children's Centre services compares to average results of all children. This work is still in its early stages but we hope will provide a viable link of outcome data (attainment in Reception year) to Children's Centre attendance.

The Children's Centre data provide a detailed picture of KPIs and trends over time:

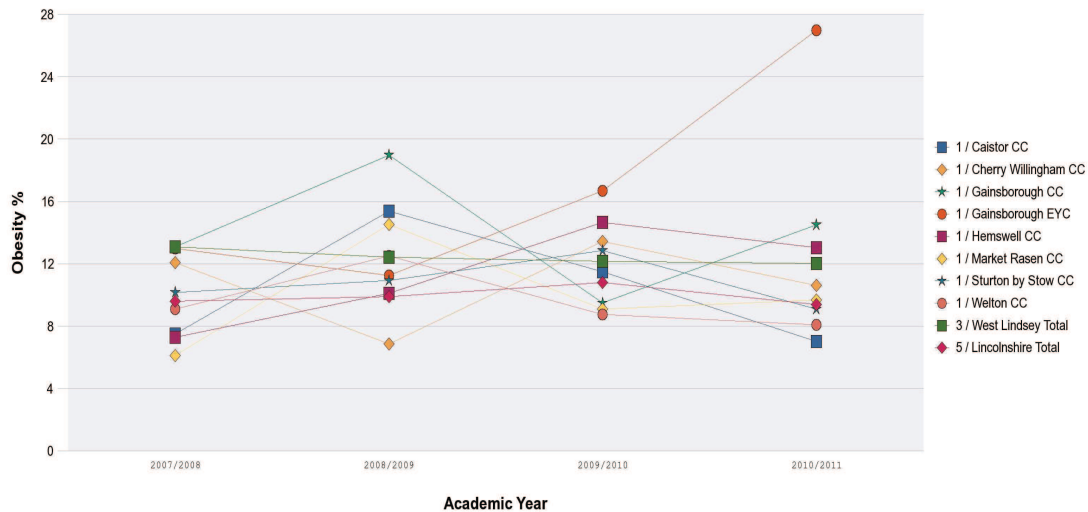
Breast Feeding Rates

Breast Feeding Rates have varied between 36 - 42.5% over the last 3 years with an average in Sept 2012 of 39.5%. This remains below the average of 47% for England which has remained consistent. Children's Centres work jointly with Health to increase breastfeeding and make a positive contribution to the health of local population. Most Children Centres have breast feeding groups with peer supporters; peer supporters are volunteer mothers who are or who have successfully breastfed their baby/babies.

Child Obesity

Child Obesity is a priority indicator for Lincolnshire Children's Centres and is being addressed through innovative practice including the 'Children's Centre Championship Summer' in East Lindsey which built on the legacy of the Olympics to help tackle obesity. One of the aims of the Early Years Service is tackling obesity and groups with a focus of physical activity are part of this programme. More specific targeted interventions have been implemented in Children's Centres where obesity has been identified as a priority through the annual conversation.

Obesity rates overall show a slight decrease - average 9.4% in 2011 (latest figures) compared with 9.6% in 2008 which is against the trend for England (slight increase of 9.4% to 9.6%). The data profiling enables Children’s Centre Leaders to focus activities in areas of highest need i.e West Lindsey (see below), Boston, Louth, Sleaford and Bourne.



Qualitative indicators

Centre Leaders have also used more qualitative indicators including case studies, feedback, learning journals, observations and the voice of the child to help evidence how effective Children’s Centres are in making a difference for children and their families. Some examples are shown below.

Impact statement taken from a letter sent by a father attending Market Deeping Dad’s group:

‘I feel closer to my daughter as a result, feel that I am more in tune with her and her with me. Have gained insight into her needs and the way she looks at the world. As a result I have increased confidence in my ability to parent my child and not panic when at home alone with her for fear that I would not know what to do. Perhaps if there were more dads groups fathers would find the support to encourage them to be better parents and

participate more in their children's lives.' Fathers also fed back their concerns about supporting their pregnant partner – as a result, the centre developed an antenatal course for Expectant fathers in partnership with health colleagues.

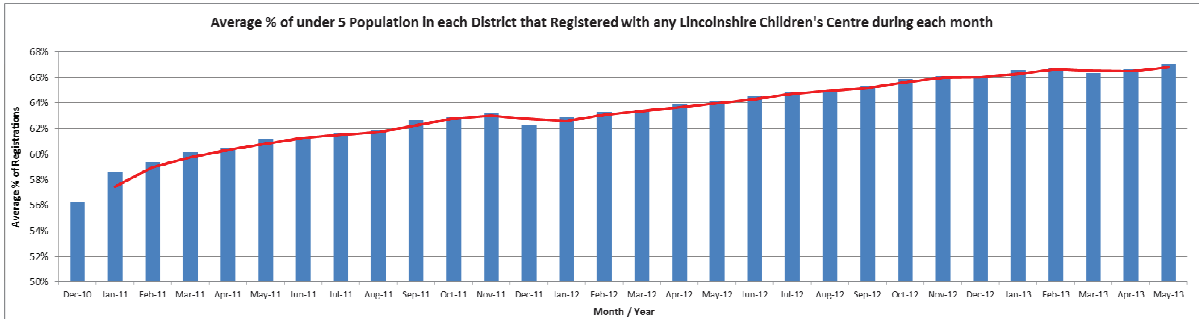
A Lincoln case study demonstrates how a single mother supported by Women's Aid outreach worker was able to build her self-esteem and return to education; undertaking access to nursing at college. To further support the centre provided subsidised childcare for her 18 month old child to allow her to attend college and to support the child's social and emotional development. There has been a positive impact on the emotional well-being of this child as a result of both mother's ability to return to education and her day care attendance

Children's Centre Reach

Children's Centres have clear targets for 'Reach and Attendance' and have adopted the DfE definition around sustained contact with clear targets against this measure for each Children's Centre group or collaboration.

Universal Reach figures have improved year on year with Lincolnshire average reach increasing from 56% (of Lincolnshire's under five years population) registered with a Children's Centre in Dec 2010 to 66.3% in Dec 2012 and 67% in May 2013:

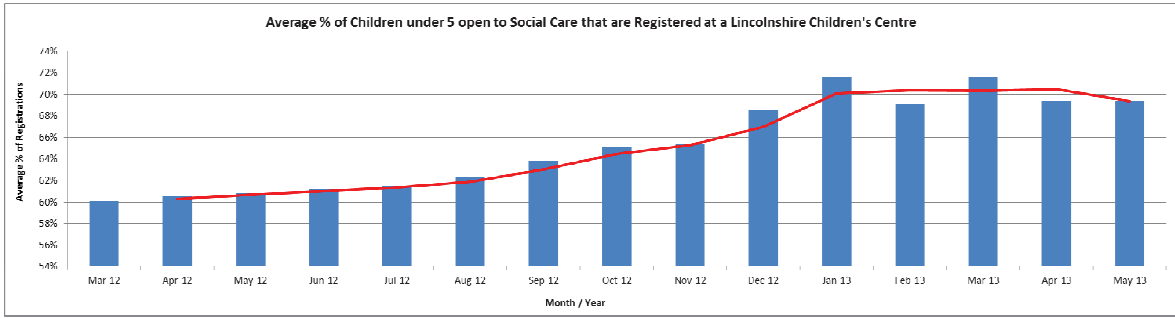
District	Dec-10	Dec-11	Feb-12	Apr-12	Jun-12	Aug-12	Oct-12	Dec-12	Jan-13	Feb-13	Mar-13	Apr-13	May-13
Boston CCs Average	62%	64%	64%	64%	64%	62%	62%	62%	62%	62%	61%	62%	61%
East Lindsey CCs Average	65%	73%	75%	76%	76%	77%	77%	78%	79%	79%	79%	80%	80%
Lincoln CCs Average	70%	70%	70%	70%	70%	71%	72%	71%	72%	71%	71%	71%	72%
North Kesteven CCs Average	45%	53%	54%	54%	55%	56%	57%	57%	58%	58%	57%	58%	59%
South Holland CCs Average	44%	52%	53%	53%	55%	56%	57%	58%	59%	59%	59%	58%	59%
South Kesteven CCs Average	47%	48%	49%	49%	50%	51%	52%	52%	52%	53%	52%	52%	53%
West Lindsey CCs Average	63%	69%	71%	72%	73%	73%	74%	74%	75%	75%	74%	74%	74%
Lincolnshire CCs Average	56%	62%	63%	64%	64%	65%	66%	66%	67%	67%	66%	67%	67%



An Information Sharing Agreement is now in place enabling Health to provide regular contact information on new births and families with children under 5 who move into Lincolnshire. This agreement commenced in April 2013 and supports centres increase reach.

Targeted Reach averaged at 56% in June 2012 has increased to 74% in January 2013 (County target = 70%) showing overall that Children's Centres are focusing services on those in most need and improving contact with vulnerable families.

Reach and Attendance of Children in Social Care – Children's Services staff and colleagues have strived to ensure our most vulnerable families within social care are accessing services on offer from Children's Centres and this is demonstrated by the increase in registration rates from 57.9% in January 2012 to 68.6% in January 2013.



However it is regular attendance at the children's centres which enables families to build strong support networks and positive peer groups and attendance rates have increased from 13.6% in January 2012 to 20.6% in January 2013 and 30.1% in May 2013 for children in social care:

District	YE 2012/13 Percent	May-12 Percent	May-13/No. Attn'd	May-13 Percent
Boston	70.7%	36.0%	87	75.0%
East Lindsey	35.2%	22.7%	26	15.8%
Lincoln	27.7%	14.8%	56	35.0%
North Kesteven	29.0%	7.9%	5	11.4%
South Holland	29.3%	9.6%	3	4.2%
South Kesteven	28.9%	11.0%	22	25.9%
West Lindsey	34.8%	23.0%	24	30.0%
Out of County/ Not Recorded	0.0%	13.2%	0	0.0%
Grand Total	36.3%	17.3%	223	30.1%

Percentage of the Children under 5 open to Social Care and Registered at a Children's Centre who attended once during the previous month each month

Child Poverty Data

Children's Centres also use Child Poverty data to ensure services are targeted where needed most and designed according to local needs.

With the changes to benefits following the Welfare Reform this is a key area of work for Children's Centres which is supported by the Adult Learning Needs Assessment and revised commissioning intentions. Further plans including Public Access laptops in Children's Centres will support parents develop necessary skills and confidence to improve their chances of returning to employment.

Parental Satisfaction

A telephone customer survey is currently been undertaken by Touchstone, who are part of the Customer Service Centre. They contact parent/carers via telephone and seek their views on the contact they have had with Children's Centres. It is intended to use the information from this survey in the identification of service developments.

Prior to this, the user satisfaction survey which took place in March 2011 with 1455 respondents including 213 non users (Parents who had registered but not attended in past 12 month) showed high levels of user satisfaction.

In addition to the county wide survey Children Centres undertake their own on-going evaluations and satisfaction surveys to keep them informed regarding the levels of satisfaction and to help shape service delivery. Some examples are presented below:

At Alford Children's Centre the Family Learning Service delivered an Adult Learning course called 'Recycle – Refashion' for 10 weeks. Feedback from parents attending the course was gathered- the parents requested the course to run again in order for them to gain accreditation. This has been facilitated. Parents have participated in the course for 2 years and have gained a Level 2 qualification. The parents have been given support and advice from the Family Learning service to continue with their education independently from the Children's Centre.

Feedback received from parents who attend the volunteer run Coffee & Play group at Holton le Clay Children's Centre suggested development of the outdoor area at the front of the centre and this idea has been well received. The Centre Leader is now working with the parents to develop the outdoor area. The parents have organised a sponsored toddler walk for July 30th to raise funds and a small team of dads have volunteered their services to undertake basic ground works. Once completed the garden will provide a wonderful setting for children and their families to play and learn together.

Parents have made representation at Sleaford Children's Centre Group (Billinghay, Caythorpe, Heckington, Ancaster) about developing summer activities to include school age children. They have been committed to assisting the centres develop these and ensuring that they are low cost.

Children's Centres due for inspection

The main changes of the revised inspection framework are the increased emphasis on the Local Authority as the responsible body for Children's Centres and the increased local authority engagement during inspections. The revised framework will include the Centre

Leader role in the inspection process “The Children Centre Leader is part of the Inspection Team” and in particular Ofsted are interested in their quality assurance of the range of service delivery. Joint observations, case tracking and performance management- including staff supervision are other areas that have been introduced by the new framework.

The Centres will be given a judgement on their overall effectiveness by taking four areas into consideration:

- Access to services by young children and their families.
- The quality and impact of practice and services.
- The effectiveness of leadership, governance and management.
- Overall effectiveness.

When reaching a judgement on a group of centres the inspectors will also consider:

Quality of provision at each centre

How well services are integrated across centres

Whether parents can access services at a location convenient to them

There is four grades for judgement

- Outstanding
- Good
- Requires Improvement
- Inadequate

Of our 25 ‘Main’ Centres 19 have been inspected with the following outcomes:

4 Outstanding: Skegness, Spilsby, Lincoln Central, Gainsborough

12 good: Boston, Mablethorpe, Wainfleet, Abbey, Birchwood, Witham, Sleaford, Lincoln

North, Gainsborough EYCC, Grantham Belton Lane, Grantham Swingbridge, Welton

3 Satisfactory (replaced by Requiring improvement in the new framework): Spalding, Holbeach, Market Rasen

Other than one group (South Kesteven - South) all other centres are within a group or collaboration where the main centre has already been inspected. We have 6 main centres that are due an inspection in line with the new inspection framework: Sutterton, Louth, St Giles, Waddington Redwood, Stamford, South Witham.

We have a very proactive approach in ensuring our Children's Centres are inspection ready, and we have no concerns should any of the centres be inspected imminently.

Actions Implemented

Training has been delivered in data analysis and practice workshops have been arranged to work specifically with Children's Centre Leaders (CCLs) who have not yet experienced an Ofsted inspection. These CCLs are mentored by an experienced Centre Leader.

A quality assurance framework for Children's centres will be devised by September 2013, to include specific roles for CCLs in practice observations and holistic quality assurance.

Next Steps

Locality teams all feel confident and prepared for Ofsted and Children's Centre leaders have been appointed in all areas.

Areas of strength in Children's Centre provision include:

- partnership working across a broad spectrum of needs and providers, including closer working with Social Care Teams,
- improved access to and interpretation of data and intelligence
- a more ambitious and challenging approach to delivery
- strong leadership and management
- better use of resources and some innovative delivery.

All centres have identified areas for development and have clear improvement plans in place. The areas for development mirror those highlighted across the wider region and findings from Ofsted. These include:

- Adult learning
- Re-visit partnerships with Health Visitors service, Midwifery and Job Centre Plus
- working closely with schools
- quality assurance
- child's voice
- marketing and participation
- Further development of Centre Leaders Network

Appendices

Children's Centre Groups New Inspection Arrangements



Childrens Centre
Groups New Inspectic

Children's Centre Performance Framework



CCentre
Performance Framew

Open Report on behalf of Debbie Barnes, Director of Children's Services

Report to:	Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee
Date:	26 July 2013
Subject:	Youth Housing Strategy

Summary:

The Youth Housing Strategy seeks to set out the strategic vision for delivery of youth housing services in Lincolnshire for the next 5 years. The Strategy has been developed jointly between Children's Services, Public Health and the 7 District Housing Authorities as well as with input from young people and our key partners and stakeholders.

Actions Required:

That the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee consider the document as part of the consultation process and feed back any comments and recommendations. Subsequent to any suggested changes being included, the Strategy will then be brought back to the next Scrutiny Committee in September for final ratification.

1. Background

Over the past year Children's Services, the seven District Housing Authorities and Public Health have worked together to develop this Strategy which seeks to outline how agencies will work together to create a co-ordinated approach to meeting the needs of young people who experience difficulties with housing. The Strategy has a particular focus on young people aged 16 – 25.

This Strategy provides a framework for all relevant agencies and partners to develop services which focus on early intervention, prevention and assistance for young people to remain at home for as long as possible where it is safe to do so. This Strategy also provides that where prevention is not possible we will ensure we can provide accommodation that is appropriate and suitable to young people's individual needs and that is able to support them to have the skills and means to live independently.

The Strategy builds on Lincolnshire's long history of good partnership working and will bring partners together in a strategic and coordinated way to create efficiencies

across our teams and make best use of our collective resources as well as improving services for young people.

The consultation for this Strategy began on 10th June 2013 and is due to conclude on 26th July 2013. The Strategy has been sent out to key partners, stakeholders and to young people. We have tried to reach as wide an audience as possible by using other strategy groups and their members including the Children and Young People Strategic Partnership, the Lincolnshire Homeless Strategy Group, the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Board, the District Housing Network and Public Health's network of Support Providers. The Strategy was sent with a covering letter sent jointly by Debbie Barnes and Rachel North, Director of Communities at West Lindsey District Council. The Strategy has also been published on Local Authority websites.

Consultation events providing an overview and workshops on the Strategy which have been delivered to Young People and Supported Accommodation Providers as well as some of the groups mentioned above.

2. Conclusion

This Strategy provides the opportunity for Children's Services to provide outstanding services to young people that are homeless or at risk of homelessness across Lincolnshire.

This overarching and inclusive Strategic overview ensures that Children's Services, along with other key partners and stakeholders, are working in a joined up and complimentary way.

3. Consultation

a) Policy Proofing Actions Required

n/a

4. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Lincolnshire Youth Housing Strategy

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 Phil Taylor, who can be contacted on 07775026264 or phil.taylor@lincolnshire.gov.uk .



Lincolnshire Youth Housing Strategy 2013 – 2018

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Foreword

Welcome to the Lincolnshire Youth Housing Strategy which seeks to outline how agencies will work together to create a co-ordinated approach to meeting the needs of young people who experience difficulties with housing. I take great pleasure in presenting this strategy as it provides an oversight of the housing issues facing young people today and a vision for tackling them. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank those who have contributed to its creation, especially the seven District Council Housing Authorities, representatives from Public Health and a number of other key stakeholders.

Young people represent the future of our society. If we fail to enable them, through the right advice and support, to make the transition to adulthood and independence, then we will be creating dysfunctional communities. Lincolnshire agencies who serve the young people of this County acknowledge the importance of early intervention to prevent youth homelessness, wherever possible, but also recognise that suitable accommodation, support and advice must be in place when homelessness cannot be avoided.

We are living in an unpredictable economic climate, both locally and nationally. If we fail our young people, then society will feel the impact. Most especially it will apply to those who are ill equipped for independent living and lack the life skills to sustain a tenancy and support themselves financially and emotionally; they are the ones who are most likely to be adversely affected and thus reduce their chances of living a happy and fulfilled life.

Youth Homelessness and the use of temporary accommodation for young people is not just a "housing problem" – youth homelessness is the end product of other factors, situations and crises experienced by young people. Most young people who become homeless or at risk of homelessness have needs which could have been addressed before escalation.

We want to improve the current situation. This Strategy is provided as a framework for all relevant agencies & partners to develop services which focus on early intervention, prevention and assistance for young people to remain at home for as long as possible (where safe to do so). In circumstances where this is not possible, we need a list of support services to assist young people to gain the skills to enable them to be independent and to have the ability to maintain a tenancy independently. Lincolnshire has a long history of good partnership working, which has never been more important than today. Through this strategy our aim is to ensure that the young people of

Lincolnshire who find themselves homeless or threatened with homelessness are given the support and assistance for them to remain at home and the opportunity to develop self worth, obtain or sustain employment, and grow safely towards emotional maturity.

Debbie Barnes,
Director of Children's Services, Lincolnshire County Council

Rachel North,
Director of Communities and Localism, West Lindsey District Council



I. Introduction

I.1. Vision and Objectives

The Lincolnshire Youth Housing Strategy seeks to bring key partners and stakeholders together to create coordinated and joined up services for young people across Lincolnshire who experience difficulties with housing.

All Local Authority partners across Lincolnshire are committed to ensuring that all young people experiencing difficulties with housing receive the help and support that they need.

This Strategy considers the whole youth housing pathway and identifies opportunities for effective service delivery right from areas of early intervention and education through to independence and the support to succeed.

There have been many successes and examples of best practice across Lincolnshire. It is hoped that this Strategy will pull those together, incorporating both the experiences of young people and professionals, to provide consistent and outstanding services.

The vision is to ensure that young people achieve their potential. The strategic objectives through this strategy are to:

- Ensure Youth Homelessness is addressed in a joined up and strategic way.
- Provide prevention and Early Intervention to educate young people on housing and homelessness
- Provide prevention at the Point of Crisis to ensure the maximum number of young people are assisted and supported to remain within family and kinship arrangements.
- Ensure there is sufficient accommodation in place to meet the current level of demand reflecting individual young peoples needs.
- Ensure there is sufficient long term solutions for young people that have experienced homelessness and for Care Leavers to facilitate independence.

I.2. Strategy Content

The Lincolnshire Youth Housing Strategy has been developed in partnership between Lincolnshire County Council's Children's Services Team, Lincolnshire's seven District Housing Authorities, Lincolnshire County Council's Public Health Directorate and a number of other key stakeholders.

The strategy has been informed by consultation and through a thorough review of youth housing and homelessness. This has given us a sound understanding of the issue to help us develop and target future service delivery.

Our findings have been developed into an Action Plan that follows four clear stages of a pathway a young person may take away from homelessness. This Action Plan and the partnership group that oversees its delivery will be the driving force behind developing services for young people experiencing housing difficulties.

I.3. Equalities

I.3.1. Recognising Equality and Diversity

The local authorities in Lincolnshire all have equal opportunities policies which contain the following key commitments. The local authorities:

- Actively seek to reflect the diversity of people in Lincolnshire and intend that service provision policy reflect the needs and priorities of an increasingly diverse population.
- Actively seek solutions that advance the capacity and resources of people discriminated against in society. No service user will be discriminated against, directly or indirectly, harassed or receive less favourable treatment on the grounds of gender, race, colour, ethnic or national origin, disability, marital status, family commitments, sexual orientation, age, HIV status, religious or political beliefs, social class, or irrelevant spent conviction.

- Are committed to the fostering of good community relations and will work through their own services and the partnerships they are involved in to promote equality of opportunity to all.

- Aim to ensure that services are available and accessible to all.

- Will work to ensure that no group is disadvantaged in terms of access to services we are able to offer.

I.3.2. Equalities Impact Assessment

An Impact Assessment has been carried out on the Youth Homelessness Strategy to ensure it meets the needs of diverse people in the community. The IA includes sections explaining how different kinds of issues affecting young people are being taken into account. These include:

- Young people who are lesbian, gay or bisexual.
- Young people who are transgender or transsexual.
- Young people from BME cultures including gypsies and travellers.
- Young people with disabilities and impairments, including mental health, learning/ behavioural/ impairment, mobility, audio/ visual and limiting long term illnesses.
- Young people of different religions.
- Young people of different genders.
- Young people who are economically disadvantaged.

We have recognised the need to continually consult with young people and our partners, and to ask how our services impact on them, which will form part of this strategy. We also recognise that as the delivery of this strategy causes us to amend and adapt services and how we deliver them, that additional impact assessments may need to be taken.



2. Background

This Strategy was preceded by the Lincolnshire Youth Housing Strategy 2005 – 2010. Upon completion that document was reviewed and its successes measured. Recommendations included the development of a new five year strategy.

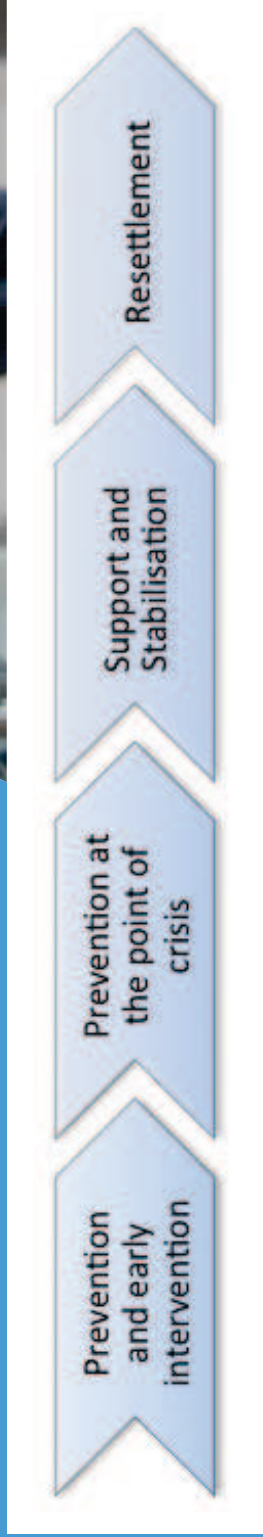
In practice the Youth Housing Strategy operated as a sub-group of the Lincolnshire Homelessness Strategy Group, a group which meets monthly and has a 'youth homelessness' theme three times a year.

The Lincolnshire Homeless Strategy Group consists of representatives from across District Authorities, Lincolnshire County Council, Support Services, Accommodation Providers and other key agencies that have a role in preventing and addressing homelessness. This group has proved a positive forum for County Council and District Housing Authorities to meet and develop joint working.

Throughout the summer of 2011 the Local Authorities across Lincolnshire commissioned the delivery of training and workshops to all front line Housing Options Advisors and Social Workers on relevant pieces of legislation, case-law and current practice around youth homelessness. The final sessions were delivered to managers and also gave feedback on the previous sessions.

The feedback set these recommendations into a Youth Homelessness Pathway which covers four key stages at which we provide our services.

This feedback has been the starting point for developing an action plan for improving and delivering services to young people experiencing housing difficulties.





3. Policy Context

3.1 National Policy and Context

National policy on the specific area of youth homelessness was most recently set out in guidance jointly prepared by the Department for Communities and Local Government and the Department of Children, Schools and Families 'Joint working between Housing & Children's Services – Preventing homelessness and tackling its effects on children and young people, (May 2008)'.

Its purpose is to help the strategic managers of Children's Services and Housing Services, in both unitary and two-tier authorities, to plan and deliver change to achieve three things for young people and children living with their families:

- Prevent homelessness.
- Minimise the negative impact of homelessness on their lives and life chances.
- Make sure they receive the co-ordinated services and support they need to recover from the impact of homelessness and get their lives back on track, including maintaining or returning to - learning or work.

The challenge for Children's Services and Housing Services is to ensure that there are no gaps between services, and that young people and children living in families get quick access to the services they need regardless of which service they approach first for help.

There are a number of factors affecting youth homelessness nationally. The current economic climate and youth unemployment are key factors causing tension and conflict within families and are limiting young people's ability to take their own steps into independence and adulthood.

There are likely to be impacts due to the welfare reform changes too. Specific reforms such as changes to Non-dependent Deductions and the ending of Education Maintenance Allowance are making it harder financially for families to continue to support young people within the family home.

Reductions in public spending have affected most areas of service delivery either directly or indirectly. Some services have been lost and others have been restructured and reduced.

3.2 Local Policy and Statutory Responsibilities

The needs of young people in relation to issues of housing and homelessness are currently being met by a number of partners across the County.

Although services are consistently delivered with high client focus, dedication and skill, historically we have lacked the necessary coordination and shared goals to make the best use of our collective resource and to ensure the needs of young people are being met.

Lincolnshire is a two tier Authority with services being delivered by both District Housing Authorities and by Lincolnshire County Council.

Young people can get help and advice with housing and homelessness issues from District Housing Authorities in line with their statutory responsibilities under the Housing Act 1996 Part VII. Local Authorities are very focussed on preventing homelessness and have a host of initiatives to achieve this including providing mediation, private rented sector access schemes and advice on housing rights, as well as providing advice on housing options.

For cases where homelessness cannot be prevented District Housing Authorities can consider other options such as providing emergency accommodation, supporting young people with accessing supported accommodation or permanent solutions such as social housing.

Young people can also get help and advice from Children's Services in line with their statutory responsibilities under The Children's Act 1989. Children's Services also have a strong focus on providing help and support to young people and their families to prevent homelessness where possible and appropriate to do so.

The Children's Act considers the wider needs of Children, not just their housing needs, ensuring young people are safe and well and are achieving developmental milestones across all areas of their lives.

Where young peoples homelessness cannot be prevented Children's Services can also consider other options including providing emergency accommodation and supporting young people in finding permanent solutions.

Lincolnshire County Council also provides help and support to young people through its Public Health Directorate. Public Health commission partners to provide Supported Accommodation to young people. There are a number of providers across Lincolnshire providing differing levels of support. Young people can approach supported accommodation providers directly and some providers will carry out prevention work with young people to help them remain with their families or will signpost them to other services that offer this kind of help.

3.3 Current Joint Working Arrangements

3.3.1 Protocol and Practice Guidance

The statutory responsibilities of Authorities across Lincolnshire overlap and it is important that our joint working protocols are robustly and consistently applied and that we ensure they are fit for purpose.

A protocol for homeless 16 & 17 year olds has been agreed between Lincolnshire Authorities and is currently in place. This protocol was developed following the G v. Southwark ruling in 2009 and used joint guidance developed by the Department for Communities and Local Government and the Department for Children and Family Services. Briefly stated, this protocol sets out the statutory responsibilities of different Local Authority departments, makes agreement on when and how young people can be referred between teams and establishes a requirement for joint housing assessments.

It became apparent that the protocol lacked the necessary support and clarity for teams to effectively deliver joint working, so in June 2012 Lincolnshire Authorities implemented additional Practice Guidance to underpin the protocol.

The Practice Guidance gave front line Officers clarity on delivering joint housing assessments and the tools to effectively mediate with families to prevent homelessness, as well as information and resources to help young people and their families understand their housing options and the realities of homelessness.

3.3.2 Youth Homelessness Management Panels

Further to the completion of the practice guidance it was agreed that a Management Panel be developed in order to hold an on-going review of practice implementation, and act as a forum to respond to disputes or challenges arising from practice.

It was agreed that the Management Panel would consist of representatives from District Housing Authorities, FAST, Children's Services Targeted Teams and Public Health and that representation should be sought from both managers and front line Officers.

The functions of the Management Panel are to:

- Oversee the implementation of the Youth Homelessness Practice Guidance and Joint Protocol for Homeless 16 & 17 Year Olds.
- Receive cases where the workers have struggled to reach agreement on responsibility in relation to the provision of accommodation.
- Receive cases where an authority (Housing or Children's Services), wishes to challenge the decision of another authority.
- Ensure that resources are appropriately allocated across Housing Authorities and Children's Services, unlocking difficulties and meeting need.
- Provide quality assurance to case plans and ensure multi-agency assessment and management of risk.



3.4 Strategic Links

Under the Children Act 2004, local authorities are required to have in place local cooperation arrangements which facilitate integrated working, planning and delivery, with a focus on improving outcomes. Local authorities may choose to call these arrangements a 'children's trust' or by another name. Lincolnshire has chosen to refer to this as 'Children's Trust Arrangements' (CTA). The CTA reflects an integrated and outcome focussed way of working.

Working through Lincolnshire's Children's Trust Arrangements, The Children & Young Peoples Strategic Partnership (CYPSP) are required to address the type and level of need and ensure appropriate action is included in the Children and Young Peoples Plan (CYPP)

The Children and Young Peoples Strategic Partnership (CYPSP) are a statutory board with a responsibility for producing the Children and Young Peoples Plan (CYPP) for Lincolnshire. The CYPP is informed by stakeholder consultation including children, young people and their families. The CYPP sets out how the Lincolnshire principles will be delivered through services that genuinely address the needs and interest of the local community.

Under the Homelessness Act 2002 Local Housing Authorities are required to have a Homelessness Strategy in place to review and strategically address homelessness in their area. The seven District Housing Authorities in Lincolnshire have worked together to develop The Lincolnshire Homeless Strategy 2012 – 2016. Youth Homelessness has been identified within this strategy as one of their five Key Themes.





4 Review of Youth Homelessness in Lincolnshire

4.1 The Scale and Nature of Youth Homelessness

Unless otherwise stated the data below relates to the period 1st April 2011 – 31st March 2012.

The data below has been collected from a number of different organisations and databases, many of which were not intended for this type of data extraction so datasets may not be comparable. The information here is intended only as a useful guide to inform our future direction and to help us in targeting services. Developing robust and consistent forms of data collection remains a key action for Lincolnshire to move forward.

Page 46 4.1 Approaches

This table demonstrates all of the approaches made by young people to District Housing Authorities or Children's Services stating that they are homeless or at risk of homelessness. It should be noted that this table counts approaches and not people, therefore somebody who has had multiple contacts with services will be counted multiple times. This therefore demonstrates more accurately the levels of demand being placed on services.

District	16 – 17	18 – 25	Total
Boston	11	24	35
East Lindsey	30	255	285
Lincoln	14	60	74
North Kesteven	34	127	161
South Holland	36	444	480
South Kesteven	62	510	572
West Lindsey	11	95	106
Children's Services	412	1	413
Public Health Supported Services	81	192	273
Total	691	1708	2399

4.1.2 Total Number of Young People

After removing duplications we have identified a total of 2131 young people aged 16 - 25 who have had difficulties with homelessness or of being at risk of homelessness and have approached statutory services for assistance.

4.1.3 Repeat Approaches

The table below shows for each district and agency the number of young people and the number of approaches they have made to services. To clarify the information shown below: in East Lindsey 11 young people made two approaches to services, from a system demand perspective this would have equated to 22 approaches. The final row of the table breaks down the number of approaches to a percentage of all approaches.

Based on the data supplied Boston, Lincoln and North Kesteven do not appear to have any young people who have approached their services more than once.

District/ Approaches	1	2	3	4	Total Approaches made
Boston	35	0	0	0	35
East Lindsey	260	11	1	0	285
Lincoln	74	0	0	0	74
North Kesteven	161	0	0	0	161
South Holland	374	25	3	2	441
South Kesteven	428	57	10	0	572
West Lindsey	96	5	0	0	106
Children's Services	270	48	13	2	413
Public Health Supported Services	239	17	0	0	273
Total approaches as % of whole	82%	14%	3%	1%	2399



4.1.4 Duplications

This table shows what number and percentage of the young people aged 16 & 17 who approached District Housing Authorities as homeless or at risk of homelessness also sought assistance from Children's Services.

Due to different recording methods across the County some of the data included here only included initials rather than full names which may affect the reliability of some data matches; however, this was only in a relatively small number of cases. Dates of birth and postcodes were also used to increase our confidence in the matches detailed below.

The second column details the total number of approaches from 16 & 17 year olds to each District Housing Authority. The third column represents how many of those individuals also approached Children's Services. The fourth column represents this as a percentage.

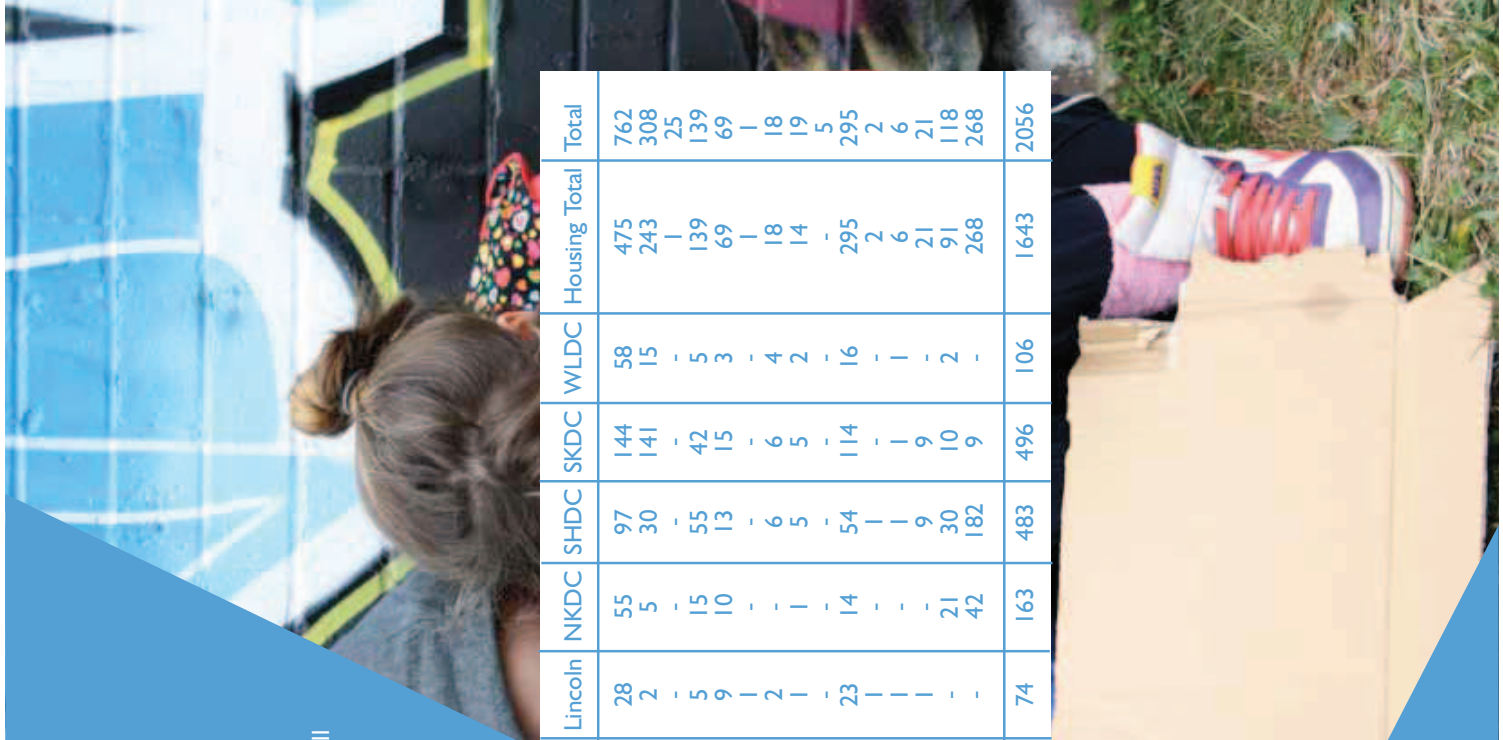
District Housing Authority	Total Individuals	Approached Children's Services also
BBC	11	7
ELDC	30	29
Lincoln	14	10
NKDC	34	8
SHDC	36	25
SKDC	62	50
WLDC	11	10
All Districts	198	139
		70%

4.1.5 Reasons for Homelessness

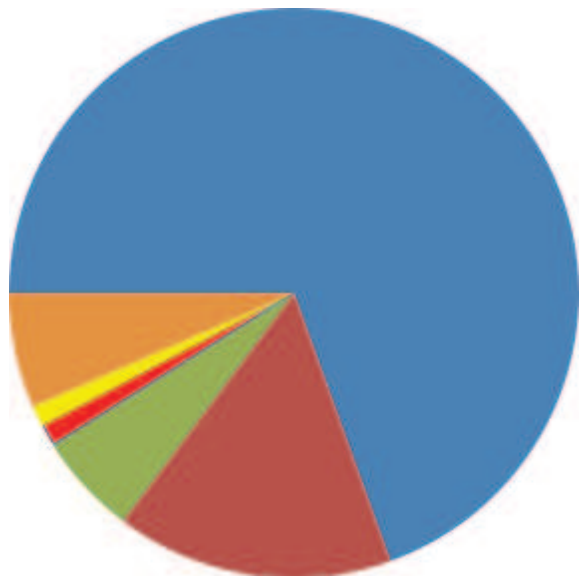
Data on the reasons young people have become homeless has been taken from across LCC and the District Housing Authorities and categorised. The categories used here are taken from the PIE National Homelessness Statistical Returns which all Local Housing Authorities make to Government.

This table shows the raw data of the reasons for homelessness for all young people aged 16-25.

	LCC	BBC	ELDC	Lincoln	NKDC	SHDC	SKDC	WLDC	Housing Total	Total
Parental Eviction	287	12	81	28	55	97	144	58	475	762
Friends/Other Family Eviction	65	10	40	2	5	30	141	15	243	308
Loss of Supported Accommodation	24	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	25
Relationship Breakdown	-	2	15	5	15	55	42	5	139	139
Domestic Violence	-	4	15	9	10	13	15	3	69	69
Racial Violence	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1
Other Violence	-	-	-	2	-	6	6	4	18	18
Leaving Institution/YOI	5	-	-	1	1	5	5	2	14	19
Leaving Care	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Loss of Private Rented Accom.	-	7	67	23	14	54	114	16	295	295
Emergency flood/fire	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	-	2	2
Mortgage Arrears	-	-	2	1	-	1	1	-	6	6
Eviction Social Housing	-	-	2	1	-	9	9	-	21	21
Other	27	-	28	-	21	30	10	2	91	118
Unknown	-	-	35	-	42	182	9	-	268	268
Total	413	36	285	74	163	483	496	106	1643	2056



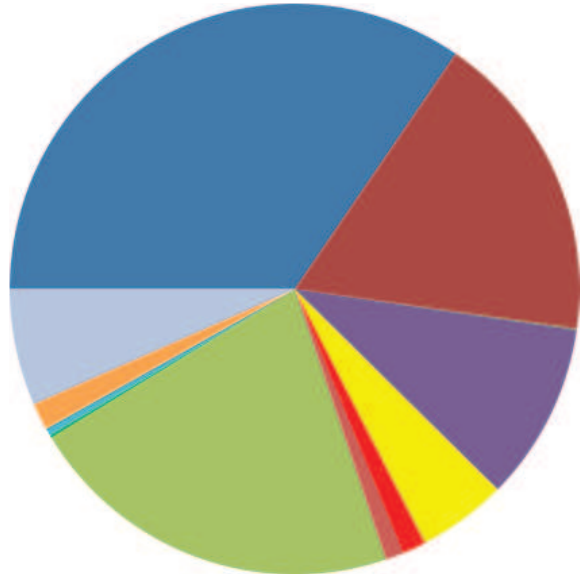
Reasons for Homelessness - Children's Services



- Parental Eviction
- Friends / Other Family Eviction
- Lots of Supported Accommodation
- Leaving Institution / YOI
- Leaving Care
- Other

This pie chart represents all approaches made by young people (16 – 17)

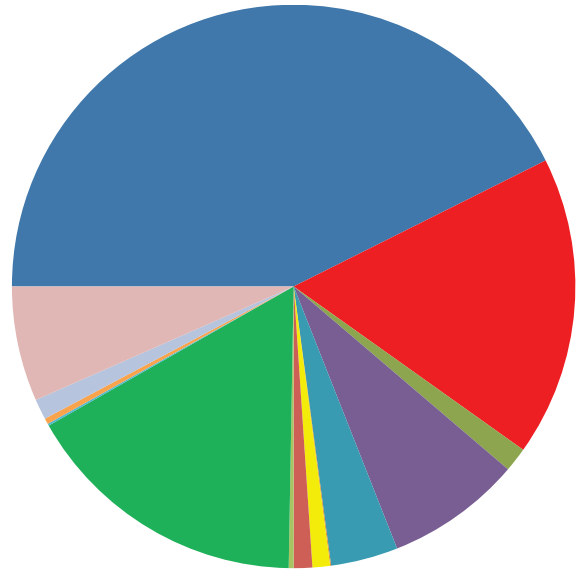
Reasons for Homelessness - District Housing Authorities



- Parental Eviction
- Friends / Other Family Eviction
- Lots of Supported Accommodation
- Relationship Breakdown
- Domestic Violence
- Racial Violence
- Other Violence
- Leaving Institution / YOI
- Loss of Private Rented Accommodation

This pie chart represents the causes for homelessness for all young people (16-25) approaching District Housing Authorities. Reasons given as unknown have been removed for this illustration.

Reasons for Homelessness



- Parental Eviction
- Friends / Other Family Eviction
- Lots of Supported Accommodation
- Relationship Breakdown
- Domestic Violence
- Racial Violence
- Other Violence
- Leaving Institution / YOI
- Leaving Care
- Loss of Private Rented Accommodation
- Emergency Flood / Fire
- Mortgage Arrears
- Eviction Social Housing

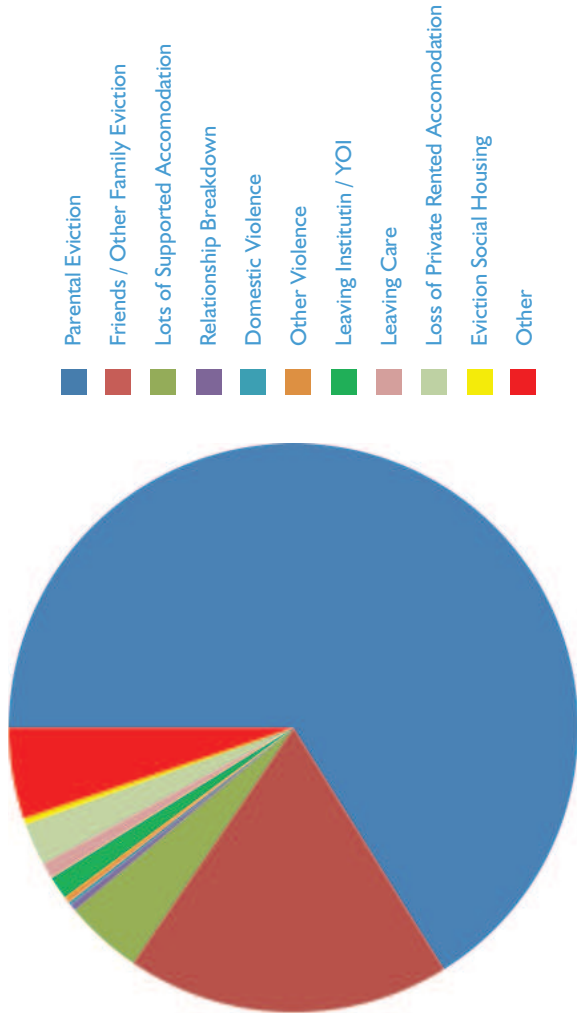
This pie chart represents the causes of homelessness for all young people (16-25) approaching District Housing Authorities and Children's Services. Reasons given as unknown have been removed for this illustration.

The needs of young people vary greatly. This is particularly noticeable across the age range where young people aged 16 or 17 are more likely to be homeless as a result of family breakdown and those aged 18 to 25, who are more likely to have secured their own accommodation and could be expected to approach with a wider range of reasons for becoming homeless.

To consider this we have also demonstrated below the causes of homelessness for just 16 & 17 year olds. This will better help us to ensure we target services to meet the needs of all young people.

As above, the table sets out the raw data obtained from Local Authorities. The following pie chart has disregarded the unknown figures for this illustration.

Reasons for Homelessness - 16 & 17 Year Olds Only



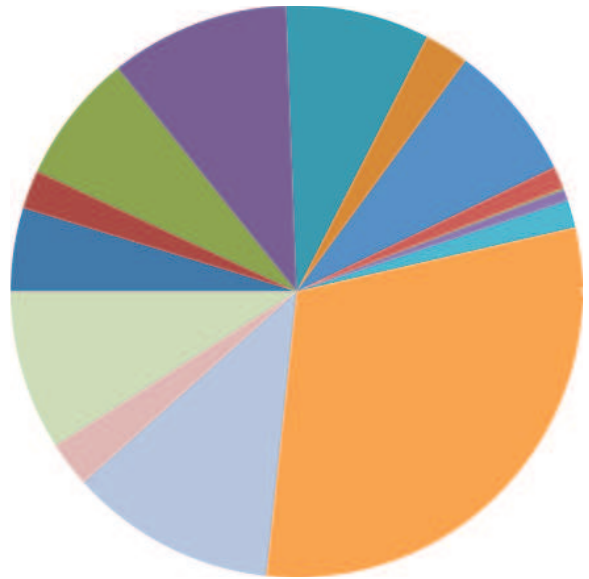
	LCC	BBC	ELDC	Lincoln	NKDC	SHDC	SKDC	WLDC	Total
Parental Eviction	287	7	9	7	2	15	29	3	359
Friends/Other Family Eviction	65	3	4	-	1	4	16	7	100
Loss of Supported Accommodation	24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	24
Relationship Breakdown	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	2
Domestic Violence	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Racial Violence	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Other Violence	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	7
Leaving Institution/YOI	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Leaving Care	5	-	3	4	-	2	4	-	13
Loss of Private Rented Accom.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Emergency flood/fire	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mortgage Arrears	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	2
Eviction Social Housing	27	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	28
Other	-	-	-	-	-	9	1	-	10
Total	413	10	16	14	3	33	53	11	553

4.1.6 Outcomes

The following pie chart demonstrates the recorded outcomes for all young people approaching services aged 16 to 25.

	LCC	BBC	ELDC	Lincoln	NKDC	SHDC	SKDC	WLDC	Total
Returned to Parents	56	2	1	-	25	-	7	6	97
Returned to other family/friends	26	10	-	-	7	-	1	1	45
Supported Accommodation	107	7	7	2	13	-	8	7	151
Social Housing	-	7	9	62	14	14	62	41	209
Private Rented	12	4	99	2	16	-	31	3	167
Returned to Accommodation	-	1	13	1	14	-	18	5	52
Homelessness Prevented/relieved not specified	-	-	13	-	-	134	10	3	160
Passed to Housing	26	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	26
Passed to Children's Services	13	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Deemed Not A Child in Need	27	3	-	2	-	-	-	-	32
Refused Assistance	-	-	30	1	-	212	352	28	623
Advice Only	44	-	64	4	22	95	-	11	240
Lost Contact	52	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	53
Support No Longer Required	50	-	49	-	52	28	7	-	186
Not Known	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	413	36	285	74	163	483	496	106	2056

Outcomes – All Young People 16 - 25



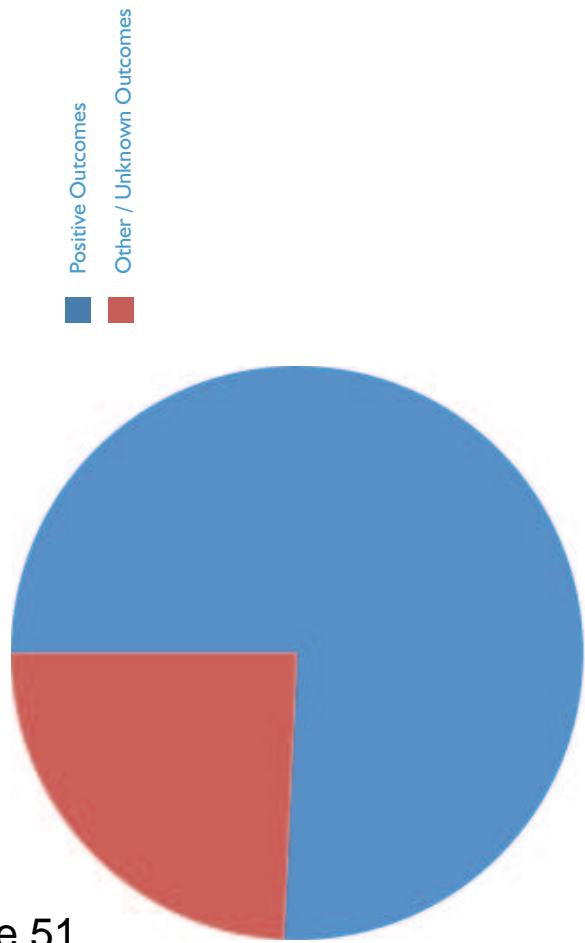
Due to the wide variety of recorded outcomes, which is the result of teams having their own methodology, it is difficult to interpret the above pie chart simply.

To better represent these outcomes we have considered two broader outcomes:

Positive Outcomes including returned to parents, returned to other family/friends, supported accommodation, social housing, private rented, returned to accommodation, homelessness prevented/relieved (but not specified), advice only and support no longer required. This amounts to 1557 cases.

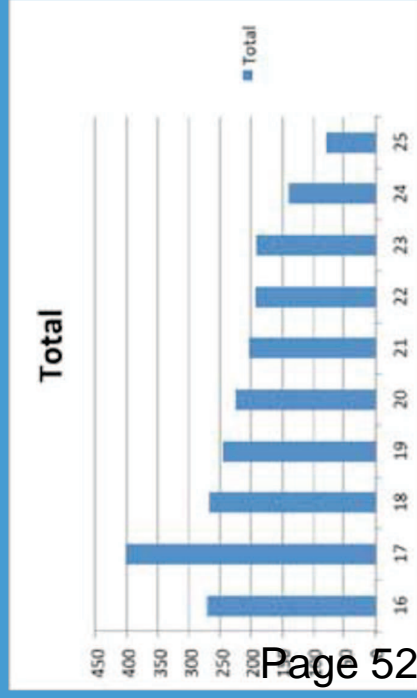
Other/Unknown Outcomes including passed to Housing, passed to Children's Services, deemed not a child in need, refused assistance, lost contact and not known. This amounts to 499 cases.

Outcomes Simplified



4.1.7 Age Distribution of Housing Data

This bar chart shows the age distribution for all approaches made to all districts and agencies during 2011/12. This data looks at the age at the beginning of contact with services and again takes into account all approaches, therefore the same people may be included more than once if they have had multiple contacts with services.



4.1.8 Geographical Distribution of Approaches

The following table shows the areas where young people approached from. The data is based on postcodes which young people gave as their last settled address when approaching teams.

Reliable postcode data for this purpose was collected from 1754 of the young people included in this review.

The vertical columns represent which Authority the young person approached and the horizontal rows show where those young people had become homeless or at risk of homelessness from.



District	Children's Services	Boston	East Lindsey	Lincoln	South Holland	South Kesteven	West Lindsey	Grand Total	District %
Boston	50	30	2	-	9	-	-	91	5.19%
East Lindsey	65	2	278	-	1	-	-	346	19.73%
Lincoln	84	-	45	45	3	-	4	136	7.75%
North Kesteven	38	1	1	3	2	5	2	52	2.96%
South Holland	48	-	-	-	438	1	-	487	27.77%
South Kesteven	76	-	-	-	3	377	-	456	26.00%
West Lindsey	39	1	3	3	21	1	64	108	6.16%
Out of county	28	1	3	1	21	21	3	78	4.45%
Grand Total	428	35	284	52	477	405	73	1754	

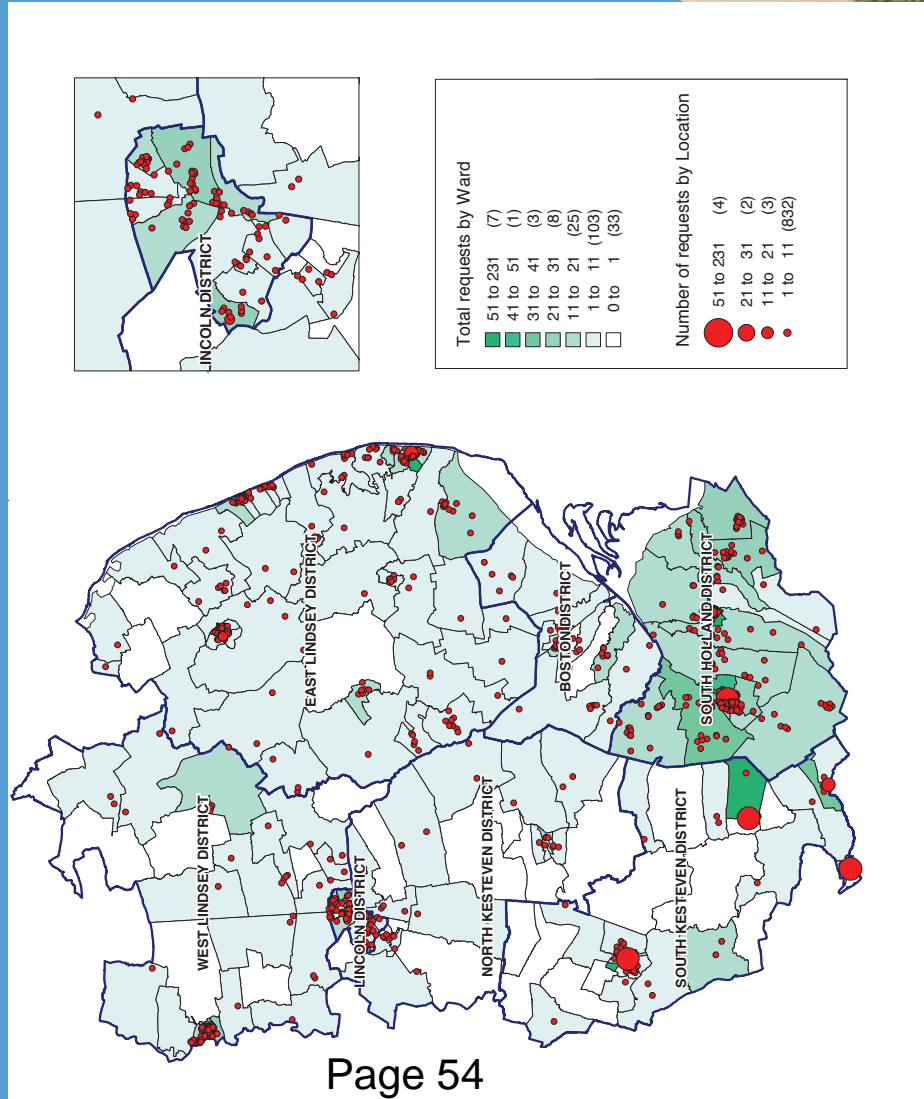
The number of approaches across the returns received from District Authorities differs in some areas from what might be expected and potentially presents a misleading picture of the levels of demand. City of Lincoln and their Supported Accommodation providers in the District consistently report that many young people approach providers directly without making contact with statutory agencies. This is also a possible explanation for the disparity in Boston.

In some cases Districts did not have complete postcode data for all young people. Although this was a minority of cases, generally speaking the data is precise; however, in such cases the main town within that District has been used.

Indeed, North Kesteven did not have postcode data for this group readily available. Following discussions with the North Kesteven Housing Options Team we have represented their approaches as being in the Sleaford area. Some of these young people may live in the outlying villages and migrate towards Sleaford. A significant proportion of North Kesteven residents live in the North Hykeham area but it is believed that these young people would tend to migrate towards Lincoln, either approaching LCC's FAST, City of Lincoln's Homeless Team or, as stated previously, approaching accommodation providers directly.



The following map illustrates where young people are approaching from.



4.1.9 Links with Troubled Families

Lincolnshire County Council has recently undertaken some extensive research as part of the Governments Troubled Families Programme.

What is the Programme About?

The Prime Minister has confirmed his intention to ensure that 120,000 troubled families are 'turned around' by the end of this Parliament. These families are characterised by there being no adult in the family working, children not being in school and family members being involved in crime and anti-social behaviour.

These families almost always have other often long-standing problems which can lead to their children repeating the cycle of disadvantage. One estimate shows that in over a third of troubled families, there are child protection problems. Another estimate suggests that over half of all children who are permanently excluded from school in England come from these families, as do one-in-five young offenders.

Other problems such as domestic violence, relationship breakdown, mental and physical health problems and isolation make it incredibly hard for families to start unravelling their problems.

The Troubled Families Programme (CLG, 2012)

This table shows what percentage of young people that have approached each of Lincolnshire's District Housing Authorities, Lincolnshire County Council Children's Services (excluding education) and Public Health Supported Services during the period 1 April 2011 to 31 March 2012, where homelessness or at risk of homelessness was recorded as a factor of the approach, and whose families were also identified by the Troubled Families Project – Families Working Together.

Organisation	Aged 16 – 17	Aged 18 – 25
Boston District Housing Authority	9.1%	4.0%
East Lindsey District Housing Authority	0.0%	0.0%
Lincoln District Housing Authority	0.0%	0.0%
North Kesteven District Housing Authority	0.0%	0.0%
South Holland District Housing Authority	3.1%	0.0%
South Kesteven District Housing Authority	2.1%	0.0%
West Lindsey District Housing Authority	0.0%	0.0%
Lincolnshire CC's Children's Services (excluding education)	7.2%	0.0%
Public Health Supported Services	2.6%	0.0%



4.2 Accommodation Options for Young People

4.2.1 Types of Accommodation for Young People

This is not intended to be an exhaustive list but does cover the main types of accommodation young people are likely to be able to access.

Supported Accommodation – This is independent accommodation for young people with professional support also provided. Supported Accommodation is usually in a hostel setting with a number of young people living together and sharing facilities such as their kitchen and lounge. Some Supported Accommodation is dispersed in the community and offers young people greater independence. In Lincolnshire Supported Accommodation is typically funded by the Public Health Directorate but there are other providers as well.

In Lincolnshire Supported Accommodation providers manage their own waiting lists and application processes, and work closely with their partners in District Housing Authorities and Children's Services.

Supported Lodgings – Providers rent rooms in their own homes to young people and give them the support, encouragement and guidance they need to develop the skills and confidence to live independently. The young person renting the room becomes part of the household and shares the facilities.

Supported lodgings providers often work in partnership with the young person, a social worker, the Leaving Care Team or a Housing Support Worker to provide a programme of support that meets the young person's individual needs. Some will need help with practical tasks such as cooking, budgeting or shopping economically, while others will need more emotional support. Many will need both. The idea is that young people gradually take on more responsibility for looking after themselves until they reach the point where they feel confident enough to cope on their own.

Nightstop – Nightstop and similar emergency housing schemes for homeless young people aged 16 to 25 can provide a safe, supportive and welcoming environment in the home of a volunteer. Stays can be anything from just one night to a few weeks.

A stay in one of these schemes can help with sudden homelessness. Many young people using the schemes have been asked to leave their family home, or have left home suddenly when they have fallen

out with a family member, or have left a hostel, and would otherwise risk sleeping rough or sofa-surfing.

Nightstop schemes are typically run by charities and coordinated by the national charity Depaul UK, which sets standards for the schemes. Although similar to Supported Lodgings, Nightstop is typically designed as short-term, direct access accommodation.

Crash Pad – This is accommodation designed to be available in an emergency and only for a short period to resolve an immediate crisis or until more appropriate long term accommodation can be found. It is typically independent accommodation with some support and usually provided within an existing Supported Accommodation provision.

Social Housing – This is accommodation let from a Local Authority or Registered Social Landlord. The accommodation is independent and young people will be responsible for ensuring they manage their tenancy. There are a number of Housing Support Providers that are available across Lincolnshire to help people maintain their tenancies if they are having difficulties. Social Housing offers long term settled and secure accommodation but is typically in high demand and not readily available.

Private Rented Accommodation – This is independent accommodation rented from a private landlord. As with social housing young people will be expected to manage the tenancy themselves but Housing Support can be provided also.



4.2.2. Current Accommodation Provision in Lincolnshire

Supported Accommodation – This is the accommodation which is Public Health Funded Young Persons Accommodation (16-25):

District	Name	Units	Support Hours per client (avg.)	24hr Support?
BBC	Framework Boston	18	8	-
ELDC	Young Person's Accommodation	4	9.25	Y
Lincoln	Cedars	13 (+3 move on)	16.6	-
Lincoln	LEAP Dispersed	24	4.6	-
Lincoln	Framework Lincoln	60	8	-
Lincoln	Becam House	4	11	Y
NKDC	Sleaford Foyer	14	14.12	-
SHDC	Lighthouse	8	9.4	-
SHDC	Lighthouse (Teenage Parents)	4	9.25	-
SKDC	Grantham Foyer	11	18.1	-
SKDC	Stamford Housing Project	8	7	-
LLDC	Market Rasen Foyer	20	9	-

Homestop – East Lindsey have a scheme but have only been able to recruit 2 families. The scheme is rarely used due to isolation of one care families and the second, based in Louth, is only used a few times a year. There are also difficulties in making the scheme accessible in an emergency.

South Holland also have a scheme where young people are accommodated with families for approximately 4 nights. The scheme operates independently of the Authority and they currently have 3-4 host families. They don't take young people with offending histories and have only used the scheme once in the last 6 months.

Homer House – This is Supported Accommodation which is not funded by Public Health. It comprises 18 units with support provided by Leap, a national charity specialising in housing and support for young people.

Crash Pad – West Lindsey offer a Crash Pad in partnership with Market Rasen Foyer. The room is booked on a night by night basis and young people are generally moved into the main hostel when a vacancy becomes available.

Remand Accommodation – The Youth Offending Service currently fund a room at Sleaford Foyer for young people they are supporting.

Supported Lodgings – Banardos Leaving Care Service are currently commissioned to provide a Countywide Supported Lodgings scheme for Care Leavers. There are currently 18 host families.



4.3. Use of Accommodation Currently Commissioned by Local Authorities

This section refers to the Supported Accommodation commissioned by Lincolnshire County Council's Public Health Directorate.

4.3.1. Methodology

Information relating to housing related support services commissioned by Public Health is captured in two ways:

1. Client record forms (CRF) data which shows the entrants into services over a given time frame, along with basic demographic information
 2. Outcomes data which at the point of exit for individuals shows the client's length of stay in services as well as the needs they highlighted and how they've been met at the end of their interaction with services
- The purposes of this report CRF data was extracted from the Centre for Housing Research web-site pertaining to 2010/11 and 2011/12. This data was edited to show only the accommodation based services provided by the providers listed below:

- Advance
- Axiom
- Boston Mayflower Framework
- East Lindsey District Council Salvation Army
- Leicester Housing Association (Sleaford Foyer)
- Lincolnshire YMCA
- Making Space
- NACRO
- Nottingham Community Housing Association
- Prime Life

This data was edited further to show only those clients aged 25 years and under at the point of data submission.

These data sets were then used to extract the following information.

4.3.2. Overall Numbers

Client numbers involved in Young Person Housing Related Support Services increased by 7% 2010/11 to 2011/12. In real terms this means that client numbers have grown from 334 to 357. Table 1 in the following section shows the year on year trends per age group along with what proportion of the whole this makes up and the percentage change year on year.



4.3.3. Age Range

Age Group	2010/11 (n)	2010/11 (%)	2011/12 (n)	2011/12 (%)	Year on Year Difference
16	41	12%	41	11%	0%
17	55	16%	46	13%	-20%
18	47	14%	50	14%	6%
19	45	13%	56	16%	20%
20	37	11%	51	14%	27%
21	27	8%	27	8%	0%
22	25	7%	26	7%	4%
23	23	7%	15	4%	-53%
24	22	7%	23	6%	4%
25	12	4%	20	6%	40%
TOTAL	334		357		

Table 1

Age ranges have broadly remained the same year on year with just over 50% of people accessing services aged 19 and under.

4.4. Length of Stay

In order to extract information linked to the length of stay for the client group Outcomes data from the Centre for Housing Research web-site hosted by St Andrew's University has been used. Whilst this provides us with a very useful data source it does not show any duplication of individuals within the system. Also, given that these forms are submitted as clients leave services, the overall submissions rates are higher than for the Client Record Form data mentioned in the rest of this document.

The general trends in terms of length of stay between 2010/11 and 2011/12 have remained fairly stable. With 44% of the client group leaving services within 3 months or less and 56% staying in for over 3 months as table 2 shows:

Row Labels	Outcome forms submitted (n)	Outcome forms submitted (%)
3 months or less	344	44%
3-6 months	226	29%
6-12 months	134	17%
12-24 months	70	9%
2 years +	6	1%
Grand Total	780	



4.3.5. Referral Routes

Table 3 shows the year on year referral routes into services for all clients:

Referral Source	2010/11 (n)	2010/11 (%)	2011/12 (n)	2011/12 (%)
Community Mental Health Team	20	6%	23	6%
Health service/GP	3	1%	3	1%
Internal transfer	0	0%	8	2%
LA housing department (referral)	11	3%	59	17%
Moving from another RSL	5	1%	4	1%
Nominated by local housing auth	18	5%	33	9%
Other	60	18%	24	7%
Probation service/prison	11	3%	7	2%
Relocated through a recognised National, Regional or Sub-Regional Housing Mobility Scheme	1	0%	9	3%
Self referral/Direct application	169	51%	155	43%
Social Services	28	8%	23	6%
Voluntary Agency	5	1%	8	2%
Youth Offending Team	3	1%	1	0%
TOTAL	334		357	

Table 3

There has been a significant increase in LA Housing department referrals; otherwise, year on year referral trends seem to be remaining fairly stable. The two main referral routes are 'self-referral / direct application' and 'LA Housing department referrals'. In 2011/12 80% of referrals from social services were for 16-17 year olds, meaning that for these clients specifically the two main referrers were 'self-referrals' (31%) and 'social services' (22%).

4.3.6. Local Authority

There were three Local Authority Districts (LADs) listed as the previous place of residence for 75% of the 2011/12 client group (roughly 25% each). They are:

- Lincoln
- East Lindsey
- South Kesteven

When 16 and 17 year olds are looked at specifically the proportion approaching from East Lindsey and Lincoln reduces slightly and the proportion from South Kesteven rises to almost a third. This trend was also found to be present in 2010/11 data.



4.3.7. Needs Highlighted

When young people take up services provided through Public Health their needs are assessed to identify what support they require. This information is used to demonstrate the positive impact services can have on young peoples lives.

Out of the 14 possible needs that can be highlighted by clients entering services the main requirements for young people leaving care, young people at risk and teenage parents are:

- Maximising income
- Entering paid work
- Starting training and education
- External contacts (groups)
- Maintaining accommodation
- Accessing settled accommodation
- Choice & control / involvement

These needs were all highlighted by over 50% of clients (for whom data was submitted - a total of 178 people during 2011/12 - therefore only a quarter of the clients recorded via CRF).

The most 'successfully' met (90% or more of those highlighting these needs having them met by the end of their time in services) outcomes for this group during 2011/12 were:

- Maximising income
- External contacts (groups)
- Choice & control / involvement

The next group of most successfully met outcomes (50% or more of those highlighting these needs having them met by the end of their time in services) were:

- Training and education
- Maintaining accommodation
- Settled accommodation

Finally the least successfully met outcome was 'Paid Work' with fewer than 50% of those highlighting this need having it met by the end of their contact with services.

4.4. Involvement of Stakeholders

There are currently high levels of involvement and joint working across Lincolnshire between the County Council, District Authorities and their partners and stakeholders.

Lincolnshire has recently launched its new five year Homelessness Strategy. Through its delivery key partners and stakeholders meet on a monthly basis to work together and support each other in delivering the strategy's actions.

This strategy group has met regularly for many years and is a well established and successful forum for sharing best practice and for ensuring clear and effective communication.



4.5. Summary and Conclusions

Much of the data collected provides a useful insight into youth homelessness in Lincolnshire and will provide a crucial starting point for us to monitor the impacts of any changes we introduce.

There is a lot of data here that is reassuring and that demonstrates the positive work that is being done by Local Authorities and their partners. This is particularly the case for repeat approaches. Although there is still room for improvement it demonstrates the effectiveness of current services that 82% of young people do not need to make multiple approaches to receive assistance.

The section on duplications shows a high number of young people approaching both Children's Services and District Housing Teams. In a positive sense this confirms high levels of joint working between teams. Where young people have approached District Housing Teams and did not then contact Children's Services, we could consider it likely that those young people only required brief, low level intervention and returned to their families.

We can also see here that considerable resource is used in providing advice and support more than once, possibly with two members of staff repeating the same information which further highlights the potential efficiencies for Local Authorities by forming a single gateway for advice and support.

Under the section on reasons for homelessness we can clearly see that the main cause of homelessness is as a result of parental eviction. This gives us clear evidence of the need to focus on providing effective mediation and support to help young people remain at home with their families where it is safe and appropriate to do so.

It is also important to remember that it will not always be safe and appropriate for young people to remain at home and that many young people will feel ready and determined to assert their independence. That parental eviction is such an overwhelming cause of homelessness also tells us of the difficulties young people may be facing in being able to secure their own accommodation and that there is a role for Local Authorities to facilitate this process as best they can.

This section has also highlighted the need for standardised reporting methods. The data used here is very meaningful and useful but certain aspects are not consistently applied. For example one Authority may record 'Debt' as the cause of homelessness but that alone cannot cause homelessness. It is likely to be rent arrears and the resulting loss of private rented accommodation that causes

homelessness. Errors and anomalies like these have been summarised according to either the best fit or as 'other'.

It is reassuring to see low returns for loss of supported accommodation as a cause of homelessness. On the whole we can take heart that this reflects that effective joint working is preventing evictions but it is important that, as part of our ongoing development, we better capture the outcomes of young people leaving Supported Accommodation.

The numbers of young people experiencing homelessness that have also been identified as part of the Troubled Families Programme is startlingly low. This offers some evidential weight to dismiss the presumption that young people who experience homelessness are readily associated with worklessness and/or offending, and reminds us that homelessness can affect everyone. It is important to remember that the Troubled Families Programme is in its infancy and continued close working is essential to make the most of any opportunities for joint working.

The section on accommodation options for young people illustrates the lack of diversity we have in the accommodation we offer.

Examining provision and taking a strategic and informed approach to future service delivery needs to be a key action of this strategy.

The data on use of supported accommodation again offers an invaluable starting point for us to consider the impacts of any changes we introduce. There are a great number of positives highlighted in the outcomes our partners are achieving with young people.





5. Good Practice and Case Studies

5.1. Good Practice

This strategy has sought to apply many of the principles set out in the Joint Guidance issued by Department for Communities and Local Government and the Department of Children, Schools and Families 'Joint working between Housing & Children's Services – Preventing homelessness and tackling its effects on children and young people'.

We have also sought to adopt examples of best practice from our colleagues around the country. We have worked closely with North Yorkshire County Council and have seen first hand the benefits of adopting a joined up working model. We have also taken examples from the strategies of colleagues nationally and their joint working arrangements.

5.2. Case Studies

Here we have taken two of the cases that have been considered at the Youth Homelessness Management Panels which have been introduced recently and are detailed above.

These cases demonstrate very clearly our current level of joint working and how we intend to use case studies and the experiences of young people to inform development and service delivery.



5.2.1. Mr B

Mr B has no health problem and no learning difficulties. He has been suspended from school as he has not been engaging. Children's Services had considerable involvement with Mr B recently. He had been living with his mother and was removed by Police following an assault on his mother's partner and was not permitted to return. Mr B's father lives near London. Family Group Conferencing was attempted but refused by Mr B's mother.

Mr B went into a private fostering arrangement which lasted until he turned 16. He moved into Supported Accommodation as he did not want to stay with foster parents any more and their circumstances changed.

After a relatively short period Mr B was given notice to leave the Supported Accommodation. He approached the local Housing Options Team for help and stated that he had been evicted from his Supported Accommodation for repeatedly breaking the rules. He had been given a notice that day to leave the same afternoon.

The Housing Advisor contacted the Supported Accommodation provider who stated that he has been refusing to engage for at least a few weeks. Mr B has had numerous warnings and refuses to carry out chores required. Mr B has been rude to staff, breaks house rules and plays music loud at night. Mr B was issued a last warning on Friday at 10:30pm. States he was advised on Friday night that he would be asked to leave on Monday.

Mr B advised the Housing Advisor that he had a friend he could stay with that night; however the Advisor knew the friend and had concerns regarding the suitability and the risks that may be posed to Mr B.

The Housing Advisor made several unsuccessful attempts to contact local Children's Services Family Assessment and Support Team, eventually contacting the central Contact Centre where the advisor stated that as he had accommodation that evening with a friend he would not be considered an urgent case but a referral would be made to the local team.

The following day a Social Worker called the Housing Advisor and requested a Joint Housing Assessment be carried out that day. The Joint Assessment was carried out at the Housing Office with a Social Worker, Housing Advisor and Mr B present. Mr B was very difficult and evasive throughout. He was offered accommodation in fostering, nightstop, emergency accommodation or with friends/family. Mr B refused all stating he only wanted to consider renting a room in a shared house.

The Housing Advisor discussed renting a room and gave advice on claiming Housing Benefit, his maximum entitlement and how he might go about finding one. Mr B was advised of the assistance he could also get from the Citizen's Advice Bureau. When Mr B was advised about the need to make a contribution towards his rent if renting from a private landlord he was concerned as to how he will be able to run his motorbike. Mr B also stated he had started working as a labourer and was advised this will affect his HB claim.

What can we learn?

The first issue to consider is whether there was an opportunity for the Accommodation Provider and either the Homeless or Children's Services Team to have worked together sooner before Mr B lost his accommodation. Mr B wanted to consider renting a room in a shared house which services may have been able to help facilitate in a planned and positive way. Alternatively, Mr B could have been given appropriate advice to better understand his housing options, or lack of, and financial situation, and to have helped him make an informed decision. He is now likely to face a period of homelessness.

Mr B appears to be in need of considerable additional support and better communication and joint working between statutory teams would have helped to ensure he did not slip through the net.



5.2.2. Miss P

Miss P is currently NEET (Not in Employment Education or Training) and has been receiving on-going support from Barnardos through their BEET (Barnardos Education Employment Training) Team. Miss P was not previously known to Children's Services or the Housing Team.

Following a big argument with her parent and sibling, Miss P was thrown out of the family home and not allowed to return. The argument had warranted Police involvement and they had removed Miss P from the property.

Miss P stated she was dropped off at Sainsbury's car park by the Police and advised to arrange her own accommodation and to return to her parent's house in the morning. Miss P did not have anywhere to stay and rang her Barnardos Support Worker who rang Miss P's mother and tried to mediate and negotiate a return. This work failed and Miss P rang Children's Services out of hours Emergency Duty Team (EDT). The EDT worker advised Miss P and her Barnardos worker that accommodation would not be provided. Barnardos provided B&B accommodation that evening.

The following day Miss P approached her local Housing Options Team with her Barnardos Support Worker. The Housing Options Advisor wrongly thought that Miss P was a care leaver and referred them to Children's Services. When this mistake was later pointed out the Team agreed to receive an approach from Miss P for assistance and notified their out of hours service (because their offices were about to close) should Miss P require accommodation.

Meanwhile Miss P and her Support Worker had attended the Children's Services local office to approach for assistance. The reception refused this approach and insisted that Miss P refer herself through the Contact Centre. Miss P was not assisted in making this self-referral and left.

When Miss P called the Contact Centre she was told the case would be referred through to the locality team but was not told when, if it would be that day or if she would be provided with accommodation that night.

Miss P received a call from Children's Services later that afternoon. The Social Worker contacted Miss P's mother and managed to arrange for her to return home. Miss P refused to return home citing risk of violence from her brother and ran away. Miss P's mother later spoke with Barnardos because she was concerned for Miss P's whereabouts and was advised to report her as missing. Later that evening the Police picked Miss P up and took her home.

Barnardos are putting a TAC together for Miss P. The Barnardos Worker stated that although they achieved some positives with the outcome, they found it difficult and time consuming to navigate services and would be very concerned for a young person on their own.

What can we learn?

This case highlights the risks of failing to meet the needs of young people if we don't get it right first time when a young person approaches our services. It is fortunate in this case that Miss P had additional support in place to help her access the advice and support she needed.

There is an on-going need to reinforce with our teams the statutory responsibilities we have and how we need to meet them. It is also important for us to consider the ease with which services can be accessed, not just for young people but for the understanding of our partners also.

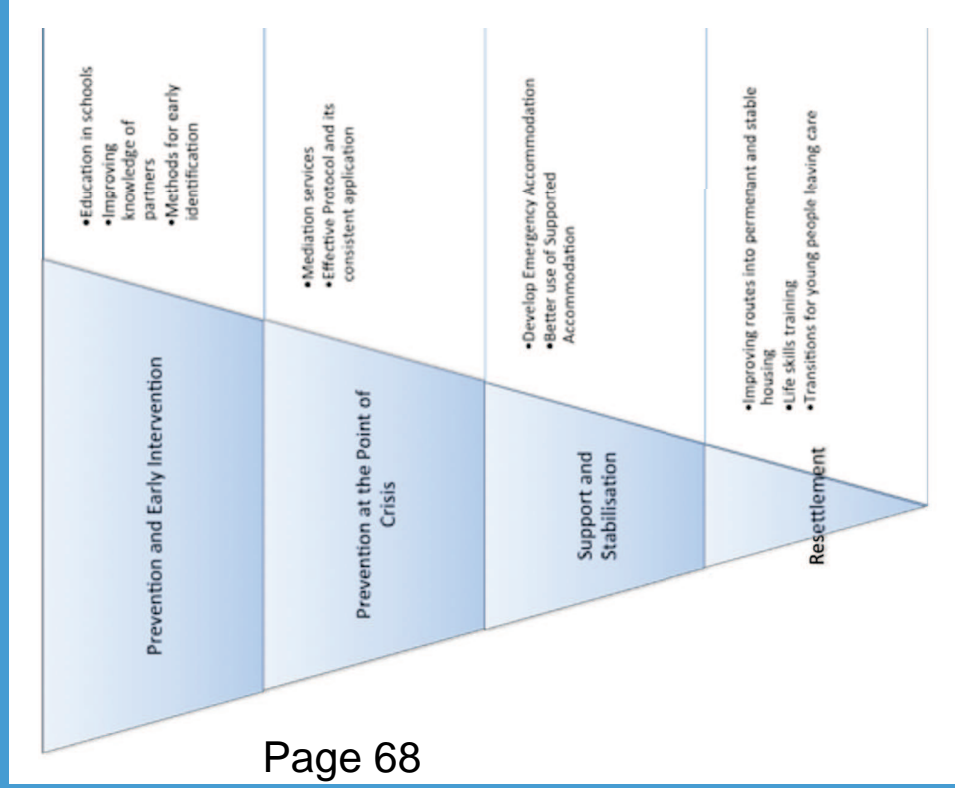




6. The Way Forward

6.1. Delivering Services along the Youth Housing Pathway

This diagram details the stages of the Pathway and some of the main actions we hope to implement to help us achieve improvements in that area.



6.2. Key Objectives

Our Key objectives follow the headings of the Youth Housing Pathway detailed above, with a preceding objective that aims to ensure youth homelessness is addressed by all partners in a joined up and strategic way.

The Actions under each objective incorporate the findings of the consultation, youth homelessness review and reflections on experiences and case studies.

6.2.1. Objective A: Underpinning Strategic Priorities

Ensure Youth Homelessness is addressed in a joined up and strategic way

- Explore options for the development of a Single Access Gateway for young people seeking to get help and support with housing and homelessness. This process will support additional activities of delivering effective mediation and prevention services and of ensuring best use of the accommodation that Local Authorities can commission.
- Improve data collection and recording across all key partners to aid monitoring of improvements and further targeting of resources.
- Deliver training and workshops to our teams and key partners.
- Improve relationships in locality areas through local area managers meetings.

6.2.2. Objective B: Prevention and Early Intervention

Ensure early interventions are in place to educate young people on housing and homelessness and to highlight young people at risk of homelessness and ensure appropriate support can be given

- Support the continued delivery of education in schools through theatre and workshops.
- Develop systems for identifying young people who are at risk of becoming homeless in the future to help with targeting early intervention and prevention.
- Improve joint working with wider partners and stakeholders through providing clarity and consistency in our processes and by effective communication.

6.2.3. Objective C: Prevention at the Point of Crisis

Ensure consistent and effective prevention and mediation services are in place for young people at the point of crisis, to ensure the maximum number of young people are assisted and supported to remain within family and kinship arrangements.

- Consider the options for the effective delivery of Mediation services.
- Ensure we have an effective Joint Working Protocol and Practice Guidance, that they are fit for purpose and that that they are consistently implemented across the County
- Improve the resources and information available to young people.



6.2.4. Objective D: Support and Stabilisation

Ensure there is sufficient accommodation in place to meet the current level of demand from homeless young people and that there is sufficient diversity in accommodation to meet individual young peoples needs.

- Ensure there is sufficient emergency and direct access accommodation for young people where homelessness cannot be prevented.
- End the use of B&B.
- Ensure there is sufficient diversity of accommodation to meet young people's needs.
- Ensure the best use of the Supported Accommodation Local Authorities commission by: developing pre-emption protocols; monitoring any refusals; and developing a single access gateway into accommodation including better monitoring of who is accessing the accommodation, how long for and what their outcomes are.

6.2.5. Objective E: Resettlement

Ensure there is sufficient long term solutions for young people that have experienced homelessness and for Care Leavers and that sufficient support services are in place for young people to succeed.

- Have an effective protocol for supporting young people's transition from care.
- Ensure clear and effective routes into permanent accommodation.
- Ensure young people have the life skills to succeed into independence and to build confidence amongst accommodation providers.
- Ensure sufficient support services to help young people in independence.

6.3. Objectives in Practice – The Youth Housing Action Plan

In the pages which follow we have set out the actions we will achieve through the delivery of this strategy.



Youth Housing Strategy 2013 – 2018 Action Plan for Achieving Our Objectives

Objective A - Underpinning Strategic Priorities

Action	Who	When	Milestone
<p>A1 – Establish a Youth Housing project board to monitor the implementation of the Strategy Action Plan.</p> <p>Provide regular progress reports to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CYPSP • Commissioning Body • LHSG 	<p>Youth Housing Coordinator Children's Services Public Health Provider's Executive District Housing Representative Leaving Care Youth Offending</p>	Monthly	
<p>A2 – Hold Local Youth Homelessness Management Meetings to ensure effective communication and sharing of best practice.</p> <p>A3 – Develop methods for on-going data capture.</p>	<p>District Housing Options Manager FAST Manager Targeted Team Manager LCC Commissioning Officer Youth Housing Coordinator</p>	<p>Monthly September 2013</p>	
<p>A4 – Develop and deliver training to frontline staff</p>	<p>Youth Housing Coordinator Training Provider Local Authority Children's Services Housing Providers Housing Options Teams</p>	<p>Develop by September 2013. Delivery ongoing.</p>	<p>Agree process for delivery of advice, provision of accommodation and use of accommodation then develop training including this and legislative framework. Revise and launch protocol.</p>
<p>A5 – Carry out reviews of the housing pathway for specific vulnerable groups including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children with Disabilities • Teenage Pregnancy • Young Offenders • Young People with Drug and Alcohol Problems • Care Leavers • Young People with Mental Health Problems. 	<p>Youth Housing Coordinator Children with Disabilities Team Manager Teenage Pregnancy Team Manager Youth Offending Service Manager Leaving Care Service Manager CAMHS</p>	September 2013	
<p>A6 – Carry Out Consultation with Service Users on the Strategy and Action Plan.</p>	<p>Youth Housing Coordinator Public Health Accommodation Providers Leaving Care</p>	December 2013	

Objective B: Prevention and Early Intervention

Action	Who	When	Milestone
B1 – Provide early education for young people through the ZEST Theatre Production in Schools. Linked action with Lincolnshire Homeless Strategy.	Children's Services District Housing Options Teams ZEST	Production to be delivered October - December 2013	Agreement to support and deliver from all partners.
B2 – Raise the skills and working relationship of frontline officers through a programme of training, networking and shadowing.	FAST Managers Targeted Managers Housing Options Team Managers	Ongoing with sessions delivered bi-monthly	Processes to be agreed and training to be developed.
B3 – Provide training for partner agencies on youth homelessness and Local Authority processes	Youth Housing Coordinator	December 2013	Establish clear processes for partners to be able to support young people identified as at risk.
B4 – Develop methods for early identification of young people at risk of homelessness	Youth Housing Coordinator Job Centre Schools Youth Offending Service Manager Targeted Team Manager – NEET	December 2013	Explore best practice and discuss opportunities with partner agencies

Objective C: Prevention at the Point of Crisis

Action	Who	When	Milestone
C1. Ensure the 16/17 Year Old Protocol and accompanying Practice Guidance are fully implemented and remain fit for purpose.	Youth Housing Coordinator Children's Services District Housing Options Teams Management Panel	Implementation reviewed monthly through the Youth Homelessness Management Panel and fitness reviewed annually	
C2. Develop a single point of access for young people who need advice, prevention and mediation services.	Children's Services District Housing Authorities Public Health Youth Housing Coordinator	August 2013	Agreement to develop from key partners
C3. Develop a mediation service and monitor its effectiveness.	FAST Managers Housing Options Team Managers Youth Housing Coordinator	Ongoing	
C4. Improve information available to young people including leaflets and online media.	LCC Information Team District Housing Authorities	December 2013	
C5. Ensure sufficiency of emergency placements at a locality level.	Youth Housing Coordinator	Emergency placements to be available in all localities by December 2013	
C6. All Young people who require emergency placement or accommodation support are to be allocated a key worker through families working together.	Families Working Together Youth Housing Coordinator	Ongoing	

Objective D: Support and Stabilisation

Action	Who	When	Milestone
D1. Ensure young people's accommodation needs are being met with particular regard to capacity, variety and meeting varying support needs. Develop Accommodation Options where appropriate following the Youth Accommodation Review. Develop a Procurement Plan that ensures accommodation options for young people are commissioned in a coordinated and strategic way by Local Authority partners.	Children's Services District Housing Authorities Public Health Youth Housing Coordinator	December 2013	Identify gaps and develop a Procurement Plan
D2. Ensure Local Authorities are making best use of accommodation provided for young people. Develop systems for jointly managing the supported accommodation ensuring it meets the needs of young people, is meeting the requirements of statutory partners and that accommodation providers are supported in delivering their services.	Children's Services District Housing Authorities Public Health Youth Housing Coordinator Accommodation Providers	December 2013	Meet with providers and Authorities
D3. Develop a single point of access for young people accessing accommodation so placement change is effectively managed.	Children's Services District Housing Authorities Public Health Youth Housing Coordinator	August 2013	Agreement to develop from key partners and method of delivery
D4. Agree funding mechanism which incentivises independences and move on of young people.	Children's Services District Housing Authorities Public Health Youth Housing Coordinator	December 2013	

Objective B: Prevention and Early Intervention

Action	Who	When	Milestone
E1 – Ensure sufficient move-on accommodation and permanent settled housing options for young people to avoid blockages in Supported/Emergency Accommodation.	Accommodation providers District Housing Authorities	Monthly monitoring	Develop training based on current work best practice and replicate countywide.
E2 – Develop life skills training to increase young people's move-on options and to improve their chances of successfully maintaining a tenancy.	Youth Housing Coordinator	December 2013	Implementation of Housing Protocol from FAST to LAC.
E3 – Ensure effective transitions for Young People Leaving Care.	Youth Housing Coordinator Leaving Care Team District Housing Authorities Accommodation Providers	September 2013 and review bi-annually	Implementation of Joint Housing Protocol for Care Leavers.
E4 – Ensure sufficient and appropriate support services for young people living independently.	Public Health	August 2013	Review young people's access to support in independent living.

6.4 Procurement Plan

Many aspects of the delivery of this Strategy and Action Plan involve looking at the services we currently commission as Local Authorities. It may be that we need to consider commission new services to meet any gaps in provision that we may identify. It may also be that we consider reviewing some of the services that we already commission to ensure we better meet the needs of young people.

The delivery of this strategy will be met in part through the development of a Procurement Plan that will seek to take a strategic overview of the needs of young people and the services we commission. The youth homelessness review contained in this Strategy will be a key part of informing that plan.

The Procurement Plan will seek wherever possible to pull together different funding streams and services into a unified and coordinated pathway of youth housing services.



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Open Report on behalf of Debbie Barnes, Director of Children's Services

Report to:	Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee
Date:	26 July 2013
Subject:	Proposal to revoke the decision taken in May 2012 to expand Spalding Primary School

Summary:

This report invites the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee to consider a report on the proposal to revoke the decision taken in May 2012 to expand Spalding Primary School which is due to be considered by the Executive Councillor for Adult Care, Health and Children's Services on 9 August 2013. The views of the Scrutiny Committee will be reported to the Executive Councillor as part of her consideration of this item.

Actions Required:

- (1) To consider the attached report and to determine whether the Committee supports the recommendation to the Executive Councillor for Adult Care, Health and Children's Services set out in the report.
- (2) To agree any additional comments to be passed to the Executive Councillor for Adult Care, Health and Children's Services in relation to this item.

1. Background

The Executive Councillor for Adult Care, Health and Children's Services is due to consider the report on the proposal to revoke the decision taken in May 2012 to expand Spalding Primary School. The full report to the Executive Councillor is attached at Appendix 1 to this report.

2. Conclusion

Following consideration of the attached report, the Committee is requested to consider whether it supports the recommendation in the report and whether it wishes to make any additional comments to the Executive Councillor for Adult Care, Health and Children's Services. The Committee's views will be reported to the Executive Councillor.

3. Consultation

a) Policy Proofing Actions Required

Not applicable

4. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix 1	Report and Appendices to the Executive Councillor for Adult Care, Health and Children's Services on Proposal to revoke the decision taken in May 2012 to expand Spalding Primary School

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 Michelle Andrews, who can be contacted on 01522 553269 or Michelle.andrews@lincolnshire.gov.uk .

Open Report on behalf of Debbie Barnes, Director of Children's Services

Report to:	Councillor Mrs P A Bradwell, Executive Councillor for Adult Care, Health and Children's Services
Date:	09 August 2013
Subject:	Proposal to revoke the expansion of Spalding Primary School
Decision Reference:	1004777
Key decision?	Yes

Summary:

The proposal under consideration is for the Local Authority (LA) to be relieved of the duty to implement the statutory expansion proposal that was published on 2 February 2012. The proposal was to expand Spalding Primary School from 420 to 630 places with an increase in the Published Admission Number (PAN) from 60 to 90. That proposal was approved in May 2012 to come into effect from 1 September 2013. The revocation proposal under consideration in this report would result in the capacity remaining at 420 from 1 September 2013.

As the circumstances have substantially altered since the original expansion proposals were approved, it is considered inappropriate to continue with implementation of the expansion.

The planning application for the LA's preferred option to expand the existing buildings of Spalding Primary School was unsuccessful and therefore the expansion had to be pursued as a split site option via an annex to the school. An Ofsted inspection in September 2012 graded Spalding Primary School as 'Requires Improvement'. In January 2013 there was a change in leadership at the school. In March 2013 governors decided that it would be extremely challenging to manage a split site school expansion whilst continuing to provide a high standard of teaching and learning. They wish to concentrate their efforts on the successful progress being made under the new leadership and management arrangements introduced in January.

The LA must therefore follow the statutory process to revoke the expansion decision and look to expand capacity elsewhere within the locality to ensure that it meets its statutory duty of providing sufficient school places for the children of Spalding.

The LA considers that the best available solution to address the expected shortage of primary school places in this area of Spalding is to revoke the expansion decision and build a new 1 form of entry (210 place) primary school at Wygate Park.

To ensure that both the revocation and new school processes can be carried out within an acceptable and achievable time frame, and so that all legal requirements can be met, it has been necessary to run both processes simultaneously. The process under the Department for Education's (DfE) prescribed Academy Presumption guidelines to find an operator to run a new Academy on the site in Wygate Park commenced to run alongside the revocation process.

The paper reporting on the evaluation process for identifying a suitable operator for the new primary academy ('Proposal for a new primary Academy in Spalding - submission to Secretary of State of results and evaluation of process to identify an operator') is a separate paper.

The LA has co-ordinated the revocation process following statutory DfE guidelines ('Expanding a Maintained Mainstream School by Enlargement or Adding a Sixth Form') in accordance with the terms of the Education and Inspections Act (EIA) 2006 as updated by the Education Act 2011. The Revocation Notice (copy attached as Appendix A) was published on 9 May 2013 which initiated a six week Representation Period up to 20 June 2013 when written objections and comments may be submitted. The Complete Proposal (copy attached as Appendix B) to which the Revocation Notice refers was sent to interested parties as detailed in the statutory guidance and published on the Lincolnshire County Council (LCC) website at www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/provisionplanning. This was made available in both electronic and paper format.

The final decision regarding the revocation proposal must now be made and this report seeks to advise the Executive Councillor in accordance with statutory guidance.

The revocation proposal and statutory notice have not been published as related to any other statutory proposal as legally one is not dependant on the other; however, the process to find an operator for a new Academy in Spalding has been run in parallel to the statutory revocation process.

Recommendation(s):

That following the completion of the statutory process, in accordance with current legislation, the Executive Councillor for Adult Care, Health and Children's Services is recommended to take the decision to approve the revocation of the expansion of Spalding Primary School with effect from 1 September 2013 as detailed in this report.

Alternatives Considered:

1. To continue with the expansion of Spalding Primary School against the wishes of the Governing Body. Therefore the LA continues to work with Spalding Primary School in partnership with support through CfBT to

successfully implement the expansion as a split site model with 1 form of entry (210 places) of accommodation built on the Wygate Park development.

Reasons for Recommendation:

- To enable the LA to pursue suitable alternative solutions to meet its statutory obligation to ensure that there are sufficient school places in Spalding for all children of statutory school age.
- The proposal will assist in meeting parental preference in that school places will be provided at a new school within the community of Wygate Park enabling local children to attend their local school and avoid having to take up a school place outside of their community. The Government has made it clear that the wishes of parents should be taken into account in planning and managing school estates. DfE guidance states that places should be allocated where parents want them. This will also help to avoid increased transport costs, the negative impact of extra travelling time on children and extra car usage which would be likely to follow if it were necessary for children to take up school places outside of their community.
- Officers have investigated the potential alternatives. Consideration was given to the local area, the existing schools and the increasing pressure on primary school places. The LA considers the proposal to revoke the expansion of Spalding Primary School and to build a new 1 form of entry primary Academy on Wygate Park to be the best available solution to meet the needs of the children and parents of Spalding with the resources available and to address the expected shortage of primary school places in the area.
- The interim leadership arrangements currently in place at Spalding Primary School are part of a two year temporary collaborative partnership with Pinchbeck East Church of England Primary School which is an "Outstanding" school with a strong Governing Body. The school is making excellent progress under these arrangements. There are currently no long term plans for this collaboration to continue beyond the two year period. If the proposal to expand is not revoked and the expansion continued then this could jeopardise the collaboration and support in place for Spalding Primary School.

1. Background

The LA has a statutory duty to ensure that there are sufficient primary school places in Spalding to accommodate the increasing pupil numbers in the community and to provide school places for all children of statutory school age in Lincolnshire within a reasonable distance from where they live.

The LA must follow the statutory process to revoke the expansion decision and look to expand capacity elsewhere within the locality to ensure that it meets its statutory duty. The LA considers that the best available solution to the expected shortage of primary school places in this area of Spalding is to build a new 1 form

of entry (210 place) primary school and has commenced the process under the DfE's prescribed Academy Presumption guidelines to find an operator to run a new Academy on the site in Wygate Park.

The capacity at the school before the expansion proposal was 420 with a PAN of 60. The expansion proposal was to increase the capacity to 630 with a PAN of 90. The school admitted above their usual intake in 2012 and will do so again for the intake in September 2013 by offering up to 90 places in Reception. The LA asked the school to offer above their PAN for these two intakes to ensure a sufficient number of primary school places to accommodate all pupils of a statutory school age whilst a permanent solution was put in place. As a result of the over offers in 2012 and 2013 there will be two bulge years at Spalding Primary School. If the revocation is approved the LA will work with the school on accommodation solutions to manage these bulge years and to meet the needs of the local children, the school and the community. There will be no displaced pupils arising out of the revocation proposal or any negative impact on parental choice. The need for additional primary school places required in this area from September 2014 is now proposed to be met by a new primary Academy on Wygate Park.

The capital costs for building on the new Wygate Park site will be approximately the same whether this is for a new standalone school or a split site expansion. There may be additional capital costs required to manage the bulge years at Spalding Primary School that would be funded and delivered through the Children's Services Capital Programme. There will be LA revenue support required for the start-up costs associated with establishing a new Academy instead of the support that would have been required for the phased expansion of an existing school. There will also be a cost to continue to hire the double mobile at Spalding Primary School if required, whilst an alternative solution is found.

The LA believes that this proposal is in the best interests of local children and local parents as well as educational provision in the area and it reinforces the priorities in the Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP). The proposal will ensure that the provision of school places is planned so as to promote high educational standards, enable fair access to educational opportunity for every child and promote the fulfilment of each child's potential. This proposal will enable alternatives for the addition of capacity in the primary sector which will enhance the quality and sustainability of local provision.

The decision to expand Spalding Primary School was formalised in May 2012 and as a result the PAN at the school for September 2014 has been published as 90. It will be necessary for the school (as a Foundation school), supported by the LA, to make an application to the Office of Schools Adjudicator to formally reduce and publish the PAN back to 60 for September 2014.

Reaching the decision – Preliminary Considerations

The requirements for decision making relating to the expansion of maintained mainstream schools, including revocation, are set out in the guide "Expanding a Maintained Mainstream School by Enlargement or Adding a Sixth Form" published by the DfE.

The guide sets out certain checks that the decision maker should follow before proceeding to take a decision. These are addressed below:

- (i) Is any information missing? It is considered that there is no information missing and that the Executive Councillor has before her the information that is required to enable a decision to be reached.
- (ii) Is the proposal related to other published proposals? The answer to this is no. However, the process to find an operator of a new Academy in Spalding will run in parallel to the statutory revocation process.
- (iii) Do the published notices comply with statutory requirements and has the statutory consultation been carried out prior to the publication of the notices? The Revocation Notice was published in accordance with paragraph 41 of Schedule 5 of The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools)(England) Regulations 2007. In accordance with statutory requirements the notice was published in the local press, at the school gates and also within the community at the local library. There is no statutory requirement to consult on revocation prior to publishing a notice.

Factors to be considered by Decision Makers

In reaching a decision the Executive Councillor must have regard to the revocation process within the statutory guidance issued by the Secretary of State (Expanding a Maintained Mainstream School by Enlargement or Adding a Sixth Form). This paper addresses all factors to be considered in accordance with the guidance. The Complete Proposal (attached as Appendix B) also includes information which must be considered together with any feedback from interested parties received throughout the entire process. However, no responses were received in the Representation Period following the publication of the Revocation Notice. To approve the revocation proposal the Executive Councillor must be satisfied that implementation of the original proposals would be unreasonably difficult or that circumstances have altered significantly enough since the original expansion proposals were approved so that their implementation would be inappropriate.

The LA must decide the revocation proposal within 2 months of the end of the Representation Period on 20 June 2013. If this decision is not taken by 20 August 2013 it must be passed to the schools adjudicator.

The Decision

In considering the proposal the Executive Councillor can:-

- reject the proposal
- approve the proposal
- approve the proposal with a modification (e.g. the implementation date) or
- approve the proposal subject to meeting a specific condition

It is not recommended that the Executive Councillor lays down any specific conditions and therefore the 'Alternatives Considered' section at the start of this report simply deals with the rejection or approval of the proposal.

Reasons must be given for the decision taken including the main factors and criteria whether the proposal is accepted or rejected.

2. Conclusion

A decision is required from the Executive Councillor to determine whether to approve the revocation of the expansion of Spalding Primary School as detailed in this report with an implementation date of 1 September 2013. The factors to consider in making this decision are within this report and all valid written responses received must be considered. However no responses have been received.

The LA believes this proposal to be in the best interests of local children and local parents as well as educational provision in the area and it supports the council's aim of ensuring that as many children as possible can reach their full potential. It also supports the LA in fulfilling its statutory duty of ensuring that there are sufficient places to accommodate all pupils of statutory school age in Lincolnshire without providing an over-supply of school places.

It is recommended that approval be given to the revocation of the expansion of Spalding Primary School. The advantages of implementing this proposal are detailed earlier in this report in the 'Reasons for Recommendations' section.

3. Legal Comments:

The legal issues to be taken into account in the making of this decision, which is within the remit of the Executive Councillor, are fully set out within the report.

4. Resource Comments:

The revocation of the decision to expand Spalding Primary School with effect from 1 September 2013 will likely require some funding from the capital programme to suitably accommodate the 2012 and 2013 intakes at Spalding Primary School. Any on-going revenue costs will be funded from the Dedicated Schools Grant.

5. Consultation

Under current legislation the LA is the decision maker for the proposal and is co-ordinating the statutory process before making a decision at the end of the process in August 2013. The LA must be able to show that all relevant issues raised are taken into consideration in the decision making process. Points raised can be considered unpersuasive but must not be ignored altogether. No responses were received during the Representation Period (from 9 May to 20 June 2013) following the publication of the Revocation Notice.

The Revocation Notice (copy attached as Appendix A) was published on 9 May 2013 which initiated a six week Representation Period up to 20 June 2013 when written objections and comments may be submitted. The Complete Proposal (copy attached as Appendix B), available in electronic and paper format, to which the Revocation Notice refers was sent to interested parties as detailed in the statutory guidance and published on the Lincolnshire County Council (LCC) website at www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/provisionplanning. In accordance with statutory requirements the notice was published in the local press, at the school gates and also within the community at the local library.

Information regarding this proposal has also been made available through the County Council website since the start of the revocation process on 9th May 2013 and the Executive Councillor for Adult Care, Health and Children's Services has been engaged throughout the entire process.

The last stage of the statutory process is the revocation of the decision to expand Spalding Primary School with effect from 1 September 2013 if approval is given by the Executive Councillor.

a) Has Local Member Been Consulted?

Yes, the local member has been made aware of the proposal to revoke the expansion of Spalding Primary School.

b) Has Executive Councillor Been Consulted?

Yes, the Executive Councillor has been involved in the discussions regarding the proposal to revoke the expansion of Spalding Primary School.

c) Scrutiny Comments

The Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee considered the expansion proposal at its meeting on 26 July 2013. *Comments from this meeting will be included here to inform the Executive Councillor when making her decision which is due to be taken on 9 August 2013.*

d) Policy Proofing Actions Required

An Impact Analysis has been completed. In summary this analysis indicates that the potential for any negative impact is virtually nil. There will be no displaced pupils arising out of the revocation proposal or any negative impact on parental preference. Although there will remain two bulge years at Spalding Primary School the LA will work with the school on accommodation solutions to manage these bulge years and ensure that the needs of the local children, the school and community will be met without any negative impact. The revocation proposal will enable the Governing Body and the leadership of Spalding Primary School to concentrate their efforts on the collaborative partnership with Pinchbeck East Church of England Primary School and also enable the LA to pursue alternative solutions to meet its statutory obligation to ensure that there are sufficient school places in Spalding for all children of statutory school age.

Apart from its obligations to consider the statutory guidance referred to, the Council has obligations under the Equality Act 2010 which must be taken into account by the Executive Councillor when coming to a decision.

The Council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to:

(1) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Equality Act 2010;

(2) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;

(3) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it: Equality Act 2010 s 149(1). The relevant protected characteristics are age; disability; gender reassignment; pregnancy & maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; sexual orientation: s 149(7).

Having due regard to the need to advance equality of opportunity involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to take steps to meet the needs of persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of persons who do not share it.

The Council believes that this proposal will not lead to any discrimination and that in recommending the proposal the Council is having due regard to its obligations under The Equality Act.

6. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Revocation Notice
Appendix B	Complete Proposal

7. Background Papers

The following background papers as defined in the Local Government Act 1972 were relied upon in the writing of this report.

Document title	Where the document can be viewed
Proposal to expand Spalding Primary School	Lincolnshire County Council Committee Records (Reference 01969) 01 May 2012
Expanding a Maintained Mainstream School by Enlargement or Adding a Sixth Form	http://www.education.gov.uk/schools/leadership/schoolorganisation/b0075166/other-changes-to-a-school-and-expansions
Impact Analysis	Available on request from the Property and Technology Management Team, Children's Services

This report was written by Michelle Andrews, who can be contacted on 01522 553269 or michelle.andrews@lincolnshire.gov.uk.

Proposal to revoke the decision to expand the capacity at Spalding Primary School

Notice is given in accordance with paragraph 41 to Schedule 5 of The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools)(England) Regulations 2007 that Lincolnshire County Council, County Offices, Newland, Lincoln LN1 1YQ proposes to be relieved of the duty to implement the statutory proposal published on 2 February 2012.

This proposal was to expand the capacity at Spalding Primary School, Woolram Wygate, Spalding PE11 1PB from 420 to 630 with an increase in the Published Admission Number from 60 to 90, approved to come into effect from 1 September 2013.

The Local Authority proposes that a duty to implement the proposal should not apply because the planning application was turned down for an expansion to the existing buildings. The Governing Body of Spalding Primary School has decided that it would be extremely challenging to manage a split site school whilst continuing to provide a high standard of teaching and learning. Governors of the school wish to concentrate efforts on their successful progress under the new leadership and management arrangements.

Within six weeks after the date of publication of this proposal, any person may object to or make comments on the proposal by sending their representations to Provision Planning, Children's Services, Lincolnshire County Council, County Offices, Newland, Lincoln LN1 1YQ or by emailing provisionplanning@lincolnshire.gov.uk

Signed: Debbie Barnes
Director of Children's Services

Publication Date: 9 May 2013

Notes

1. In order to ensure that sufficient primary school places are available in this area of Spalding to meet future increasing demand the Local Authority will be looking to open a new 1 form of entry primary Academy on the Wygate Park site with a planned implementation date of 1 September 2014.
2. The Local Authority has commenced the selection and evaluation process to find an operator for a new primary Academy on the Wygate Park site.



**Complete Proposal
to Revoke the Expansion of
Spalding Primary School**

**PROPOSALS TO REVOKE THE DECISION TO IMPLEMENT A PRESCRIBED
ALTERATION TO A SCHOOL**

Matters to be specified in accordance with Schedule 5 of The School Organisation
(Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools)(England) Regulations 2007

9 MAY 2013

Contact details

This proposal has been published by Lincolnshire County Council, County Offices, Newland, Lincoln LN1 1YQ regarding the revocation of the decision to expand Spalding Primary School, Woolram Wygate, Spalding PE11 1PB.

Implementation

The proposal is for the Local Authority (LA) to be relieved of the duty to implement the statutory proposal that was published on 2 February 2012. This proposal was to expand the capacity at Spalding Primary School from 420 to 630 places with an increase in the Published Admission Number (PAN) from 60 to 90 and was approved to come into effect from 1 September 2013.

Objections and Comments

Any person or organisation may object to or make comments on the proposal by sending them to Provision Planning, Children's Services, Lincolnshire County Council, County Offices, Newland, Lincoln LN1 1YQ or by emailing provisionplanning@lincolnshire.gov.uk to be received by the deadline of 20 June 2013.

Alteration description

The proposal under consideration would result in the capacity reverting to 420 with a PAN of 60 with effect from 1 September 2013.

School Capacity and Site

The capacity at the school before the expansion proposal was 420 with a PAN of 60. The expansion proposal was to increase the capacity to 630 with a PAN of 90. The school admitted above their usual intake in 2012 and will do so also for the intake in September 2013 by offering up to 90 places in Reception. The LA asked the school to offer above their PAN for these two intakes to ensure a sufficient number of primary school places to accommodate all pupils of a statutory school age. As a result of the expansion proposal that was approved in May 2012 there will be two bulge years at Spalding Primary School. The LA will work with the school on accommodation solutions to manage these bulge years and to meet the needs of the local children, the school and the community. The need for additional primary school places required in this area from September 2014 is now proposed to be met by a new primary Academy on Wygate Park.

Objectives

The objective is both to ensure that there are sufficient primary school places in Spalding to accommodate the increasing pupil numbers in the community and also to enable the LA to fulfil its statutory duty of providing school places for all children of statutory school age in Lincolnshire within a reasonable distance from where they live.

To fulfil this objective a statutory process was followed and decision taken in May 2012 to expand the capacity at Spalding Primary School with effect from 1 September 2013. The subsequent planning application for the LA's preferred option to expand the existing buildings was turned down and therefore the expansion had to be pursued as a split site option via an annex to the school. The Governing Body of the school decided that it would be extremely challenging to manage a split site school whilst continuing to provide a high standard of teaching and learning and wished to concentrate their efforts on their successful progress under the new leadership and management arrangements introduced in January following the implementation of a collaborative partnership with Pinchbeck East Church of England Primary School. The Governing Body therefore confirmed their decision in March 2013 not to continue with the proposed split site expansion.

As the circumstances have substantially altered since the original proposals were approved it would be inappropriate to continue with implementation. The LA must therefore follow the statutory process to revoke the expansion decision and look to expand capacity elsewhere within the locality to ensure that it meets its statutory duty of providing sufficient school places for children in Lincolnshire. The LA considers that the best available solution to the expected shortage of primary school places in this area of Spalding is to build a new 1 form of entry (210 place) primary school and has commenced the process under the Department for Education's prescribed Academy Presumption guidelines to find an operator to run a new Academy on the site in Wygate Park.

The LA believes this proposal to be in the best interests of local children and local parents as well as educational provision in the area and it reinforces the priorities in the Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP). The proposal will ensure that the provision of school places is planned so as to promote high educational standards, enable fair access to educational opportunity for every child and promote the fulfilment of each child's potential. This proposal will both enhance the quality of provision and sustain local provision.

The publication of the Statutory Revocation Notice will enable the statutory and legal processes to proceed and in accordance with statutory guidelines will provide an opportunity for people and organisations to express their views about the proposal and ensure that they will be taken into account by the Executive Councillor.

The decision to expand Spalding Primary School was formalised in May 2012 and as a result the places available at the school for September 2014 has been published as 90. It will be necessary for the school, supported by the LA, to make an application to the Office of Schools Adjudicator to formally reduce and publish the school places available back to 60 for September 2014.

Special Educational Needs (SEN) provision

The revocation of the expansion of the school is not likely to have any impact on SEN provision other than an opportunity at the new school to improve the provision with better access to resources and consistently good quality teaching, learning and leadership. Consideration of pupils with SEN will take place and the LA will continue

to look to make improvements in the standard, quality and/or range of the education provision for children with SEN.

Need for places

The revocation of the decision to expand from 420 to 630 at Spalding Primary School will mean that it will retain its original capacity of 420. There will be no displaced pupils arising out of the revocation proposals or any negative impact on parental choice. However the need for additional primary school places in the future will be met by the opening of a new primary Academy offering 210 places.

Related Proposals

The proposal to revoke the decision to expand Spalding Primary School has not been published as related to any other statutory proposal. However the process to find an operator of a new Academy in Spalding will run in parallel to the statutory revocation process.

What will happen now?

Any person may object to or make comments on this proposal by sending them to Provision Planning, Children's Services, Lincolnshire County Council, County Offices, Newland, Lincoln, Lincolnshire, LN1 1YQ or by emailing provisionplanning@lincolnshire.gov.uk

At the close of the 6 week representation period on 20 June 2013 responses will be collated and analysed and a final report will be presented to the Executive Councillor in August 2013 for a decision on the revocation of the expansion of the school. The representation period is the final opportunity for people and organisations to express their views about the revocation proposal and ensure that they will be taken into account by the decision maker.

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Open Report on behalf of Debbie Barnes, Director of Children's Services

Report to:	Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee
Date:	26 July 2013
Subject:	Proposal for a new primary Academy in Spalding (submission to Secretary of State of results and evaluation of process to identify an operator)

Summary:

This report invites the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee to consider a report on the proposal for a new primary Academy in Spalding (submission to Secretary of State of results and evaluation of process to identify an operator) which is due to be considered by the Executive Councillor for Adult Care, Health and Children's Services on 9 August 2013. The views of the Scrutiny Committee will be reported to the Executive Councillor as part of her consideration of this item.

Actions Required:

- (1) To consider the attached report and to determine whether the Committee supports the recommendation to the Executive Councillor for Adult Care, Health and Children's Services set out in the report.
- (2) To agree any additional comments to be passed to the Executive Councillor for Adult Care, Health and Children's Services in relation to this item.

1. Background

The Executive Councillor for Adult Care, Health and Children's Services is due to consider the report on the proposal for a new primary Academy in Spalding (submission to Secretary of State of results and evaluation of process to identify an operator). The full report to the Executive Councillor is attached at Appendix 1 to this report.

2. Conclusion

Following consideration of the attached report, the Committee is requested to consider whether it supports the recommendation in the report and whether it wishes to make any additional comments to the Executive Councillor for Adult Care, Health and Children's Services. The Committee's views will be reported to the Executive Councillor.

3. Consultation

a) Policy Proofing Actions Required

Not applicable

4. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix 1	Report and Appendices to the Executive Councillor for Adult Care, Health and Children's Services on Proposal for a new primary Academy in Spalding (submission to Secretary of State of results and evaluation of process to identify an operator)

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 Michelle Andrews, who can be contacted on 01522 553269 or Michelle.andrews@lincolnshire.gov.uk .

Open Report on behalf of Debbie Barnes, Director of Children's Services

Report to:	Councillor Mrs P A Bradwell, Executive Councillor for Adult Care, Health and Children's Services
Date:	9 August 2013
Subject:	Proposal for a new primary Academy in Spalding (submission to Secretary of State of results and evaluation of process to identify an operator)
Decision Reference:	1004733
Key decision?	Yes

Summary:

This report follows the Executive Councillor report on 01 May 2012 identifying the need for additional primary school places in the Wygate Park area of Spalding. The decision taken at that time was to expand Spalding Primary School by 210 places. Due to a change in circumstances there has been a proposal to revoke that decision which is considered in the Executive Councillor report (ref 1004777) and presented for comment at the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee (CYPSC) on 26 July 2013. If the proposed expansion of Spalding Primary School does not go ahead and additional primary school places are not made available then there is expected to be a shortfall of primary school places in Spalding.

The County Council has a statutory duty to provide sufficient school places for all Lincolnshire children. There is sufficient local demand to justify the need for a new primary school to serve the local community of Wygate Park and the surrounding residential area. The proposal is for a 1 Form Entry (1FE) primary school (210 places) with a Published Admission Number (PAN) of 30 per year group.

The building project will be delivered through the Children's Services Capital Programme. The Section 106 agreement for an education contribution from the housing developer of Wygate Park provides a site and approximately 50% of the capital contribution towards the cost of the building. The remaining capital will come from Basic Need funding.

Under the academy presumption arrangements the Local Authority (LA) has sought proposals to establish a new academy having identified the need for a new school. The process for finding a suitable operator has now ended. Formal applications were submitted by four organisations interested in becoming the operator of the new Academy. These have been assessed by an evaluation panel and further details of the assessment together with the results of the scoring process are included in this report.

This report seeks to advise the Executive Councillor on approving the assessment and evaluation of the proposals and the selection of the preferred operator to be submitted to the Department for Education (DfE). It is the Secretary of State who will make the final decision regarding the choice of operator for the new primary academy in Spalding. The Secretary of State will consider the LA assessment very carefully and the preference indicated by the LA will be a key factor in that consideration.

Recommendation(s):

The Executive Councillor is recommended to approve the submission of the following to the Secretary of State as the Council's assessment of the proposals received in respect of the proposed new primary Academy in Spalding:-

- This report including the scoring of the proposals and comments of the CYPSC
- Confirmation of the Council's preferred operator as Boston Witham Academies Foundation (BAAF)
- Confirmation of the Council's alternative preferred operator (if the operator above is not approved by the Secretary of State) as the David Ross Education Trust (DRET)

Alternatives Considered:

1. If none of the applications were deemed to be suitable the assessment process could begin again to find a suitable operator. To begin the process again would take considerable time. If an alternative operator were then found they would have less time to plan for the opening of the new Academy in September 2014. They would also potentially not be named until after the beginning of the 2013/14 admissions cycle which begins 18 November 2013.
2. That the Secretary of State is forwarded the proposals, the scores and the scrutiny comments but no selection of a preferred operator by the Council. Whilst departmental advice does not require the Council to state a preference, it does expect one to be indicated.

Reasons for Recommendation:

In accordance with the academy presumption for a new school, the recommendation recognises the advice on how to manage the selection process for an operator for a new academy. A thorough evaluation process has been carried out to determine which applicant(s) are suitable to operate the new academy and which is considered to be the preferred operator(s). Evaluation was carried out against a set of criteria determined by the Secretary of State and expanded on by Lincolnshire County Council, followed by interviews with all applicants and comments from CYPSC. This is to ensure a full and robust process for the overall assessment of the proposals received and is in the interest of providing the Secretary of State with the fullest detail on which to base his decision.

1. Background

The LA is the commissioner of school places with a statutory duty to ensure that there are sufficient school places across the whole of Lincolnshire. National birth rates have been steadily rising in recent years having an impact on the demand for places in the primary sector. Spalding is an area of Lincolnshire that is experiencing similar pressure. The significant housing development of Wygate Park has also contributed to the rising pupil numbers in Spalding justifying the need for an additional 210 primary school places (1FE/PAN 30 per year group). The process by which the LA responds to the need for additional school places through expansions or new school proposals is set out in Appendix A.

It had initially been decided that this anticipated shortfall of primary school places would be addressed by the expansion of Spalding Primary School. Due to changes in circumstances at the school since that decision was made it has been proposed that the decision be revoked with the most appropriate solution to be a standalone 1FE primary school.

There has recently been a proposal for a 2FE Primary Free School for Spalding, but not specifically for the Wygate Park area. If the Free School find a suitable site and get formal approval from the Secretary of State it will help to address the shortage of primary school places in Spalding that are expected from September 2015 onwards. It is not expected to address the need for primary provision for the Wygate Park development. There is still a need for an additional 210 primary school places which is now proposed to be met by a new 1FE primary school on Wygate Park. The LA has secured an appropriate site and funding through S106 and Basic Need capital contributions.

On 1 February 2012 the Education Act 2011 introduced changes to the legislation relating to the process for establishing new schools including the Academy presumption. The new section 6A of the Education and Inspections Act (EIA) 2006 places the authority under a duty to seek proposals to establish an Academy. Details and guidance for this process were released by the DfE in May 2012 (Appendix B). This applies to any proposed new schools where the LA seek academy proposals before 16 May 2013. The process to seek an operator for the new primary Academy for Spalding began on 3 May 2013 to ensure that tight deadlines could be adhered to.

The process for seeking a suitable operator is set out in section 5 of this report (Consultation). It began with a letter sent to a wide range of interested parties. Full application packs included the specification for the new school and were made available to anyone who expressed an interest.

Four applications were received by the deadline of 31 May 2013 and assessed by an evaluation panel. The panel comprised of an Assistant Director for Children's Services, a Lincolnshire County Councillor, a representative from the Lincolnshire CYPSC and two Head teachers of Lincolnshire LA maintained primary schools. The panel was also supported by an independent advisor from Children's Commissioning and officers from Children's Services.

The DfE guidance (Appendix B) states that the local authority should provide the Department with an assessment of the proposals it has received which should include certain criteria. The assessment carried out by Lincolnshire County Council incorporates those into a wider range of criteria by which all applications were scored. Full details of the criteria and scoring system used are shown in Appendix C.

All four proposers were judged to be potentially suitable operators following the evaluation and scoring of their written applications and were all invited to participate in the next round of the assessment process to enable them to clarify and/or expand on their submissions. Applicants were asked to prepare a 10 minute presentation and advised that in addition to questions arising out of their presentation the panel would also be asking further questions. The presentation and interview questions (see Appendix C) were also scored by the panel. All applicants were asked the same five questions at interview which in some cases allowed them to expand on the areas that the evaluation panel had identified as the weaker sections in their written responses.

The scores for the written applications and the presentation/interview were combined to produce an overall score for each applicant. All of the scores are summarised in Appendix D which shows BWAf to have scored highest overall. BWAf also scored highest for the written applications, the presentation and the interviews. They scored 3 or above in all categories following interviews, as did the second highest scoring applicant DRET. BWAf demonstrated a very positive relationship between schools, very good school improvement background and centred children at the heart of their learning. There was also a clear demonstration of narrowing the gap.

The LA is required by the DfE to inform them of all proposers involved in the process once the application deadline has passed. This allows the DfE time to inform the LA of relevant information relating to any of the applicants that should be taken into consideration when putting forward a preferred operator. Due to the information received from the DfE regarding BWAf and DRET they advised that if either of these were to be selected as the preferred operator then an alternative preferred operator should be specified.

The DfE have informed the LA that BWAf are not currently registered as an 'Approved Sponsor'. The Secretary of State will not consider applications that are not from an approved sponsor. The DfE and BWAf have confirmed that they are in the process of becoming an approved sponsor, but at the time of publishing this report that process had not been completed. This must be completed before the Secretary of State can make a final decision and DfE officers are working with BWAf to move this process forward for them to have approved sponsor status.

The DfE have also informed the LA that as an existing approved sponsor DRET are currently being reviewed to determine if they will be allowed by the Secretary of State to take on any more than 30 academies. If it is decided that they have the capacity to do so then the DfE would allow DRET to take on the new academy for Wygate Park should they be the selected operator.

Following careful consideration and discussion regarding the entire evaluation process the panel unanimously agreed that the proposal submitted by BWAf met all of the criteria to a 'good' standard or better and wished to confirm them as the

preferred operator to the Secretary of State. They also unanimously agreed that should the Secretary of State see any reason not to proceed with that particular operator then DRET should be put forward as the alternative preferred operator as they also demonstrated their ability to deliver against all of the criteria to a 'good' standard or better.

The following summary outlines the reasons for the panel's selection against the relevant criteria. (and for ease of reference this summary is also attached to this report as Appendix E):

Vision and educational experience

BWAF is a multi-Academy Trust currently incorporating one secondary and two primary academies. Ofsted has rated the secondary academy and one of the primary academies as "good". The second primary academy was in special measures when it joined the Trust in 2009 but has been graded as "outstanding" following a recent Ofsted inspection. This has clearly demonstrated the educational experience available to be drawn on from within the Trust.

BWAF clearly demonstrated how their vision "Working in partnership to raise achievement for all" would promote high aspirations and opportunities for all the children at the new school. In sponsoring the new Wygate Park Academy BWAF set out how they would be building on their successful ethos of local people working in partnership together for the benefit of all local children and families. BWAF also demonstrated how they would be building on already outstanding standards and practices by applying the same to the new academy.

Capacity and capability

BWAF showed their capacity and capability to set up and lead the new academy within the Wygate Park community. Within the Trust, for the past here years, Carlton Road Academy has been one of the highest performing schools in Lincolnshire for the progress children make from Key Stage 1 to Key Stage 2. As detailed above, Staniland Academy has moved from "Special Measures" to "Outstanding" since joining the Trust and was also named in December 2012 as the 5th most improved primary school in England 2009 - 2012. BWAF recently worked closely with the LA to successfully merge two secondary schools in Boston. BWAF has developed strong links with primary provision through the Trust to offer a seamless transition from Year 6 to Year 7 and is already working closely with a secondary provider in Spalding to improve standards and link to the new primary academy. The Trust has clearly demonstrated that it has the leadership, management and governance to develop and run a new school in the Spalding Wygate Park community.

Partnership working

BWAF has a close working relationship with LCC, CfBT, the Birth to Five Service, the local Children's Centre and other local schools. The Trust demonstrated their commitment to involving local families, organisations, clubs and businesses with the new academy being at the hub of the community. The three academies within the

Trust have a strong supportive relationship and the new academy will greatly benefit from this.

Qualities and ideas that will impact on standards and school improvement

The academies within the Trust currently achieve higher than the national average for attainment and progress. This is achieved by regular monitoring and scrutiny of data enabling quality intervention where necessary ensuring that all children achieve their full potential and the same protocols will be applied to the new academy. Each academy has a local Governing Body with the priority of focusing on standards and pupil attainment using a robust process of ongoing regular checks against the achievement of set milestones.

Diversity, parental choice and community engagement

Following the successful partnership working of BWAF within Boston the Trust believes that community cohesion and wider support beyond the school gates is vital to achieve the best outcomes for children. BWAF is committed to working with existing providers in the community to support children's welfare and achieving potential, and aim to replicate the support networks and partnership links in Wygate Park that are successfully operating in Boston

What will differentiate your proposal from those of other proposers?

The new academy will be based on the proven principles and practices in place at the three academies within the Trust. However BWAF is committed to the new academy having its own unique identity and intends to achieve this by relying on their ethos of "local people working in partnership to bring about local solutions to local problems". An important part of this will be the contribution of the pupils themselves with BWAF believing that the "voice of the child" should be heard. BWAF is also committed to supporting not only the academic and emotional needs of children but also other talents such as sport, dance and music and the Trust has the financial resources to offer such support.

Admissions arrangements

BWAF confirmed a clear Admissions policy. This will follow that currently used by the academies within BWAF and is in line with the Admissions Code and will be part of the LA scheme which co-ordinates admissions.

Staffing the Academy/Free School and recruiting the governing body

BWAF has a clear understanding of the importance of recruiting and developing both staff and governors. The methods and structure used will be based on that already in place at the primary academies within the Trust which has a proven track record of raising standards and meeting the needs of children, parents and the community. BWAF has its own proven internal training and development of staff emphasising continued professional development from newly qualified through to future leaders.

Championing the needs of vulnerable children

BWAF clearly demonstrated their understanding, and the vital importance, of supporting vulnerable children and families with robust safeguarding procedures already in place at each of the 3 academies within the Trust which would also be implemented in the new academy. BWAF employs a wide range of highly qualified specialist staff eg professionals in multi-lingual support, Educational Welfare, EAL support etc whose expertise would be available to the new academy.

Managing the opening of the new Academy

BWAF has a clear understanding of what would be required to open the new academy on time and provide good educational experiences for all its pupils from day one and throughout their time at the academy. The Trust is clear how staff and governing body members will be recruited and developed. Collaboration across the academies within the Trust is one of the many strengths of BWAF and all these resources and expertise will be available to the new academy.

2. Conclusion

A decision is required from the Executive Councillor to approve the submission of all applications and assessment information to the Secretary of State as set out in this report. The evaluation process undertaken by the LA has identified a number of suitable operators. BWAF have been named as the 'preferred operator' with DRET being a suitable alternative if required. This takes into account the non-binding advice of the DfE. The final decision of the choice of operator rests with the Secretary of State.

3. Legal Comments:

The legal issues to be taken into account in the making of this decision, which is within the remit of the Executive Councillor, are fully set out in this report.

4. Resource Comments:

There are no significant financial implications arising from the recommendation in this report, i.e. to approve submission to the Secretary of State of all applications received, the Council's assessment of the proposals and the selection of a preferred operator.

The building of a new school will have financial implications and will give rise to the capital costs being met in part from the s.106 arrangements, and the on-going revenue costs being funded from the Dedicated Schools Grant.

5. Consultation

The need for additional places in Spalding was consulted on with LA officers from Admissions, School Transport, Children's Services Directorate Management Team and the Executive Councillor for Adult Care, Health and Children's Services. Head teachers from neighbouring primary schools were included in the interested parties list for those contacted regarding the proposal to build a new school on Wygate Park.

The process to secure an operator for the Academy commenced on 3 May 2013 with letters being sent out to a wide range of interested parties including all mainstream operators of education in Lincolnshire. The information was also published on the Lincolnshire County Council website. The DfE passed on this information via the Independent Academies Association and the New Schools Network to an established list of potential operators and sponsors across the country. All individuals and organisations that expressed an interest in the proposal received an application pack. There was also an information session held on 15 May for any interested parties to find out more about the proposal and ask related questions that may aid them in completing their applications.

a) Has Local Member Been Consulted?

Yes. The local member has been made aware of the proposal for a new Primary Academy in Spalding and has had discussions with LA Officers.

b) Has Executive Councillor Been Consulted?

Yes. The Executive Councillor has been fully involved in the discussions regarding the proposal for a new Primary Academy in Spalding.

c) Scrutiny Comments

The Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee met on 26 July 2013 and considered this report concerning the Proposal for a new primary Academy in Spalding (submission to Secretary of State of results and evaluation of process to identify an operator). The Committee...*comments from CYPSC to be inserted here.*

d) Policy Proofing Actions Required

An Impact Analysis regarding the selection of the preferred operator has been completed. In summary the analysis is indicative of a positive impact in that the operator, as selected by the Secretary of State, will be one of the suitable applications which have been submitted by well-established and successful organisations with proven background in educational provision to the highest standard, also having sound financial backing together with well-resourced and experienced support teams.

6. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report

Appendix A	LA process for responding to the need for additional school places through expansions or new school proposals
Appendix B	Establishing a new school DfE advice for LAs and proposers - DfE May2012
Appendix C	Evaluation and Scoring Criteria
Appendix D	Scores awarded to each applicant
Appendix E	Summary of reasons for the selection of the preferred operator

7. Background Papers

The following background papers as defined in the Local Government Act 1972 were relied upon in the writing of this report.

Document title	Where the document can be viewed
Proposal to expand Spalding Primary School	Lincolnshire County Council Committee Records (Reference 01969) 01 May 2012
Proposal to revoke the expansion of Spalding Primary School	Lincolnshire County Council Committee Records (Reference 1004777) 09 August 2013
Letter to commence the operator selection process, list of interested parties and new school specification	All available on request from the Property and Technology Management Team, Children's Services
Impact Analysis	Available on request from the Property and Technology Management Team, Children's Services

This report was written by Michelle Andrews, who can be contacted on 01522 553269 or Michelle.andrews@lincolnshire.gov.uk.

APPENDIX A

Children's Services - Property & Technology Management

Responding to the need for additional school places through expansions of existing schools or opening of new schools

The LA has a statutory duty to provide sufficient school places. This includes all provision whether primary, secondary, academy or LA maintained.

Where the school place planning process has identified an area of the county with demographic pressures the LA must plan accordingly and deliver solutions through the Children's Services Capital Programme to ensure that sufficient school places are made available with the effective use of Basic Need funding. Careful consideration must first be given to the possibility of Free School proposals addressing basic need requirements. LA officers are encouraged to work with all potential and existing sponsors to address school place sufficiency needs. In determining the best potential solution to meet the needs of the local community both expansion and new school options may be considered depending on the circumstances.

If it has been determined that the LA must provide additional school places and expansion or a new school are being considered, then the following points highlight some of the factors taken into consideration (in no particular order):

- Affordability – efficient use of limited resources (capital and revenue)
- Site sizes and deliverability (potential planning issues, avoid building on playing fields, access etc.)
- Location in relation to demographic pressures – consideration to transport and traffic implications and reasonable safe walking distances where possible
- Future housing developments and any current or potential Section 106/CIL contributions to education
- Parental preference (this can be a short term factor as this often changes over time with changing leadership, governance and Ofsted ratings)
- Potential impact on standards – Strength and quality of leadership and governance of existing schools in relation to being able to effectively implement an expansion proposal and manage the transition
- Potential impact on existing provision and the impact plans for academies and free schools in the area may have on the need for additional school places

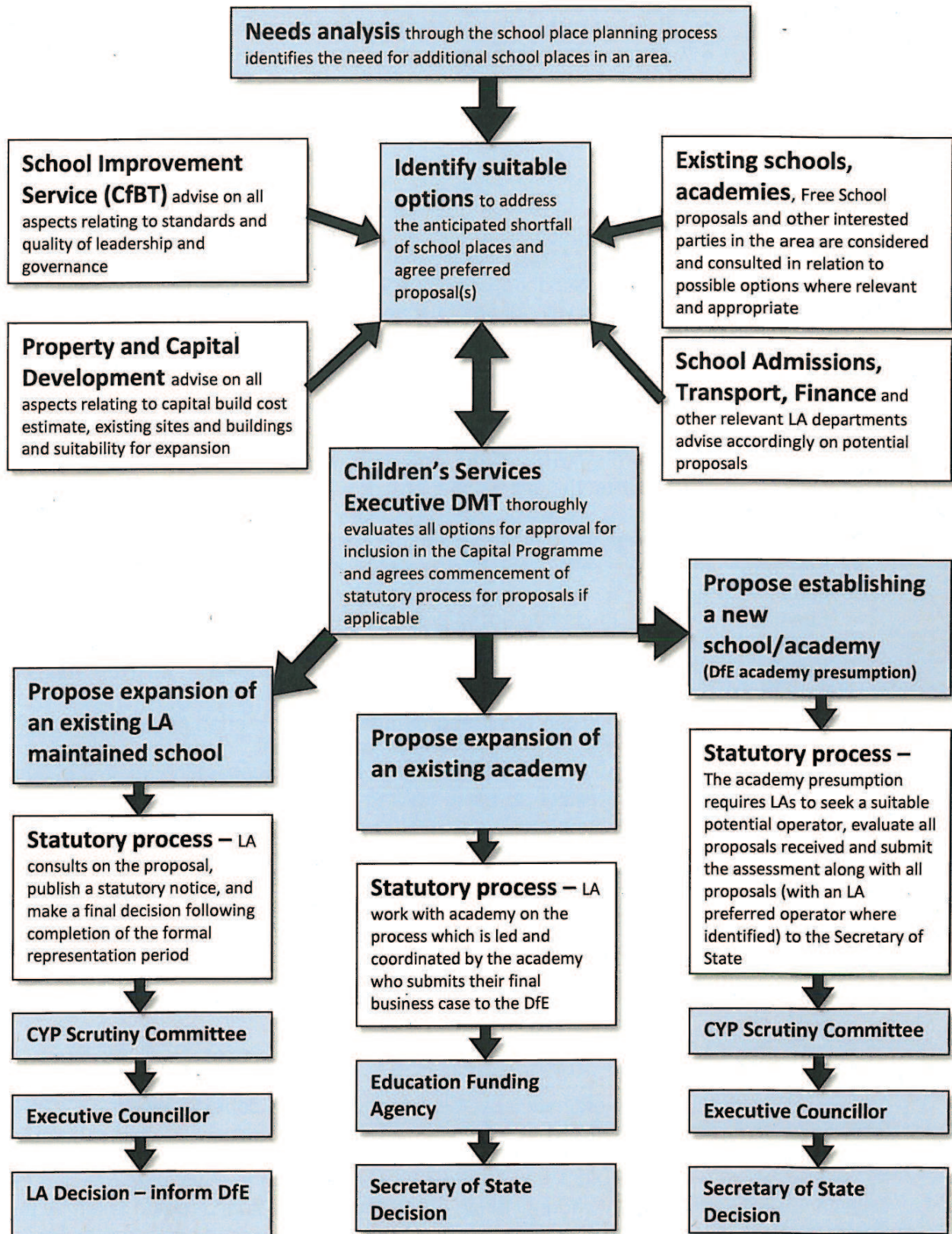
If the LA is to provide additional schools places through the Children's Services Capital Programme then there are 3 main options:

1. The expansion of an existing maintained mainstream school
2. The establishment of a new Academy
3. The expansion of an existing Academy

Options **(1)** and **(2)** are co-ordinated by the LA and involve consideration by CYPSC followed by an Executive Councillor decision.

There is no involvement of the LA's democratic decision making process under Option **(3)** which is co-ordinated by the Academy being expanded with the final decision taken by the Secretary of State.

The following flow chart gives an overview of the process incorporating these 3 options.



ESTABLISHING A NEW SCHOOL

DEPARTMENTAL ADVICE FOR LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND NEW SCHOOL PROPOSERS

ABOUT THIS DEPARTMENTAL ADVICE

1. On 1 February 2012, section 37 of the Education Act 2011 was commenced, introducing Schedule 11 of the Act. This makes changes to part 2 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 in relation to the process for establishing new schools, including the academy/Free School presumption. This advice is non-statutory and has been produced to help new school proposers and local authorities understand their duties in relation to these changes.

EXPIRY/REVIEW DATE

2. This advice will be reviewed by October 2012.

WHAT LEGISLATION DOES THIS ADVICE RELATE TO?

- The Education Act 2011 (EA 2011)
- The Education and Inspections Act 2006 (EIA 2006)
- The School Organisation (Establishment and Discontinuance of Schools)(England) Regulations 2007, as amended (Establishment and Discontinuance Regulations)

WHO IS THIS ADVICE FOR?

3. This advice is for:
- Local authorities;
 - New school proposers; and
 - Dioceses and Diocesan Boards of Education.

KEY POINTS

- The new “presumption” for an academy/Free School requires local authorities to seek proposals to establish an academy/Free School in the first instance where they identify a need for a new school.
- Local authorities must continue to plan for and secure sufficient schools for their area in line with their duties under section 14 of the Education Act 1996.
- Local authorities should assess the proposals they receive against the criteria in paragraph 12 below before forwarding all of the proposals to the Secretary of State. He will take into consideration any preference they indicate.
- Local authorities can no longer hold a school competition without the Secretary of State’s consent, nor enter their own community or foundation school proposals into a competition.
- Despite the academy/Free School presumption, in certain exceptional circumstances it is still possible to publish proposals for a new maintained

- school outside of a competition, under sections 10 or 11 of the EIA 2006.
- The Secretary of State's consent is no longer required to publish certain proposals, including those for the establishment of new voluntary aided schools, primary schools resulting from infant/junior amalgamations, and new schools resulting from the reorganisation of existing faith provision.
- "Academy" is the legal term which also includes Free Schools of all types, University Technical Colleges (UTCs) and some Studio Schools, including 16-19 and alternative provision (PRU) establishments. This document uses "academy/Free School" as the collective term for these types of schools.
- "Proposer" in this document refers to the body or group that is proposing the new school.

THE EDUCATION ACT 2011

4. Section 37 of EA 2011 introduces Schedule 11, which makes a number of changes to the process for establishing new schools. In particular, it introduces new section 6A of EIA 2006 which sets out the academy/Free School presumption. It makes changes to the existing school competition arrangements (amended section 7 of EIA 2006) and removes the need for local authorities and other proposers to seek the Secretary of State's consent before publishing proposals for certain types of new maintained schools (amended sections 10 and 11 of EIA 2006).

ACADEMY/FREE SCHOOL PRESUMPTION (under section 6A of EIA 2006)

5. Flow chart A at Annex A of this document sets out the revised process for establishing new school provision under the academy/Free School presumption (section 6A) and the new competition process (section 7).
6. Existing statutory requirements mean that local authorities, in their role as commissioners, must plan and secure sufficient schools for their area. Where a local authority identifies the need to establish a new school, new section 6A of EIA 2006 places the authority under a duty to seek proposals to establish an academy/Free School and to specify a date by which proposals must be submitted.
7. It will be for local authorities to decide how best to do this, how to consult on the proposed new school and with whom (e.g. local community, Diocese and any others affected by the proposals). They should be clear from their school place planning about the type (e.g. mainstream, special educational needs, alternative provision), age range, gender and capacity of the academy/Free School they wish to see established.
8. The local authority should take steps to ensure that groups or organisations that might be interested in establishing the new school are aware of the opportunity.
9. The local authority should notify the Department at the outset of its intention to seek proposals for a new academy/Free School and confirm the site it will make available and that it will provide all the capital funding needed to establish the school (as they were required to do for academies established through the previous school competition process). The Department will publish on its website (<http://www.education.gov.uk/schools/leadership/schoolorganisation>) details of those local authorities that are seeking to establish new schools, including links to their

websites. The Department will also inform the Independent Academies Association and New Schools Network, to alert potential proposers/sponsors to the new school's requirements.

10. Once the specified date for academy/Free School proposals has passed, the local authority should send the Secretary of State a notification setting out:

- the steps the authority has taken to seek proposals for an academy/Free School;
- copies of all proposals submitted and the authority's assessment of the proposals;
- confirmation that the authority will provide the required site and all the capital funding needed to establish the new school.

11. The local authority is responsible for meeting project development costs. For lead-in and setup costs, the Department will discuss with the local authority on a case by case basis to identify and agree the most appropriate mechanism to meet these. Until longer term funding arrangements are agreed, the expectation is that local authorities will contribute to these costs. A consultation document on funding reform was published on 26 March 2012.

12. The local authority should provide the Department with an assessment of the proposals it has received, based on the following criteria:

- the quality of the places being added into the system, based on the proposer's vision and educational plan;
- the capability and capacity of the proposer to deliver their proposal to time and on budget, based on their expertise and experience;
- value for money, confirming that the proposer considers that the costs of establishing the new academy/Free School can be met within the estimate of capital costs outlined by the local authority and, where they cannot be met within that estimate, an explanation of the reasons for the additional costs and how any shortfall will be met.

13. The local authority may state its preference, which the Secretary of State will take into consideration when deciding whether or not to enter into a Funding Agreement with any of the proposers.

14. The notification should be submitted to the Department for Education (school.organisationproposals@education.gsi.gov.uk).

15. Where a suitable proposer is identified, it will be for the proposer to work to establish the new academy/Free School with support from the local authority and the Department, as required. The local authority will continue to have an interest because of its duties to secure sufficient suitable schools.

OTHER IMPORTANT CHANGES

SCHOOL COMPETITIONS (under section 7 of EIA 2006)

16. If there is no suitable academy/Free School proposal, a statutory competition can be held with the consent of the Secretary of State (section 7(1)). This will not require a separate application for consent, since the Secretary of State will indicate to the local authority that a competition can be held, if he is satisfied that there is no suitable academy/Free School proposal.

17. Where consent to hold a competition is given, the local authority must follow the statutory process set out in Schedule 2 to the EIA 2006 (as amended by EA 2011) and the Establishment and Discontinuance Regulations.

18. Significant changes made by EA 2011 are:

- The removal of section 8 EIA 2006, which means that local authorities can no longer submit their own community or foundation school proposals in a competition).
- The new section 7A EIA 2006, which means that at any time before the date specified for the return of proposals, the Secretary of State may direct a local authority to withdraw a competition notice; or, a local authority may withdraw a competition notice with the Secretary of State's consent. This allows a competition to be ended where circumstances have changed e.g. where the new school is no longer needed or an alternative option is found, such as the enlargement of one or more existing schools instead.

19. Academy/Free School proposals and proposals for foundation (by proposers other than a local authority), voluntary controlled and voluntary aided schools, can be submitted into the competition by the deadline specified in the first notice.

COMPETITION – DECISION MAKING

20. The arrangements for deciding a competition have also changed. Since local authorities cannot enter their own school proposals, the Schools Adjudicator will no longer have a role in deciding competitions (unless the local authority is involved in the foundation of a proposed foundation school – paragraph 10 of Schedule 2 EIA 2006).

21. Important changes arising from EA 2011 are:

- Where an academy/Free School proposal is entered into a competition by the specified deadline, the Secretary of State must consider these proposals first to decide whether he is willing, in principle, to enter into a Funding Agreement with the academy/Free School proposer (paragraph 7A of Schedule 2 EIA 2006).
- If an academy/Free School proposal is deemed suitable, the competition ends and the proposer works with the Department and local authority to progress its proposal.

- If an academy/Free School proposal is not considered suitable, or no academy/Free School proposal is received, the competition continues and it is for the local authority to decide which maintained school proposal wins (paragraph 8 of Schedule 2 EIA 2006, subject to the local authority's involvement in any foundation school's foundation); there is no right of appeal.
- Where a competition does not identify a suitable academy/Free School or maintained school, the local authority may publish its own community or foundation school proposal under amended section 11 of EIA 2006; the Schools Adjudicator will be the decision maker in such cases.

ESTABLISHING A NEW MAINTAINED SCHOOL OUTSIDE OF A COMPETITION (under section 10 or section 11 of EIA 2006)

22. It is still possible to publish proposals for maintained schools in certain circumstances as set out below. Flow chart B at Annex A of this document sets out the statutory process for establishing a new maintained school under sections 10 and 11. Proposals under section 10 require Secretary of State consent.

MAINTAINED SCHOOL PROPOSALS – SPECIAL CASES (under section 11 of EIA 2006)

23. In the interests of reducing bureaucracy, the consent of the Secretary of State is no longer required to publish maintained school proposals in the circumstances outlined below.

24. Further detail about these special cases is given in section 11 of EIA 2006, as amended by EA 2011:

- proposals for a new voluntary aided school;
- proposals for a new community or foundation primary school that is to replace a maintained infant and a maintained junior school;
- proposals for a new school resulting from the reorganisation of existing faith schools in an area, including an existing faith school losing or changing its religious designation; or
- local authority proposals for a new foundation or community school, where suitable academy/Free School proposals have not been identified and a competition has been held but did not identify a suitable provider.

25. Proposals for former independent schools wishing to join the maintained sector and new local authority maintained nursery schools can still be published under section 11, as before.

26. In each case a statutory process, as set out in Schedule 2 to EIA 2006 and the Establishment and Discontinuance Regulations, must be undertaken. The Schools Adjudicator will decide local authority proposals, and local authorities will decide proposals from other proposers (except foundation school proposals where the local authority is involved as a member of the foundation (Trust), in which case the Adjudicator will be the decision maker).

OTHER NEW MAINTAINED SCHOOL PROPOSALS (under section 10 EIA 2006)

27. Where an academy/Free School approach is not considered to be appropriate and the proposal does not fall under section 11 special cases, it is still possible to apply to the Secretary of State for consent to publish proposals for replacement community schools, or brand new or replacement foundation or voluntary controlled maintained schools. Each application will be considered on its merits and the particular circumstances of the case, including whether the need for a new school might be better met by an academy/Free School. Where consent is given to publish new maintained school proposals, a statutory process must be followed, as set out in Schedule 2 to EIA 2006 and the Establishment and Discontinuance Regulations.

TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS

28. Proposals published under sections 7 (where the first notice, inviting proposals for the new school, has been published), 10 or 11 of EIA 2006 prior to the commencement date of the relevant provisions of EA 2011 on 1 February 2012, must continue under the relevant legislation in place prior to the commencement of the new EA 2011 provisions, until they are concluded.

FURTHER SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Associated resources (external links):

- Education Act 2011
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/21/contents/enacted>
- Education and Inspections Act 2006
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2006/40/contents>
- Academies Act 2010 <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/32/contents>
- New Schools Network – An independent organisation devoted to improving education
<http://newschoolsnetwork.org/>
- Independent Academies Association – A national body which is regularly consulted by government and opposition on matters relating to educational change and development
<http://www.iaa.uk.net>

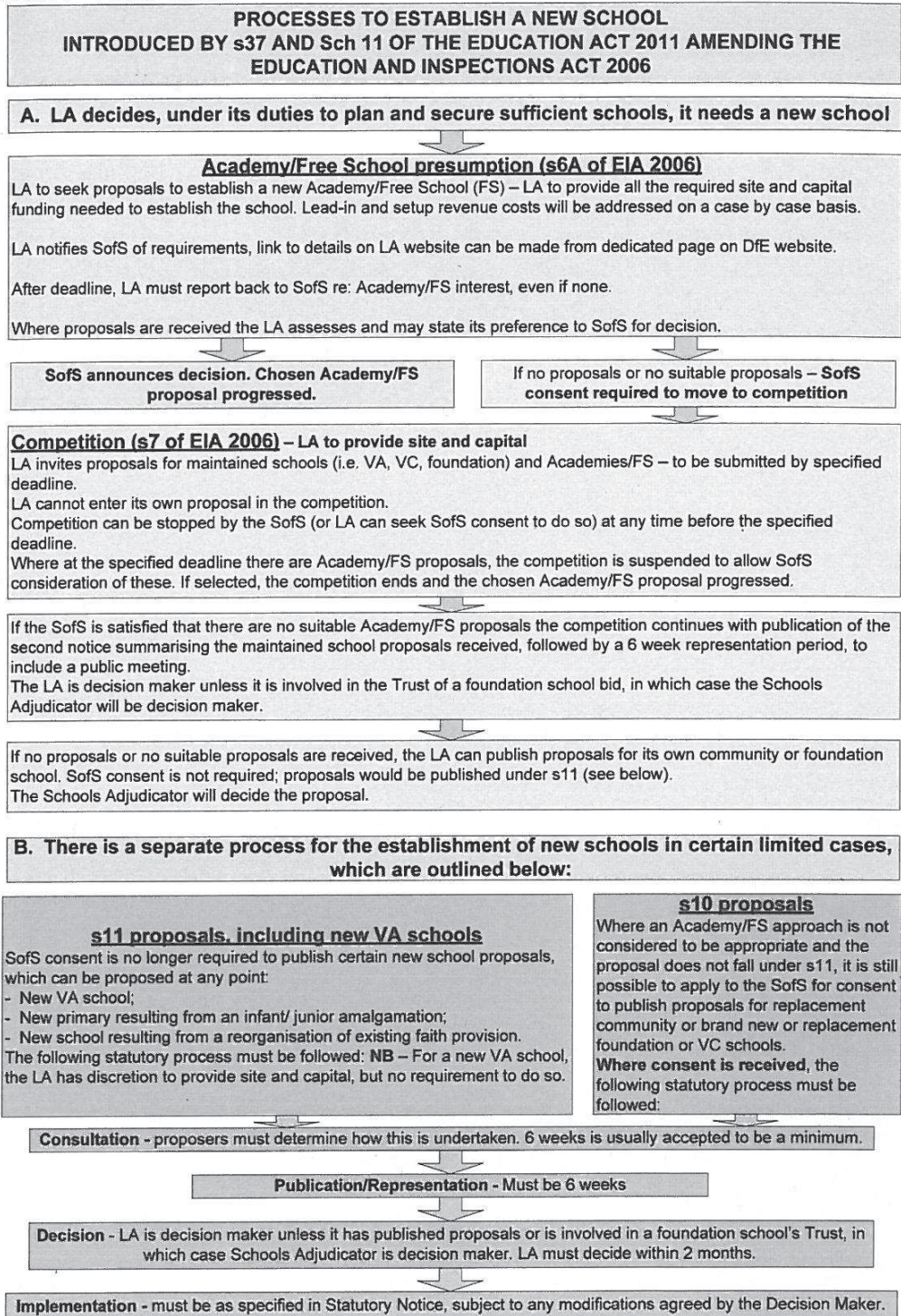
You may also be interested in (internal links):

- Keeling Schedule for section 37 (Schedule 11)
<http://www.education.gov.uk/aboutdfe/departmentalinformation/educationbill/a0077986/education-bill-keeling-schedules>
- School Organisation (Establishment and Discontinuance of Schools)(England) Regulations 2007

<http://www.education.gov.uk/schools/leadership/schoolorganisation/a00192027/school-organisation-decision-table>

- Free Schools
<http://www.education.gov.uk/schools/leadership/typesofschools/freeschools>
- Sponsored Academies
<http://www.education.gov.uk/schools/leadership/typesofschools/academies>
- University Technical Colleges and Studio Schools
<http://www.education.gov.uk/schools/leadership/typesofschools/technical>

Annex A – Flow Chart



Appendix C – Evaluation & Scoring Criteria

Criteria for evaluation of written applications (60%):

1. Vision and educational experience (weighted by 2) (10%)

- Detail your education vision and ethos for the new Academy/Free School
- Demonstrate how you will narrow the gap between vulnerable children and young people and their less vulnerable peers and enable as many children as possible to reach their full potential
- Include your policy on inclusion and exclusion and detail your approach to behaviour management
- Detail your approach to pupil well-being and attendance and how they link to your education vision
- Demonstrate the quality of places offered
- Detail the educational plan and proposed curriculum and explain how you will ensure it is broad and balanced
- Your aspirations for the achievement of pupils and for the Academy/Free School as a whole

2. Capacity and capability (weighted by 2) (10%)

- Demonstrate your ability to successfully manage schools
- Give details of your ability and experience of running an Academy/Free School
- Give details of how you will ensure children and young people are safeguarded
- Give reference to your leadership and management experience
- Evidence your ability to financially manage Academies/Free Schools, including your financial expertise

3. Supporting partnership working in Lincolnshire to achieve the objectives of the Children and Young People's Plan (5%)

- Fully explain how you will develop partnerships with the Council, other Schools and Academies and other relevant stakeholders
- Explain how partnership working will help achieve the objectives of the Children and Young People's Plan and in particular improve the educational experience to enable pupils to reach their full potential
- How will partnership working help to ensure children and young people are safeguarded from harm?

4. Qualities and ideas that will impact on standards and school improvement (5%)

- Detail specific qualities and ideas regarding how the approach of the Academy/Free School will help to raise the standard of education in the area
- How will this contribute to school improvement?

Appendix C – Evaluation & Scoring Criteria

- Set out details of the experience that pupils will have at the new school, including how you will evaluate the achievement and performance of pupils and the Academy/Free School
- How will the Academy/Free School support the transition to secondary education (where applicable)?
- How will the Academy/Free School support pupils into further education, employment or training (where applicable)?

5. Diversity, parental choice and community engagement (5%)

- How will your submission enhance diversity and promote parental choice in the area?
- Outline your understanding of the local community
- Describe your plans for community engagement, including how sports provision will be maintained and enhanced
- How will you promote good community relations?

6. What will differentiate your proposal from those of other proposers? (5%)

- Explain how the Academy/Free School will be distinctive in its vision and ethos

7. Admissions arrangements (5%)

- Describe the proposed admission arrangements, including over-subscriptions criteria for the Academy/Free School
- If the Academy/Free School is proposed to have a religious character, show the extent to which priority places is proposed to be given to children of the Academy's/Free School's religion or religious denomination
- How will children of other religious or non-religious denominations be considered?

8. Staffing the Academy/Free School and recruiting the governing body (5%)

- Provide an indicative staffing structure
- How will staff be recruited to the Academy/Free School as the number of children at the school builds?
- How will the recruitment of governors to the school be managed?

9. Championing the needs of vulnerable children (5%)

- What additional services will be provided to parents, pupils and the local community, particularly for vulnerable children and their families?
- How do you propose to make the Academy/Free School attractive to pupils of different backgrounds and abilities, including pupils from deprived or disadvantaged families?

Appendix C – Evaluation & Scoring Criteria

10. Managing the opening of the new Academy (5%)

- Provide details of how you will work with other agencies to ensure that the necessary infrastructure and systems are in place for the opening of the new Academy
- Give details of your experience of managing the opening and early operation of a new Academy/Free School

Presentation Question (15%):

Take us through the experience of your first cohort of pupils on their journey from starting at the new Academy to leaving to go to secondary school.

Interview Questions (25%):

1. What do you understand by the term "vulnerable children"? Everyone is responsible for safeguarding, but in practical terms how will you ensure this in the new Academy? (5%)
2. Within your trust or organisation which areas of delivery would you prioritise as requiring improvement or development? Give details of your school improvement cycle and how will you use this to maintain and raise standards at the new Academy (5%)
3. You have taken us through the new Academy over the next 7 years, but what will your trust or organisation look like in 10 years' time and how will you ensure the stability of your own organisation together with succession planning within the new Academy to maintain its successful progress? (5%)
4. Demonstrate "Best Value" principles and how your proposal balances costs with what is best for the children (5%)
5. Give details of the relationship between the new Academy and the Academies already supported by your organisation (5%)

The panel thoroughly discussed and scored each of the applications using the following scoring system:

0	Completely unsatisfactory response – Nil response to question
1	Completely unsatisfactory response – Limited information or proposer would not have ability in delivering the required standard
2	Unacceptable response – Proposer would only meet some of the requirements of the New School Requirement document some of the time.
3	Acceptable response – Proposer would be likely to meet basic standards but further work may be required to ensure standards are met consistently
4	Good response – clearly indicating proposer has fully understood and can consistently apply and deliver all the requirements
5	Excellent response – Comprehensive understanding of the requirements and demonstrates that they are likely to exceed the required standards.

Appendix D - Establishment of New Academy in Spalding - Scoring Matrix							
Topic	Question		% of Total Score	BWAF	DRET	Applicant A	Applicant B
Written Applications (60%)	1	Vision and educational experience	10.00	6.6	7.4	7.4	6.4
	2	Capacity and capability	10.00	7.2	6.4	6.2	6.8
	3	Supporting Partnership working in Lincolnshire to achieve the objectives of the Children and Young People's Plan	5.00	3.8	3.3	3.1	4.0
	4	Qualities and ideas that will impact on standards and schools improvement	5.00	3.9	3.1	3.0	2.5
	5	Diversity, parental choice and community engagement	5.00	3.5	3.0	3.7	3.4
	6	What will differentiate your proposal from those of other proposers?	5.00	3.1	4.0	3.4	3.6
	7	Admissions arrangements	5.00	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.4
	8	Staffing the Academy/ Free School and recruiting the governing body	5.00	4.0	4.0	3.2	2.9
	9	Championing the needs of vulnerable children	5.00	3.3	2.9	3.8	2.4
	10	Managing the opening of the new Academy/ Free School	5.00	3.2	3.9	3.2	3.0
			Sub-Total	42.0	41.4	40.4	38.4
Presentation and Interview (40%)	1	Presentation	15.00	13.2	12.6	12.9	10.5
	2	Vulnerable Children	5.00	4.6	3.8	4.0	4.1
	3	School Improvement and Development	5.00	4.2	4.0	3.6	3.2
	4	Stability and Sucession Planning	5.00	4.2	4.2	3.6	3.2
	5	Best Value	5.00	4.2	3.6	4.0	3.1
	6	Relationships	5.00	4.6	4.4	3.4	3.6
			Sub-Total	35.0	32.6	31.5	27.7
Overall Percentage Achieved				77.0	74.0	71.9	66.1

Appendix E Summary of reasons for the selection of the preferred operator

The following summary outlines the reasons for the panel's selection against the relevant headings:

Vision and educational experience

BWAF is a multi-Academy Trust currently incorporating one secondary and two primary academies. Ofsted has rated the secondary academy and one of the primary academies as "good". The second primary academy was in special measures when it joined the Trust in 2009 but has been graded as "outstanding" following a recent Ofsted inspection. This has clearly demonstrated the educational experience available to be drawn on from within the Trust.

BWAF clearly demonstrated how their vision "Working in partnership to raise achievement for all" would promote high aspirations and opportunities for all the children at the new school. In sponsoring the new Wygate Park Academy BWAF set out how they would be building on their successful ethos of local people working in partnership together for the benefit of all local children and families. BWAF also demonstrated how they would be building on already outstanding standards and practices by applying the same to the new academy.

Capacity and capability

BWAF showed their capacity and capability to set up and lead the new academy within the Wygate Park community. Within the Trust, for the past here years, Carlton Road Academy has been one of the highest performing schools in Lincolnshire for the progress children make from Key Stage 1 to Key Stage 2. As detailed above, Staniland Academy has moved from "Special Measures" to "Outstanding" since joining the Trust and was also named in December 2012 as the 5th most improved primary school in England 2009 - 2012. BWAF recently worked closely with the LA to successfully merge two secondary schools in Boston. BWAF has developed strong links with primary provision through the Trust to offer a seamless transition from Year 6 to Year 7 and is already working closely with a secondary provider in Spalding to improve standards and link to the new primary academy. The Trust has clearly demonstrated that it has the leadership, management and governance to develop and run a new school in the Spalding Wygate Park community.

Partnership working

BWAF has a close working relationship with LCC, CfBT, the Birth to Five Service, the local Children's Centre and other local schools. The Trust demonstrated their commitment to involving local families, organisations, clubs and businesses with the new academy being at the hub of the community. The three academies within the Trust have a strong supportive relationship and the new academy will greatly benefit from this.

Qualities and ideas that will impact on standards and school improvement

The academies within the Trust currently achieve higher than the national average for attainment and progress. This is achieved by regular monitoring and scrutiny of data enabling quality intervention where necessary ensuring that all children achieve their full potential and the same protocols will be applied to the new academy. Each academy has a local Governing Body with the priority of focusing on standards and pupil attainment using a robust process of ongoing regular checks against the achievement of set milestones.

Diversity, parental choice and community engagement

Following the successful partnership working of BAAF within Boston the Trust believes that community cohesion and wider support beyond the school gates is vital to achieve the best outcomes for children. BAAF is committed to working with existing providers in the community to support children's welfare and achieving potential, and aim to replicate the support networks and partnership links in Wygate Park that are successfully operating in Boston

What will differentiate your proposal from those of other proposers?

The new academy will be based on the proven principles and practices in place at the three academies within the Trust. However BAAF is committed to the new academy having its own unique identity and intends to achieve this by relying on their ethos of "local people working in partnership to bring about local solutions to local problems". An important part of this will be the contribution of the pupils themselves with BAAF believing that the "voice of the child" should be heard. BAAF is also committed to supporting not only the academic and emotional needs of children but also other talents such as sport, dance and music and the Trust has the financial resources to offer such support.

Admissions arrangements

BAAF confirmed a clear Admissions policy. This will follow that currently used by the academies within BAAF and is in line with the Admissions Code and will be part of the LA scheme which co-ordinates admissions.

Staffing the Academy/Free School and recruiting the governing body

BAAF has a clear understanding of the importance of recruiting and developing both staff and governors. The methods and structure used will be based on that already in place at the primary academies within the Trust which has a proven track record of raising standards and meeting the needs of children, parents and the community. BAAF has its own proven internal training and development of staff emphasising continued professional development from newly qualified through to future leaders.

Championing the needs of vulnerable children

BAAF clearly demonstrated their understanding, and the vital importance, of supporting vulnerable children and families with robust safeguarding procedures already in place at each of the 3 academies within the Trust which would also be implemented in the new academy. BAAF employs a wide range of highly qualified specialist staff eg professionals in multi-lingual support, Educational Welfare, EAL support etc whose expertise would be available to the new academy.

Managing the opening of the new Academy

BAAF has a clear understanding of what would be required to open the new academy on time and provide good educational experiences for all its pupils from day one and throughout their time at the academy. The Trust is clear how staff and governing body members will be recruited and developed. Collaboration across the academies within the Trust is one of the many strengths of BAAF and all these resources and expertise will be available to the new academy.

Open Report on behalf of Debbie Barnes, Director of Children's Services

Report to:	Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee
Date:	26 July 2013
Subject:	Related Proposals to Amend the Age Range and Expand the Capacity at Grantham The Isaac Newton Primary School (Final decision)

Summary:

This report invites the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee to consider a report on the related proposals to amend the age range and expand the capacity at Grantham The Isaac Newton Primary School (Final decision) which is due to be considered by the Executive Councillor for Adult Care, Health and Children's Services on 9 August 2013. The views of the Scrutiny Committee will be reported to the Executive Councillor as part of her consideration of this item.

Actions Required:

- (1) To consider the attached report and to determine whether the Committee supports the recommendation to the Executive Councillor for Adult Care, Health and Children's Services set out in the report.
- (2) To agree any additional comments to be passed to the Executive Councillor for Adult Care, Health and Children's Services in relation to this item.

1. Background

The Executive Councillor for Adult Care, Health and Children's Services is due to consider the report on the related proposals to amend the age range and expand the capacity at Grantham The Isaac Newton Primary School (Final decision). The full report to the Executive Councillor is attached at Appendix 1 to this report.

2. Conclusion

Following consideration of the attached report, the Committee is requested to consider whether it supports the recommendation in the report and whether it wishes to make any additional comments to the Executive Councillor for Adult Care, Health and Children's Services. The Committee's views will be reported to the Executive Councillor.

3. Consultation

a) Policy Proofing Actions Required

Not applicable

4. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix 1	Report and Appendices to the Executive Councillor for Adult Care, Health and Children's Services on Related Proposals to Amend the Age Range and Expand the Capacity at Grantham The Isaac Newton Primary School (Final decision)

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 Michelle Andrews, who can be contacted on 01522 553269 or Michelle.andrews@lincolnshire.gov.uk .

Open Report on behalf of Debbie Barnes, Director of Children's Services

Report to:	Councillor Mrs P A Bradwell, Executive Councillor for Adult Care, Health and Children's Services
Date:	09 August 2013
Subject:	Related proposals to amend the age range and expand the capacity at The Isaac Newton Primary School, Grantham (final decision)
Decision Reference:	02147
Key decision?	Yes

Summary:

This report concerns two directly related proposals. One is dependent on the other. The first of the related proposals refers to the amendment of the age range at the school from 3-11 to 4-11. It is the Local Authority's (LA) statutory duty to maintain both a sufficient number of statutory school age places and also early years places to accommodate all Lincolnshire pupils. The LA works with the maintained sector and also private, voluntary and independent providers to ensure sufficient early years places. Currently there is an over-sufficiency of pre-school provision for 3 year olds in Grantham. The Isaac Newton Primary School has been temporarily operating as a 4-11 school since September 2012. There will continue to be sufficient capacity for 3 year olds in the area with adequate provision and choice for parents in Grantham if this is made permanent. Following statutory consultation, if the proposal is approved, the age range will be amended to 4-11 with effect from 1st September 2013.

The second of the related proposals in this report is the permanent expansion of the capacity at the school to accommodate the increasing number of primary aged pupils (4-11) in this part of Grantham. The proposed implementation date is 1 September 2014. Existing accommodation would be remodelled and extended to provide additional capacity for primary aged pupils with purpose built foundation stage facilities if this proposal goes ahead. This can only happen if the age range is permanently changed from 3-11 to 4-11 to formalise the temporary 4-11 arrangements which have been in place since September 2012.

When the expansion was proposed in January 2013 the School Improvement Service (CfBT) were confident that the school had the strong leadership and management necessary to drive forward a successful expansion. It has recently been confirmed that the Head Teacher will now be leaving at the end of this academic year and governors are expecting to appoint shortly. CfBT colleagues have confirmed that there is a good field of applicants to appoint from and an update will be available shortly. CfBT are confident that the leadership team already in place at the school are suitable to support an expansion and with a

successful appointment this proposal can be a positive one that will allow the school the opportunity to move forward under a new head.

The LA has co-ordinated the process following statutory guidelines (Department for Education (DfE) guide "Expanding a Maintained Mainstream School by Enlargement or Adding a Sixth Form" and "Making Changes to a Maintained Mainstream School") in accordance with the terms of the Education and Inspections Act (EIA) 2006 as updated by the Education Act 2011. Consultation commenced on 28 January 2013 with a seven week period of consultation which closed on 18 March 2013 after which the decision was taken on 15 April 2013 to publish a Statutory Notice on 10 May 2013. This initiated a six week Representation Period up to 21 June 2013 when written objections and comments may be submitted. The process is now entering the final stage when the LA, as decision maker, must take the final decision regarding the proposal within 2 months from the end of the Representation period (by 21 August 2013).

This report seeks to advise the Executive Councillor on making the final decision regarding the proposed amendment to the age range and the expansion of The Isaac Newton Primary School.

Recommendation(s):

That following the completion of the statutory process, in accordance with current legislation, the Executive Councillor for Adult Care, Health and Children's Services is recommended to take the final decision to approve the amendment to the age range to 4-11 with effect from 1 September 2013, and the expansion of the capacity for primary age provision from 315 to 420 places at The Isaac Newton Primary School with effect from 1 September 2014 as detailed in this report.

Alternatives Considered:

1. The council retains the school as it is at present with consequently no change to either the number of early years or primary school places in the area.

However, the above alternative would have the following disadvantages:

There would potentially be insufficient available primary school places in Grantham for September 2014 and beyond and the LA would be unable to comply with its statutory duty to ensure that there are sufficient school places for children of a statutory school age.

Under statutory guidelines a prescribed alteration, such as this amendment to the age range, can only be in force for a maximum of two years as a temporary measure before formal proposals are consulted on. The school have been operating as a 4-11 school since September 2012 and therefore the LA must either revert back to 3-11 in September 2014 or

consult on this proposal to amend the age range by September 2014 to avoid being in breach of statutory legislation. However, continuing with a 3 – 11 age range would not be a sustainable option and would result in an oversupply of nursery age provision.

It would lead to further overcrowding, or the transporting of 4 year olds to schools outside of the local area, or the need for an alternative less suitable school expansion would need to be considered that may not be achievable within the required timescales, or the use of mobile classrooms (subject to planning approval) with insufficient infrastructure for the number of pupils being accommodated at the school.

2. The council retains the school as it is at present but looks to other schools in Grantham or the surrounding area to implement the changes required. This would mean that the Isaac Newton Primary School remains as it currently is with no amendment to the age range and no further expansion of primary age places.

This has been explored and all primary schools have been considered for potential expansion but none have been found to be as suitable due to reasons such as undersized sites, distance that pupils would have to travel, parental preference, impact on standards and the fact that other schools are of suitable sizes for the areas they serve. The Isaac Newton Primary School is the most appropriate primary school in the right area for expansion.

Also, if the consultation process on the two related proposals is stopped this would not address the surplus of early years places.

Reasons for Recommendation:

To enable the LA to meet its statutory obligation to ensure the sufficiency of both early years and primary school places in Grantham.

The LA believes that this proposal is the best available option to address the increasing pressure on primary school places in the area and fulfil its statutory duty of ensuring that there are sufficient school places to accommodate all pupils of primary school age in Lincolnshire.

To ensure that the provision of school places is planned so as to promote high educational standards, enable fair access to educational opportunity for every child and promote the fulfilment of each child's potential. This proposal will both enhance the quality of provision and sustain local provision of statutory primary education.

The proposal will assist in meeting parental preference at this oversubscribed school. The Government have made it clear that the wishes of parents should be taken into account in planning and managing school estates. DfE guidance states that places should be allocated where parents want them and that

successful and popular schools be allowed to grow.

The proposals have the support of the Governing Body and also the School Improvement Service (CfBT) who are confident that the school has the potential to drive forward a successful expansion which will provide the opportunity to improve the learning experience and outcomes for the children.

The LA considers the proposal to be the best available solution to both the expected shortage of primary school places and the surplus of early years places in Grantham.

1. Background

It is the LA's statutory duty to maintain both a sufficient number of early years places in Lincolnshire and also sufficient school places to accommodate all pupils of statutory school age in Lincolnshire. The LA works with the maintained sector and also private, voluntary and independent providers to ensure sufficient early years places. Currently there is an over-sufficiency of pre-school provision for 3 year olds in Grantham. The 3 year old provision of The Isaac Newton Primary School has not been offered since September 2012 due to a low uptake and an over-sufficiency of places in the area. There will continue to be sufficient early years places in the area to ensure adequate provision and choice for parents in Grantham. The 'Mums and Tots' group will continue to operate at the school. Following statutory consultation, if the proposal is approved, the age range will be amended with effect from 1st September 2013.

National birth rates, mostly concentrated in more urban areas, have been steadily rising in recent years. This has been demonstrated by population data from NHS GP registrations and the Office of National Statistics. The increased birth rate, combined in some areas with inward migration and housing development, is now starting to have an impact at primary school age resulting in a potential shortage of Reception places. Grantham will experience a shortage of available places if capacity is not increased.

With regard to the expansion of capacity at the school, the proposal being consulted on is to permanently expand from the existing capacity of 315 places based on a Published Admission Number (PAN) of 45 to 420 places (PAN 60), with a proposed implementation date of 1st September 2014. This would increase the PAN initially for the Reception intake in September 2014 with the PAN for all other years remaining at 45. The increased intake to 60 would then be phased in with each subsequent Reception intake commencing in September 2015 until the PAN of 60 applies to all year groups. This phased approach will allow the school to effectively manage staffing and teaching structures and help to ensure that pupil numbers at other local schools will be maintained.

These two proposals are related and the proposal to expand capacity at the school is conditional on the approval of the proposal to amend the age range.

The LA believes that the two related proposals provide the best available option to address both the surplus of early years provision and also the expected shortage of Primary Reception school places in Grantham and to ensure that local children are able to go to their local school.

Following statutory consultation, if the related proposals are approved, it is proposed that building and refurbishment work begin during the academic year 2013/14 (subject to planning permission being granted) and planned to be completed in readiness for the start of term in September 2014. This would be managed to cause minimal disruption to the school during term time making the best use of school holidays where possible.

The planning application process is dealt with and consulted on separately and there will be opportunity for those that are interested to be involved throughout this process.

Reaching the decision – Preliminary Considerations

The requirements for decision making relating to the expansion of maintained mainstream schools are set out in the guide "Expanding a Maintained Mainstream School by Enlargement or Adding a Sixth Form" published by the DfE.

The requirements for decision making relating to the amendment of the age range at maintained mainstream schools are set out in the guide "Making Changes to a Maintained Mainstream School" as published by the DfE.

The guides set out certain checks that the decision maker should follow before proceeding to take a decision. These are addressed below:

- (i) Is any information missing? It is considered that there is no information missing and that the Executive Councillor has before her the information that is required to enable a decision to be reached.
- (ii) Are the proposals related to other published proposals? The two proposals in this report will be determined together and are therefore each dependant on the success of the other. However the two proposals in this report are not related to any other published proposals.
- (iii) Do the published notices comply with statutory requirements and has the statutory consultation been carried out prior to the publication of the notices? The statutory notice was published in accordance with section 19(1) of the EIA 2006. Consultation must, and has, included all parties specified within the relevant sections of the EIA 2006 including children, staff, parents/carers, the Diocese and other interested parties

Factors to be considered by Decision Makers

In reaching a decision the Executive Councillor must have regard to statutory guidance issued by the Secretary of State. The Complete Proposal (attached as

Appendix A) also includes information which must be considered together with feedback from consultees received throughout the entire process.

A System Shaped by Parents

The Government's aim is to create a schools system shaped by parents which delivers excellence and equity by implementing a dynamic system in which weak schools that need to be closed are closed quickly and replaced by new ones where necessary and the best schools are able to expand and spread their ethos and success.

The Executive Councillor must take into account the extent to which the proposal is consistent with the LA's duty to respond to representations from parents about the provision of schools. There were no submissions received from parents in the Representation Period. There were a total of 5 written valid responses received in the consultation period with only 2 submitted by parents, both of which were in favour of the related proposals in this report.

The Isaac Newton Primary School is a popular school which is consistently oversubscribed as indicated by the numbers of first preference applications received (47 in 2011, 58 in 2012 and 56 in 2013) for the 45 places available in the Reception class. 60 offers have been made and accepted for places in Reception in September 2013. The most recent Ofsted report following an inspection at the school was published in March 2012 with an overall effectiveness rating of "satisfactory". At this time parents were also asked to complete a questionnaire. Most parents and carers who completed a questionnaire believe that their child is being taught well and making good progress.

The LA has put forward the current proposal as the best and preferred option to meet these criteria. The LA also believes that it is important to hear 'the voice of the pupil' and have a system shaped by children. A summary of the consultation with the children of the school is within section 5 (Consultation) of this report.

Standards

The Executive Councillor should be satisfied that the proposal will contribute to raising local standards of provision and will lead to improved attainment for children and young people paying particular attention to the effect on groups that under-perform with the aim of narrowing attainment gaps.

The Ofsted report noted that "*children usually enter the Early Years Foundation stage with skills below those expected for their age. Biggest gains in learning are evident in Key Stage 1*". The report also confirmed that gaps in the performance of pupils known to be eligible for free school meals are narrowing compared to all pupils nationally and the school has been very successful in helping these pupils.

The opportunity offered by the two related proposals for a new purpose built Reception/Foundation unit will provide a platform on which standards of attainment can improve with enhanced provision at the school. The LA believes that the two

related proposals in this report provide the best option to maintain and improve standards of attainment and promote the fulfilment of each child's potential.

Diversity

The Government's aim is to create a more diverse school system offering excellence and choice so that every child receives an excellent education whatever their background and wherever they live. The Executive Councillor should consider how the proposal will affect local diversity taking account of the range of schools in the area and the impact on the aspirations of parents, and whether the proposal will help raise local standards and narrow attainment gaps. The LA believes that this proposal will lead to improved standards and an enhanced quality of education for current and future children in the area whilst maintaining diversity.

Every Child Achieving their Potential

The Executive Councillor should consider how the proposal will help every child and young person achieve their potential. The LA believes that the proposal will meet this criterion by not only maintaining the range of extended services, the opportunities for personal development, access to academic and applied learning training, measures to address barriers to participation and support for children and young people with particular needs (eg looked after children or children with special educational needs and disabilities), but also by providing the platform for these to improve.

Equal Opportunity Issues

The Executive Councillor should consider whether there are any sex, race or disability discrimination issues that arise out of the proposed expansion. There needs to be a commitment to provide access to a range of opportunities which reflect the ethnic and cultural mix of the area while ensuring that such opportunities are open to all. There are no sex, race or disability discrimination issues arising from this proposal. The LA will continue to be committed to provide access to a range of opportunities which reflect the ethnic and cultural mix of the area while ensuring that such opportunities are open to all.

Need for Places – Creating Additional Places and the Expansion of Successful and Popular Schools

When considering a proposal to expand an existing school the Executive Councillor should consider whether there is a need for expansion and take care not to create unnecessary surplus capacity. As detailed above Grantham is one of the pressure points in Lincolnshire where there will be a shortage of available places if capacity is not increased.

The table below shows the number on roll (NOR) at the time of the 2013 January School Census (Rec – Y6) together with actual offers made for September 2013 and potential intake numbers for September 2014 to 2016 based on NHS GP

Registration data and historical trends which clearly shows the projected increased need for primary places.

	2016	2015	2014	2013	Rec	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
NOR	50+	59	60	60	58	50	42	47	37	31	42

This proposal is being put forward as a solution to the increasing demand for places for local children in Grantham and it is not anticipated that it will have any adverse impact on the demand for places at other neighbouring primary schools which will continue to offer places for the children within their own surrounding locality.

The Government is committed to ensuring that the wishes of parents should be taken into account in the planning and management of school estates. There is a presumption that proposals to expand successful and popular schools should be approved and only be turned down if there is compelling objective evidence that such expansion would have a damaging effect on standards overall in the area. The LA believes that not only will there be no damaging effect on standards but that these proposal will provide the platform for standards to improve.

As detailed above the majority of parents confirmed that they believed that their child is being taught well and making good progress at the school and the school is popular with parents and consistently oversubscribed.

Before approving the proposals the LA must ensure that the admission arrangements of the schools will fully meet the provisions of the School Admissions Code. The proposed increase to the PAN at the school will be processed in accordance with the School Admissions Code to determine admission arrangements for the academic year commencing September 2014.

Travel and Accessibility for All

The Executive Councillor should be satisfied that facilities are accessible by being located close to those who will use them and that proposed changes do not adversely impact on disadvantaged groups. Proposals should not have the effect of unreasonably extending journey times or increasing transport costs or result in too many children being prevented from travelling sustainably due to unsuitable routes. The proposal should be considered on the basis of how it will support and contribute to the Council's duty to promote the use of sustainable travel and transport to school. If this proposal goes ahead it should reduce the likelihood of local children having to travel to schools outside of their local community and therefore assist the Council to meet this duty.

The LA understands that an increase in the number of pupils attending a school may have an impact on the local road network and access. However, the majority of additional primary aged pupils are likely to come from within a suitable walking or cycling distance from the school. The LA is committed to promoting the use of sustainable travel and transport to school and this would be reflected in the implementation of the school travel plan. Should the proposal go ahead, all traffic issues will be considered in the planning application process. As part of this

process any planning queries will be dealt with through a separate planning consultation and the LA would have to meet stringent requirements at the planning application stage.

The County Council home-to-school transport policy will continue to apply – this provides free home-to-school transport for pupils to their nearest designated school (if it is more than 2 miles away for primary aged pupils) but it is expected that most pupils will live within a two mile radius of the school.

Funding and Land

For any expansion proposal the Executive Councillor should be satisfied that any land, premises or capital required to implement the proposals will be available. The project is included in the 2012/2014 Capital Programme therefore, should this proposal to expand be approved, capital investment will be provided and any revenue implications will be financed by the Dedicated Schools Grant.

The impact of an expansion proposal on a school premises must be considered in the light of the requirements of The Education (School Premises) Regulations 1999 including minimum areas of team playing fields to which the school should have access. Currently at Grantham Isaac Newton Primary School the playing field area is already less than that recommended. However the plans for the proposed new construction will not have an impact on the area available for sports activities as we will be remodelling an existing building and extending slightly onto an area of informal tarmac currently unused by the school.

Special Educational Needs (SEN) Provision

The Executive Councillor should consider the impact of the proposals on the Special Educational Needs provision taking into consideration statutory guidance and be assured that the proposal is designed to improve on existing arrangements and enable all children to fulfil their potential.

The following key factors must be considered in order to meet the requirement to demonstrate likely improvements in provision:

- a) improved access to education and associated services including the curriculum, wider school activities, facilities and equipment, with reference to the LA's Accessibility Strategy;
- b) improved access to specialist staff, both education and other professionals, including any external support and/or outreach services;
- c) improved access to suitable accommodation; and
- d) improved supply of suitable places.

If the proposals are approved there is likely to be no impact with regard to SEN provision other than an opportunity to improve the provision with better access to resources and consistently good quality teaching, learning and leadership at the enhanced facilities at the school. The LA will continue to ensure suitable provision for all children with special educational needs and consideration of their needs will take place with physical access being assured should a need be presented. The

LA will continue to look to make improvements in the standard, quality and/or range of the education provision for children with SEN and so meet the Special Educational Needs Test.

Views of Interested Parties

The Executive Councillor should consider the views of all those affected by, or who have an interest in, the proposal. This includes statutory objections and comments submitted during both the consultation phase and the Representation Period. The Executive Councillor should not simply take account of the numbers of people expressing a particular view when considering representations made but should give the greatest weight to representations from those stakeholders most likely to be directly affected by the proposal. All representations, especially from the direct stakeholders, must be considered by the Executive Councillor in relation to this proposal prior to the decision being taken.

All responses to the consultation period have been received and made available to the Executive Councillor. These are also referred to later in the Consultation section of this report which includes a summary of the response from current pupils. There were no responses received in the Representation Period.

The Decision

In considering the proposal the Executive Councillor can

- reject the proposal
- approve the proposal
- approve the proposal with a modification (e.g. the implementation date) or
- approve the proposal subject to meeting a specific condition

It is not recommended that the Executive Councillor lays down any specific conditions and therefore the 'Alternatives Considered' section at the start of this report simply deals with the rejection or approval of the proposal.

Reasons must be given for the decision taken including the main factors and criteria whether the proposal is accepted or rejected.

2. Conclusion

The final decision is required from the Executive Councillor to determine whether to approve the related proposals of the amendment to the age range and the expansion of The Isaac Newton Primary School as detailed in this report. The factors to consider in making this decision are within this report and all valid written responses received during consultation must be considered

The LA believes this proposal to be in the best interests of local children and local parents as well as educational provision in the area and it supports the council's aim of ensuring that as many children as possible can reach their full potential. It also enables the LA to fulfil its statutory duty of ensuring that there are sufficient

places to accommodate all pupils of statutory school age in Lincolnshire whilst also maintaining the sufficiency of early years places in the county.

It is recommended that the proposal be implemented to ensure the best educational opportunities for the children of Grantham. The advantages of implementing this proposal are detailed earlier in this report in the 'Reasons for Recommendations' section.

3. Legal Comments:

The legal issues to be taken into account in the making of this decision, which is within the remit of the Executive Councillor, are fully set out within the report.

4. Resource Comments:

A decision to expand the capacity at Grantham Isaac Newton School with effect from 1 September 2014 will require funding from the 'basic need' element of the capital programme. Any on-going revenue costs will be funded from the Dedicated Schools Grant.

5. Consultation

In order for the school to expand the LA must follow the necessary statutory legal processes as required by the Secretary of State in accordance with the EIA 2006, the Education Act 2011 and the guidance of the DfE regarding expansion. To amend the age range at the school the LA must similarly follow the appropriate guidance of the DfE in accordance with current legislation.

Under these guidelines the LA must ensure that sufficient time and information are provided for people to understand and form a view on the proposal and make a response. The consultation documentation must set out the problem that is being addressed and invite comment on one or more solutions. The LA must explain the decision making process and take all reasonable steps to draw the consultation to the attention of all those who might be interested and take into account their views.

The Education Act 2002 states the requirement for current pupils to be consulted and this was further extended by subsequent legislation to also include all pre-school children over the age of 3. The Headteacher has consulted with the children currently attending the school through the school council and assembly. This produced a very positive response and the children are generally looking forward to the changes being consulted on. Pupils considered in detail the implications of the proposals and how they will impact on the school. They supported the proposals and put forward suggestions about what the additional provision might be able to offer with ideas that may be able to be put into practice by the school. The EIA 2006 specifically includes as interested parties the registered parents of

registered pupils at the school and also the appropriate District and Parish Councils for the area. The list of interested parties was compiled according to statutory guidelines comprising as wide a range of consultees as practicable and including parents, staff, the Chief Executive of the District Council, the Parish Clerk of neighbouring Parish Councils as well as individual councillors as appropriate.

A letter incorporating relevant information and reasons for the proposals was sent out to interested parties on 28 January 2013 to commence a seven week period of consultation. Individual meetings were offered to anyone interested to meet with representatives of the LA at the school to ask questions and raise any concerns but no appointments were taken up. There was the opportunity to provide a response to the consultation by letter, email or by returning the response form attached to the consultation document by 18 March 2013. Copies of the letter commencing consultation and the response form were also published on the County Council website under the webpage Current Consultations on www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/provisionplanning

The full written responses received during consultation have been provided to the Executive Councillor for consideration. To briefly summarise, there were 5 valid responses in total with none against the proposal. Out of the total responses received 2 were from parents with both in favour. Of the other 3 there was 1 from a governor at the school and 1 from a neighbouring school, both in favour. The remaining response was from a neighbouring LA which was neither for nor against, with no objections to either of the proposals. Comments received included views that the proposals can only be good for the long term future of the school and address anticipated future needs.

Following the completion of the consultation period all feedback was considered with a full report (which is referred to in the Background Papers section below and will also be re-considered along with this report) by the Executive Councillor and a decision was taken on 15 April to proceed to Statutory Notice. A statutory 6 week Representation Period was entered into on 10 May 2013 commencing with the publication of the Statutory Notice (Appendix B) in the local press, at the school gates and within the local community. The Complete Proposal, available in paper and electronic format (Appendix A) to which the Statutory Notice refers, was sent to interested parties as detailed in the statutory guidance and was also published on the website www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/provisionplanning. The Representation Period provides a further opportunity for people and organisations to express their views and ensure that they are taken into account when the final decision is taken although no responses were received during the Representation Period.

Under current legislation the LA is the decision maker for the proposal and is co-ordinating the statutory process before making a decision at the end of the process. The LA, as decision maker, must be able to show that all relevant issues raised are taken into consideration in the decision making process. Points raised can be considered unpersuasive but must not be ignored altogether.

The last stage of the statutory process would be the implementation of the proposal with the amendment to the age range to 4-11 with effect from 1 September 2013, and the expansion of the capacity from 315 to 420 for primary

age provision at The Isaac Newton Primary School with effect from 1 September 2014 if it is decided to proceed.

Information regarding this proposal has been updated and made available through the County Council website since official consultation began on 28 January 2013. The local and district councillors have been involved in the consultation on this proposal and the Executive Councillor for Adult Care, Health and Children's Services has been engaged throughout the entire process.

a) Has Local Member Been Consulted?

Yes, the local member has been made aware of the proposals to amend the age range and expand the capacity for primary provision at the school.

b) Has Executive Councillor Been Consulted?

Yes, the Executive Councillor has been involved in the discussions regarding the proposals to amend the age range and expand the capacity for primary provision at the school.

c) Scrutiny Comments

The Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee considered the expansion proposal at its meeting on 26 July 2013. *Comments from this meeting are to be included here to inform the Executive Councillor when making her final decision which is due to be taken on 9 August 2013:- ...*

d) Policy Proofing Actions Required

An Impact Analysis has been completed. In summary the analysis undertaken indicates that there is some potential for minor negative impact but that this is far outweighed by the benefits of the proposal. The LA would look to mitigate negative impact on the local road network and access and address any other concerns that potentially might arise out of this expansion proposal. The stringent requirements at the planning application stage would include the active involvement of the Highways Department as well as a detailed travel plan.

Apart from its obligations to consider the statutory guidance referred to the Council has obligations under the Equality Act 2010 which must be taken into account by the Executive Councillor when coming to a decision.

The Council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to:

- (1) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Equality Act 2010;
- (2) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
- (3) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected

characteristic and persons who do not share it: Equality Act 2010 s 149(1). The relevant protected characteristics are age; disability; gender reassignment; pregnancy & maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; sexual orientation: s 149(7).

Having due regard to the need to advance equality of opportunity involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to take steps to meet the needs of persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of persons who do not share it.

The Council believes that this proposal will not lead to any discrimination and that in recommending the proposal the Council is having due regard to its obligations under The Equality Act.

6. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Complete Proposal
Appendix B	Statutory Notice

7. Background Papers

The following background papers as defined in the Local Government Act 1972 were relied upon in the writing of this report.

Document title	Where the document can be viewed
Related proposals to amend the age range of The Isaac Newton Primary School in Grantham and to expand the capacity to take additional primary age children	Lincolnshire County Council Committee Records Reference 02148 15 April 2013
Expanding a maintained mainstream school by enlargement or adding a sixth form	http://www.education.gov.uk/schools/leadership/schoolorganisation/b0075166/other-changes-to-a-school-and-expansions
Making changes to a maintained mainstream school (other than expansion, foundation, discontinuance and establishment proposals)	http://www.education.gov.uk/schools/leadership/schoolorganisation/b0075166/other-changes-to-a-school-and-expansions
List of interested parties, letter to commence consultation, the consultation response form and the responses received from all interested parties including the children.	All available on request from the Property and Technology Management Team, Children's Services
Impact Analysis	Available on request from the Property and Technology Management Team, Children's Services

This report was written by Michelle Andrews, who can be contacted on 01522 553269 or michelle.andrews@lincolnshire.gov.uk.

Complete Proposal
to Amend the Age Range and Expand
The Isaac Newton Primary School in Grantham

MATTERS TO BE SPECIFIED IN SECTION 19 OF THE EDUCATION AND
INSPECTIONS ACT 2006

PROPOSALS TO MAKE PRESCRIBED ALTERATIONS TO A SCHOOL

10 May 2013

Contact details

This proposal has been published by Lincolnshire County Council, County Offices, Newland, Lincoln LN1 1YQ regarding the amendment of the age range and the expansion of the capacity at The Isaac Newton Primary School, Dysart Road, Grantham NG31 7DG

Implementation

The proposal is in two parts which are related. The first part is to amend the age range with effect from 1 September 2013 and therefore remove the nursery class at the school. The second of the related proposals is to permanently expand the capacity at the school with effect from 1 September 2014. The two related proposals are being made to ensure that there are sufficient primary school places in Grantham to accommodate the increasing pupil numbers in the community and to enable the Local Authority (LA) to fulfil its statutory duty of providing school places for all children of statutory school age in Lincolnshire whilst also maintaining the sufficiency of early years places in the county.

Objections and Comments

Any person or organisation may object to or make comments on the proposal by sending them to Provision Planning, Children's Services, Lincolnshire County Council, County Offices, Newland, Lincoln LN1 1YQ or by emailing provisionplanning@lincolnshire.gov.uk to be received by the deadline of 21 June 2013.

Alteration description

The related proposals under consideration are to amend the age range from 3 – 11 years to 4 – 11 years and to expand the existing capacity for Reception to Year 6 from 315 to 420 with an increase in the Published Admission Number (PAN) from 45 to 60.

School Capacity and Site

The number on roll for Reception through to Year 6 at the time of the census taken in January 2013 was 307. The table below shows the number currently on roll together with offers made for September 2013 and potential intake numbers for September 2014 and 2015 based on NHS GP Registration data and historical trends. The PAN is currently 45 with a permanent capacity of 315.

	2015	2014	2013	Rec	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Total
Number on roll	59	61	53	58	50	42	47	37	31	42	307

The school and the LA believe that the provision of a LA maintained nursery class is no longer necessary and there will continue to be a sufficiency of early years places in the area. The nursery provision at the school has been temporarily closed since

September 2012. It is proposed that the space formerly occupied by the nursery provision will be remodelled and extended to provide additional capacity for primary aged pupils with purpose built foundation stage accommodation.

Objectives

The proposals detailed in this document are to amend the age range at the school with effect from 1 September 2013 and expand the capacity for Reception through to Year 6 with effect from 1 September 2014. The objective of these two related proposals is to ensure both a sufficient number of early years places in Lincolnshire and also sufficient places to accommodate all pupils of a statutory school age.

The LA considers this to be the best available solution to the expected shortage of primary school places in this part of Grantham and would not be actively participating in this process if it did not see significant advantages for children and young people, their parents/carers and the local community. Other options in this area have been explored and all primary schools have been considered for potential expansion but none have been found to be as suitable due to reasons such as undersized sites, distance that pupils would have to travel, parental preference, potential impact on standards and the fact that other schools are of suitable sizes for the areas they serve. The Isaac Newton Primary School is the most appropriate school in the area for expansion. Also if the consultation process on the two related proposals is stopped this would not address the surplus of early years places. The related proposals have the support of the Headteacher and Governing Body and also the School Improvement Service (CfBT). CfBT is confident that the school has the strong leadership and management required to drive forward a successful expansion which will provide the opportunity to improve the learning experience and outcomes for the children.

The LA believes this proposal to be in the best interests of local children and local parents as well as educational provision in the area and it reinforces the priorities in the Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP). The proposal will ensure that the provision of school places is planned so as to promote high educational standards, enable fair access to educational opportunity for every child and promote the fulfilment of each child's potential. This proposal will both enhance the quality of education and sustain local provision.

The publication of the Statutory Notice will enable the statutory and legal processes to proceed. This continuation to the next stage of the process will allow a further opportunity for people and organisations to express their views about the proposal and ensure that they will be taken into account by the Executive Councillor.

Consultation

In order for the school to expand the LA must follow the necessary statutory legal processes as required by the Secretary of State in accordance with the Education and Inspections Act (EIA) 2006 and updated by the Education Act 2011 together with the guidance of the Department for Education (DfE) regarding expansion. Under current legislation the LA is the decision maker for the related proposals.

Consultation originally began on 28 January 2013 with a letter, incorporating relevant information and reasons for the proposal, being sent to all parents of pupils attending the school informing them of the proposal. Interested parties were also informed as required by guidelines issued by the DfE. In addition individual drop in sessions were offered to parents to discuss the proposal further with an LA officer. These meetings were offered to allow those having an interest in this proposal to be able to gather information, ask questions and get involved in the debate. However, no appointments were taken up.

All parents/carers and other interested parties were given the opportunity to respond as part of the consultation process by 18 March 2013. Copies of the letter commencing consultation and the response form were also published on the County Council website under the webpage Current Consultations on www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/provisionplanning

An analysis of the written responses to the consultation is detailed in Appendix B1 but to briefly summarise there were 5 valid responses in total with none against the proposal. Out of the total responses received 2 were from parents with both in favour.

The Headteacher has consulted with the children currently attending the school through the school council. The consultation produced a very positive response and the children are generally looking forward to the changes being consulted on. (summary attached in Appendix B2).

Evidence of the consultation before the proposal was published -

- (a) a list of persons and/or parties who were consulted can be found in Appendix A
- (b) the views of the persons consulted are summarised in Appendix B1 together with a summary of the consultation undertaken by the school council in Appendix B2
- (c) a copy of the letter confirming the commencement of the consultation process and incorporating relevant information and reasons for the proposal is in Appendix C
- (e) a copy of the form to send in responses is in Appendix D.

Following the initial letter all documentation relating to the consultation was published online through the County Council website under Current Consultations at www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/provisionplanning

All applicable statutory requirements to consult in relation to the proposal were complied with.

Project Costs

This proposed expansion will incur capital costs and the LA will fund the necessary refurbishment costs from the Children's Services capital programme with ongoing revenue costs funded from the Dedicated Schools Grant.

Special Educational Needs (SEN) provision

The proposals to amend the age range and expand the capacity of the school are not likely to have any impact on SEN provision other than an opportunity to improve the provision with better access to resources and consistently good quality teaching, learning and leadership at the refurbished school. Consideration of pupils with SEN will take place and the LA will continue to look to make improvements in the standard, quality and/or range of the education provision for children with SEN.

Need for places

It is the LA's statutory duty to maintain both a sufficient number of early years places in Lincolnshire and also sufficient school places to accommodate all pupils of statutory school age in Lincolnshire. The LA works with the maintained sector and also private, voluntary and independent providers to ensure sufficient early years places. Currently there is an over-sufficiency of pre-school provision for 3 year olds in Grantham. The nursery provision of The Isaac Newton Primary School has been temporarily closed since September 2012 due to a low uptake and an over-sufficiency of places. The school and the LA believe that the provision of a LA maintained nursery class is no longer necessary at The Isaac Newton Primary School. There will continue to be sufficient early years places in the area to ensure adequate provision and choice for parents in Grantham and the 'Mums and Tots' group will continue to operate at the school. Following statutory consultation, if the proposal is approved, the age range will be amended with effect from 1st September 2013.

National birth rates, mostly concentrated in more urban areas, have been steadily rising in recent years. The growing number of private voluntary and independent pre-school providers has ensured that there is more than enough early years provision in place to cope with these demographic pressures. The increased birth rate, combined in some areas with inward migration and housing development, is now starting to have an impact at primary school age resulting in a potential shortage of Reception places. Grantham will experience a shortage of available places if capacity is not increased.

Population data (NHS GP Registrations, supported by the Office of National Statistics) shows that there is expected to be a long term requirement for more places for children of a statutory school age in this part of Grantham. A permanent sustainable solution is needed to accommodate these extra children to avoid overcrowding and/or transporting 4 year old children to alternative schools outside of their local community.

With regard to the expansion of capacity at the school, the proposal being consulted on is to permanently expand from the existing capacity of 315 places based on a Published Admission Number (PAN) of 45 to 420 places (PAN 60), with a proposed implementation date of 1st September 2014. This would increase the PAN initially for the Reception intake in September 2014 with the PAN for all other years remaining at 45. The increased intake to 60 would then be phased in with each subsequent Reception intake commencing in September 2015 until the PAN of 60 applies to all year groups. This phased approach will allow the school to effectively manage

staffing and teaching structures and help to ensure that pupil numbers at other local schools will be maintained.

These two proposals are related and the proposal to expand capacity at the school is conditional on the approval of the proposal to amend the age range with the accommodation previously occupied by the nursery being used for the expansion to the school.

The LA believes that the two related proposals provide the best available option to address both the surplus of early years provision and also the expected shortage of Primary Reception school places in Grantham and to ensure that local children are able to go to their local school.

Having additional classes and more children of statutory school age on roll at the school will also have financial benefits for the school. This may potentially provide the opportunity to enhance teaching provision and career opportunities for staff which in turn will benefit the learning experience of the children.

Following statutory consultation, if the related proposals are approved, it is proposed that building/refurbishment work utilising the former nursery area to provide appropriate accommodation will begin during the academic year 2013/14 (subject to planning permission being granted) and planned to be completed in readiness for the start of term in September 2014. This would be managed to cause minimal disruption to the school during term time making the best use of school holidays where possible.

The planning application process is dealt with and consulted on separately and there will be opportunity for those that are interested to be involved throughout this process.

Expansion of successful and popular schools

The Government is committed to ensuring that every parent can choose an excellent school for their child with the wishes of parents being taken into account. There is a strong presumption that proposals to expand popular and successful schools should be approved. DfE guidance states that places should be allocated where parents want them and that successful and popular schools be allowed to grow. This proposal will assist in meeting parental preference.

The most recent Ofsted report following an inspection at the school in March 2012 rated the school's overall effectiveness as "satisfactory". At this time parents were also asked to complete a questionnaire. Most parents who completed a questionnaire or spoke with inspectors during the inspection believe their child is being taught well and is making good progress.

The school is popular with parents and in recent years has been oversubscribed as indicated by the numbers of first and second preference applications received (76 in 2013; 76 in 2012; 69 in 2011) for the 45 available places in the Reception class.

Related Proposals

The proposals to amend the age range and expand the capacity at The Isaac Newton Primary School are not related to any other statutory proposal.

What will happen now?

Any person may object to or make comments on this proposal by sending them to Provision Planning, Children's Services, Lincolnshire County Council, County Offices, Newland, Lincoln, Lincolnshire, LN1 1YQ or by emailing provisionplanning@lincolnshire.gov.uk

At the close of the 6 week representation period (statutory formal consultation) on 21 June 2013 responses will be collated and analysed and a final report will be presented to the Executive Councillor in August 2013 for a decision on the related proposals. The Representation Period is the final opportunity for people and organisations to express their views about the proposal and ensure that they will be taken into account by the decision maker.

Proposal to amend the age range and expand the capacity at The Isaac Newton Primary School in Grantham.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN in accordance with the Education and Inspections Act 2006 as updated by the Education Act 2011 that Lincolnshire County Council, County Offices, Newland, Lincoln LN1 1YQ intends to make the following prescribed alterations to The Isaac Newton Primary School, Dysart Road, Grantham NG31 7DG under Parts (1) and (2) as below. **These 2 proposals are related.**

Part 1

In accordance with section 19(3) of the Lincolnshire County Council intends to make a prescribed alteration to amend the age range from 3 – 11 years to 4 – 11 years and therefore remove the Local Authority nursery provision at the school. The designated nursery class has been temporarily closed since September 2012. Following this proposal there will remain adequate local provision of early years places in Grantham and the Local Authority will fulfil its statutory duty of maintaining sufficient early years places in the county.

This proposed alteration will take effect from 1 September 2013. All statutory consultation requirements in respect of this proposal have been complied with.

Part 2

In accordance with section 19(1) of the Act Lincolnshire County Council intends to make a prescribed alteration to expand the school from the existing net capacity of 315 to 420 with an increase in the Published Admission Number (PAN) from 45 to 60. The PAN will increase initially only for the Reception intake in September 2014. The increased intake to 60 will be phased in with each subsequent intake until the PAN of 60 applies to all year groups.

It is proposed that the space formerly occupied by the nursery provision will be remodelled and extended to provide the additional capacity for primary aged pupils with purpose built foundation stage accommodation.

This proposed alteration will take effect from 1 September 2014. All statutory consultation requirements in respect of this proposal have been complied with.

The current net capacity of the school is 315 and the proposed capacity will be 420. The current PAN is 45 and the proposed PAN will be 60. There are currently 309 pupils on roll in Reception to Year 6.

This Notice is an extract from the complete proposal. Copies of the complete proposal can be obtained by writing to: Provision Planning, Children's Services, Lincolnshire County Council, County Offices, Newland, Lincoln LN1 1YQ or by calling 01522 553329 or by emailing provisionplanning@lincolnshire.gov.uk or through the website www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/provisionplanning

Within six weeks from the date of publication of this proposal, any person may object to or make comments on the proposal by sending them to Provision Planning, Children's Services, Lincolnshire County Council, County Offices, Newland, Lincoln LN1 1YQ or by emailing provisionplanning@lincolnshire.gov.uk.

Signed: Debbie Barnes
Director of Children's Services
Lincolnshire County Council

Publication Date: 10 May 2013

Explanatory Notes

1. The proposal to expand the capacity at the school is conditional on the approval of the proposal to amend the age range with the accommodation previously occupied by the nursery being used for the expansion of the school. Both proposals will be determined together and therefore are dependant on the success of the other.

2. A copy of the County Council's Home to School Transport policy can be obtained on-line at www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/parents/schools/school-transport

3. Further details on the consultation which have led to these proposals can be accessed on-line under "Current Consultations" via www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/provisionplanning

Open Report on behalf of Debbie Barnes, Director of Children's Services

Report to:	Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee
Date:	26 July 2013
Subject:	Improving Access to Post-16 Learning Provision in Lincolnshire Action Plan – Second Monitoring Update

Summary:

This report invites the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee to consider the actions/progress of the action plan resulting from the Access to Post 16 Learning Provision review undertaken in 2011.

Actions Required:

- (1) To consider the attached action plan and to determine whether the Committee supports the actions/progress to the Executive Councillor for Adult Care, Health and Children's Services set out in the report.
- (2) To agree any additional recommendations/actions to be passed to the Executive Member for Adult Care, Health and Children's Services.

1. Background

Lincolnshire County Council undertook a review of access to Post 16 provision during 2011 which resulted in a number of recommendations being made. The attached action plan outlines the progress made towards meeting the recommendations as at June 2013.

Since then there have been (and are continuing to be) a number of statutory and policy changes that will impact on post 16 education and training provision from September 2013. These include:

- The transfer of the statutory duty to provide careers guidance to pupils in years 10 and 11 from local authorities to schools from September 2012 - this duty has now been extended down to year 8 and up to year 13 from September 2013.
- Schools funding reform, in particular the changes to funding high needs i.e. learners with learning difficulties and/or disabilities (LLDD) post 16 provision (to be implemented from April to August 2013 depending on type of institution). This means that funding for meeting the high cost element of

provision for learners with high level needs will be transferred to local authorities to enable them to commission directly with providers.

- Introduction of 'Study Programmes' and Traineeships (from academic year 2013 – 14) which will mean some providers will need to review their curriculum.
- Future planned legislation (Children and Families Bill) resulting from the response to the SEN Green Paper 'support and aspiration: a new approach to special needs and disability' which will inform the development of provision for learners with learning difficulties and/or disabilities (LLDD).

It should be noted that whilst the Local Authority's role in securing suitable education is clearly set out under sections 15ZA and 18A of the Education Act 1996 (as inserted by the ASCL Act 2009) i.e. 'that all schools, Academies, colleges and other providers (including charitable and third sector providers) are autonomous and independent bodies', as autonomous organisations, they have responsibility for designing and delivering learning programmes which meet the needs of the young people in their area. It is their responsibility to decide on their curriculum offer and mix of provision, responding to the needs of individuals and employers and to the local authority strategic overview. It is only through strong partnership working that the Local Authority can seek to influence provision in their area.

2. Conclusion

Significant progress has been made in relation to some actions in the plan including:

- Reduction in the number of learners with complex needs accessing residential provision as a result of the development of provision in local mainstream colleges and partnerships between colleges and special schools. The transfer of the High Needs budget to local authorities in 2013/14 means that were we to have continued to have high numbers of specialist residential placements, there would be insufficient budget to meet the needs of all high cost learners from the allocation. By working with mainstream providers we have ensured that the needs of young people with learning difficulties and or disabilities can be met much closer to their home community without severing the links with support agencies and networks on which they will later rely. It also means that our reliance on residential and specialist providers is comparable with that of other local authorities. It was previously much higher.
- The change in focus of the Careers Service to concentrate on supporting 16 – 18 NEET (Not in Education, Employment or Training) from September 2012 is already having an impact. The NEET figures have improved - currently 2.4% (at 16), 2.6% (at 17).
- In the twelve months to December 2012 Lincolnshire was in the top 12% of all local authorities in terms of the improvement in unknowns - currently 4.5% (at 16) and 10.2% (at 17) however using the latest available data our numbers are comparatively high compared to our statistical neighbours.
- There has been considerable success in promoting apprenticeships to schools, young people, parents/carers and businesses through the work of

the Apprentice Champions. The impact of the Apprentice Champions can be seen in the latest data on apprenticeship starts. The figures for Lincolnshire 16 -18 year olds starting an Apprenticeship this year show that the numbers continue to rise (up by 7.4%) compared to the same time last year. This is against a regional and national picture of falling numbers in this age bracket (a regional decrease of 7% and a national decrease of 12%).

We have been less successful in some areas including our ability to increase collaboration between schools or to significantly influence the mix of provision. This is in part due to the fact that schools, providers and academies are autonomous organisations facing a number of other challenges not least the need to maintain funding levels.

In light of the statutory and policy changes outlined above, the Committee is requested to review the attached action plan and make any additional recommendations/changes to the plan. The Committee's views will be reported to the Executive Member for Adult Care, Health and Children's Services.

3. Consultation

a) Policy Proofing Actions Required

Not applicable.

4. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix 1	Executive Response to Improving Access to Post 16 Learning Provision in Lincolnshire – Action Plan arising from Recommendations

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 Lynn Smith who can be contacted on 07717 700558 or lynn.smith@lincolnshire.gov.uk.

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**EXECUTIVE RESPONSE TO IMPROVING ACCESS TO POST-16 LEARNING PROVISION IN LINCOLNSHIRE –
ACTION PLAN ARISING FROM RECOMMENDATIONS**

Recommendation	Recommendation Accepted? Yes/No	Initial Response	Action	Timeline	Who	Progress
Recommendation 1 Schools, colleges and training providers should be encouraged to spend in full the 16-19 bursary funding to provide financial support to post-16 students for the purposes such as those outlined in the example framework attached at Appendix 2.	Yes	Each institution is responsible for spending their bursary funding and for setting the criteria for their students to access it.	Encourage schools to agree a common policy for the application of the bursary fund. Communicate that next year's bursary fund will probably use this year's spend as the allocation basis for 2012/13 so that they are encouraged to allocate there funding in full.	Nov 2011	Roy Nelson	As at June 13 all institutions have their published policy and it is available to learners either in paper form or on the schools' intranet. In addition, as far as we know, all schools have a person in charge of the application process who can provide advice, guidance and judgement.
Recommendation 2 Lincolnshire County Council should gather evidence on the overall impact on student participation following the disappearance of the Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) and other financial pressures by the end of March 2012 to inform the academic year of 2012/13. Depending on that evidence, the Executive should identify what further action should	Yes	The overall impact on student participation following the ending of the EMA scheme and "other financial pressures" will not be fully realised until the academic year 2012/13. This is because existing students receiving the EMA in the year 2010/2011 who move into the second year of their course are entitled to	Data will be gathered on post 16 student participation rates from September 2011 and repeated for September 2012	Data - Jan 2012 & Jan 2013 Report Feb 2012 and updated Feb 2013	School Administration (David Robinson & John O'Connor)	From data held by School Services regarding successful applications for home to school or college transport show an increase in numbers applying for transport support from September 2012 in comparison with September 2011, and a reduction in refusals of transport. In September 2011 there were 2650 applications for post 16 transport support, of which 1978 were accepted and 672 refused. In September 2012 there were 3,365

Recommendation	Recommendation Accepted? Yes/No	Initial Response	Action	Timescale	Who	Progress
be taken if required.		<p>continue to receive some funding for the 2011/12 year. Any potential impact might be mitigated by the introduction of the student bursary and the effect of the bursary should be considered at the same time.</p> <p>Although the EMA was not a payment made by the local authority, the Executive/ County Council is interested in gathering intelligence on the impact and effects of its withdrawal.</p>				<p>applications, of which 2722 were accepted and 643 refused. Source: LCC STAMP data analysis May 2013.</p> <p>Officers hosted a visit in January to Lincolnshire by Jennifer Coupland (DfE Deputy Director for Participation) and Nick Thatcher (DfE 16 – 19 Financial Support Policy) to discuss the issues and challenges facing a large rural county with sparsely populated areas in implementing RPA (Raising the Participation Age). The current consultation (May 2013) on the method used to allocate the discretionary element of the 16 – 19 Bursary Fund includes a question about including a rurality factor in calculating the bursary allocations to reflect the greater transport costs faced by some disadvantaged learners.</p>
<p>Recommendation 3 Lincolnshire County Council should lobby the Government for an increase in the bursary funding allocated to Lincolnshire to recognise the specific difficulties arising from the rurality of</p>					Elected Members	<p>Members continue to lobby through Lincolnshire MP's on a range of school funding matters.</p> <p>The Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee was asked to consider if the Committee wishes to make additional representation to</p>

Recommendation	Recommendation Accepted? Yes/No	Initial Response	Action	Timescale	Who	Progress
Lincolnshire.						Government at its meeting on 19 October 2012. The Committee discussed this recommendation and agreed not to make additional representation to Government as this is already happening through a number of routes.
<p>Recommendation 4</p> <p>A review of the impact of the increase in the cost of post-16 transport on student participation should be carried out by the end of March 2012.</p>	Yes	<p>The increase in the student contribution from £199 per annum to £296 per annum became effective for post 16 learners from September 2011. The increase to the full agreed contribution to £396 was deferred until September 2012. It is a matter of interest to the County Council whether the increase will prevent potential students from participating in education and training. The contribution required is considered affordable and is considerably less than most other rural local authorities' charges, being in the lowest decile in the range of charges made by English rural local authorities.</p>	<p>Data on learning outcomes (courses and subjects undertaken) will be gathered and analysed this year and next.</p>	<p>Data - Jan 2012 & Jan 2013 Report Feb 2012 and updated Feb 2013</p>	<p>School Administration (John O'Connor /David Robinson)</p>	<p>The figures show an increase in numbers qualifying for post 16 transport support in Lincolnshire from September 2011 to September 2012, from 1978 to 2722. Source LCC STAMP data analysis May 2013.</p> <p>Discussions have been held with Colleges to try to get robust data regarding reasons for learners dropping out. This is problematic due to the Individual Learning Record (ILR) not enabling us to identify reasons for leaving in relation to financial hardship.</p>

Recommendation	Recommendation Accepted? Yes/No	Initial Response	Action	Timescale	Who	Progress
<p>Recommendation 5 A review of the impact of the changes on providing post-16 transport only to the nearest provider on student participation and drop out rates should be carried out by the end of March 2012.</p>	Yes	<p>With effect from September 2011, the County Council's transport policy changed in respect of qualifying schools and colleges for mainstream students. The policy now is to offer subsidised transport to the nearest further education college or as an alternative to the nearest school with a sixth form. Pupils already at a school with a sixth form who are entitled to transport pre -16 will be entitled to continue to receive transport even if it is not their nearest sixth form , thus ensuring continuity. There are also safeguards for students travelling to specialist courses in the county, such as access to music, agriculture and horticulture.</p>	<p>Data will be gathered on student participation and drop-out rates, as well as on provision and choices from September 2011. This will be analysed and compared with figures for previous years.</p>	<p>Data - Jan 2012 & Jan 2013 Report Feb 2012 and updated Feb 2013</p>	<p>School Administration (John O'Connor /David Robinson) Lynn Smith</p>	<p>Post-16 providers cite transport costs as one of the factors that impact on learner numbers and indicate that some learners have cited this as the reason for dropping out early (5 -10% of learners who leave early)</p> <p>The figures show that the overall number of applications for post 16 transport increased between 2011 and 2012, from 2650 to 3365. The number of refusals fell from 672 in 2011 to 643 in 2012. In terms of the reasons for the refusal, the numbers refused for not attending their nearest or designated FE college fell from 431 in 2011 to 372 in September 2012. The numbers refused for not attending their designated or nearest sixth form increased slightly from 116 in 2011 to 140 in 2012.</p> <p>It is not known how these figures reflect overall dropout rates since this data is held by colleges. Source: LCC STAMP data analysis May 2013</p>

Recommendation	Recommendation Accepted? Yes/No	Initial Response	Action	Timescale	Who	Progress
						<p>Further analysis of the figures on applications shows that the numbers refused transport to attend their choice of college or school sixth form are 11.5% and 4.3%. Together that makes 15.8%. This is a significant number of young people not getting the course they want because of transport issues.</p> <p>As the change to LCCs post-16 transport subsidy coincided with the replacement of EMA with Bursaries, it is difficult to attribute any shift to LCCs transport policy alone.</p>
<p>Recommendation 6 A review should be carried out into the possibility of a countywide post-16 learning concessionary fare scheme for young people, which is only available to young people when attending courses, training and Apprenticeships.</p>	No	<p>Transport in Lincolnshire, including school and college transport, is organised by the County Council and delivered by private sector operators who also operate the public transport network.</p>				<p>The issue of a county-wide post 16 learning concessionary fare scheme has been considered at times in the past and each time found to be prohibitively expensive due to the investment in infrastructure needed to operate a concessionary scheme.</p>
<p>Recommendation 7 The Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG) team should monitor and review the quality and</p>	Yes	<p>1. Monitor performance via survey of young people in year 12, data on destinations and dropout rates, colleges' reports on</p>	<p>Gather 2011-12 data</p>	<p>Initial report Sept 2012. Then</p>	<p>Mark Wilkinson</p>	<p>Task and finish group created to focus on supporting young people with their transitions. This will enable information on leavers from courses to be shared and young people</p>

Recommendation	Recommendation Accepted? Yes/No	Initial Response	Action	Time scale	Who	Progress
independence of the new careers service provided by schools from September 2012.		access to schools IAG programmes, take up of LCC Careers Service offer.		annual reports	Steve Walker	<p>followed up. Work completed and SHIRPA (Systematic, Helpful, Indicators for Raising Participation Age) has been shared with schools.</p> <p>39 schools have purchased a service from CfBT Careers Guidance Service. We have been contracted to deliver 924 days of delivery over the full academic year. The activities delivered include face to face guidance, parent's events and group sessions. Although the time purchased is significantly less than that provided free of charge the previous year in those schools who are purchasing a service we have, by working in partnerships with schools, maximised the effectiveness of the time. As at the end of May 3,680 different young people have had a face to face contact.</p> <p>In 2011/12 we provided interviews to 3868 of the Y11 cohort across all schools mainstream, Solutions 4 and BESD (Behavioural, Emotional and Social Difficulties) schools in Lincolnshire when this was still the responsibility of the Local Authority. This amounted to 40.8% of that</p>

Recommendation	Recommendation Accepted? Yes/No	Initial Response	Action	Timescale	Who	Progress
			<p>Run IAG subgroups and training to communicate responsibilities</p>	<p>To start Dec 2011 and then termly IAG network meetings</p>		<p>cohort. Within the schools, where we are contracted to provide a service, in 2012/13 so far we have interviewed 2532 students in Y11 from a cohort of 6429 (39.3%). The reduction in the percentage of the cohort receiving a face to face interview has declined by only 1.5%</p> <p>11 schools are accessing guidance services from other providers 7 schools are believed to be providing no independent careers guidance 2 schools we have not been able to establish what their provision is.</p> <p>Guidance Network Conference in December with 41 schools attending with a workshop on RPA (Raising the Participation Age). Five IAG (Information, Advice and Guidance) network meetings held half termly across the county and attended by training providers, schools and colleges has RPA as a standard agenda item. IAG network meeting continue to meet and support IAG development</p>
		<p>2. Communicate and/or offer training to schools on their responsibilities</p>	<p>Continue to offer Career Mark support and access to online</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>		<p>New statutory guidance from DfE (Department for Education) has extended the duty down to year 8</p>
		<p>3. Review programmes via self assessment of schools and schools</p>				

Recommendation	Recommendation Accepted? Yes/No	Initial Response	Action	Time scale	Who	Progress
		working to Career Mark	self assessment tool			<p>and up to post 16. Support to schools to help them prepare for this change is being offered and a report from the findings will be produced October 2013.</p> <p>In addition 'Career Mark' has achieved national validation status and support for schools towards this continues to be offered. Data from 2011/2012 shows that dropout rates in school year 12 to 13 is 5% lower in those that hold Career Mark.</p> <p>In addition a new accredited level 4 course for school senior leaders has been developed with the awarding body AIM and will be offered (at a charge) to school staff from December 2013. This covers the area of contracting in independent, impartial careers guidance.</p>
<p>Recommendation 8 There should be more collaboration around provision between local authorities, schools, colleges and other post-16 providers in Lincolnshire and with neighbouring counties. The 14-19 Strategic Partnership should be requested to investigate a mechanism for ensuring this collaboration can</p>	Yes	Regular meetings are held between LCC Officers and neighbouring authorities.	Investigate ways of encouraging collaboration and remove any barriers identified	Ongoing	M Freeman	<p>Head of Service 14-19 holds regular meetings with neighbouring Local Authorities.</p> <p>639 sixth form learners come from outside Lincolnshire, mainly from Nottinghamshire and North East Lincs.</p> <p>1084 post 16 learners left Lincolnshire to access FE; more Lincolnshire residents are taught</p>

Recommendation	Recommendation Accepted? Yes/No	Initial Response	Action	Timescale	Who	Progress
occur.		<p>It is not within the remit of the 14-19 Strategic Partnership to ensure collaboration between institutions, however they can encourage it. The LA is working hard to encourage collaboration, but schools, Academies, colleges and other providers (including charitable and third sector providers) are autonomous and independent bodies.</p>	<p>Undertake a strategic analysis of the post 16 'offer' identifying areas where collaboration could take place.</p>	Oct 2012	R Nelson L Smith	<p>outside the county than are taught in it with the biggest exports going to Grimsby and Kings Lynn. Close regional work on Post 16 high cost funding changes taking place.</p> <p>Full post 16 collaboration takes place in: The Sleaford Joint Sixth Form (Carres and St Georges) and North Kesteven Joint Sixth Form (North Kesteven and Robert Pattinson). Some collaboration (8 courses in minority subjects) between Kings School, KGGGS and Walton in Grantham Minor collaboration between Spalding High and Spalding Grammar. Some on-line collaboration between some Lincoln Sixth Forms</p> <p>Analysis identifies the over-supply of school A Level provision, small classes and detailed opportunities for collaboration. We have a curriculum map of all post-16 activity, including colleges and independent providers for AY 12/13. The map has been distributed to all providers</p>

Recommendation	Recommendation Accepted? Yes/No	Initial Response	Action	Timeline	Who	Progress
			Meetings held with School Sixth Forms to identify the financial impact of the funding changes and to identify possible solutions	Ongoing		The Post 16 funding reforms (2013/14) will not result in huge differences to the funding per pupil but definitely raises concerns about the viability of small school sixth forms. We have a detailed breakdown of the funding changes between 12/13 and 13/14 for each sixth form, and discussed this with them. The local authority has no discretion over the quantum of funding.
<p>Recommendation 9 The gaps in post-16 learning provision that are not being addressed by collaboration should be identified and addressed by Lincolnshire County Council in partnership with the Education Funding Agency (EFA) and post-16 learning providers.</p>	Yes	It has been identified that there are sufficient numbers of places for the learner cohort for 2011. There is a process in place to identify gaps.	Working through the 14-19 structures to identify and then address any gaps identified	Annual process	M Freeman	<p>Colleges are well placed to take up any slack and YMCA (Young Men's Christian Association) and NACRO as national organisations will also have capacity and resources to expand (NACRO provision is under review due to recent inspection grades). GIFE could meet the gap in the north-east of the county.</p> <p>The annual strategic analysis is currently being undertaken which will identify any gaps.</p>

Recommendation	Recommendation Accepted? Yes/No	Initial Response	Action	Timescale	Who	Progress
<p>Recommendation 10 The review into post-16 provision for learners with learning difficulties and/or disabilities (LLDD) should be implemented, including the issues for LLDD as detailed in the report on pages 28-29.</p>	Yes	A LLDD Programme Coordinator has been recruited to implement the recommendations	<p>A draft strategic document/ plan is being developed.</p> <p>A Strategic planning group is established. Links being established with Post 16 providers.</p> <p>College Principals have voiced a commitment to building their capacity to meet the needs of learners with more complex needs.</p>	2013/14	M Reader	<p>The Strategy was formally launched on Friday 21st September 2012.</p> <p>6 Local working groups have been established to take forward the action plan.</p> <p>Local working groups have grown to also include Welfare to Work team, CIAG (Careers Information, Advice and Guidance) and independent providers. Joint bids for development funding have resulted in new cost effective provision being established and accessed jointly by providers e.g. An internet cafe and photography/printing enterprise run by Grantham college, YPLP (Young People's Learning Provision) and GANF (Grantham Additional Needs Federation) special schools. Similar collaborative projects are running in Stamford, Boston and East Lindsey</p> <p>Growing Futures has been established in the Queens Park school building housing, Action for Children, W2W, Pelican Trust and Lincoln College, providing enterprise activities and hydrotherapy pool linked in with St Christopher's school. A new provision is due to open September 2013 to provide further education for learners in</p>

Recommendation	Recommendation Accepted? Yes/No	Initial Response	Action	Timescale	Who	Progress
						<p>Lincoln with complex and medical needs, through a partnership between St. Francis school and Grantham College.</p> <p>Transitions officers are in place to support learners from school in the South and East and from the BESD schools to college</p> <p>A Directory of post 16 provision for LLDD has been produced and distributed and will become web based this year</p> <p>New funding arrangements for September will allow learners to follow bespoke study programmes which will include Supported Internships. All the colleges are working in partnership with the W2W (Welfare to Work) team to support learners through the course into work. Staff have taken part in training for Systematic Instruction and RARPA (Recognising and Recording Progress and Achievement). Enterprise activities have been established at all the colleges to help students develop work skills</p> <p>5 bids for Education Funding Agency (EFA) Demographic Growth</p>

Recommendation	Recommendation Accepted? Yes/No	Initial Response	Action	Timescale	Who	Progress
						<p>Capital Fund (2013/15) to expand College LLDD capacity have been submitted:</p> <p>Grantham College - to create a dedicated suite of rooms for students with complex needs including personal care needs and those on the Autistic spectrum as current facilities are at capacity and/or inaccessible.</p> <p>Stamford College - to develop specialist local provision to meet the needs and demand for places of the learner groups identified. This will require a secure specialist setting with facilities to provide high levels of personal care; significant space for both ambulant and non-ambulant learners; easy access; parking and learning environment - including sensory inputs.</p> <p>Linkage – aimed at BESD cohort, the GO project will use the built environment of a training hub (an Opportunity hub) to create defined physical areas of activity e.g. motor mechanics / valeting, horticulture, catering and hospitality, painting and decorating, construction, digital media, health and beauty, business administration and retail</p>

Recommendation	Recommendation Accepted? Yes/No	Initial Response	Action	Timescale	Who	Progress
						<p>Lincoln College – (two bids)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> In partnership with specialist schools to open a small bespoke provision for high functioning autistic learners to increase the curriculum offer including various enterprise opportunities e.g. Retail, MV, Community Café, Drama. To change the use of an existing small retail shop in Cathedral Building (Lincoln campus) to a disabled toilet/wet room. <p>Refurbishment of an area of the college premises to turn it into a painting & decoration, crafts and furniture restoration workshop for LLDD.</p> <p>In response to community need to increase the curriculum offer at Gainsborough.</p>
<p>Recommendation 11 Lincolnshire County Council will work with post-16 learning providers to ensure that all care leavers in post-16 learning receive the 16-19 bursary funding so that they are able to continue their studies and that the other issues raised by care leavers as detailed in the report on pages 29-30, such</p>	Yes	LCC is working with Barnardo's to agree an action plan.	<p>The development of an EET plan which includes care leavers as a group</p> <p>Barnardo's are supporting Vulnerable learners group.</p>	Nov 2011	Barnardo's	<p>In 2013/14, institutions will receive 16-19 Bursary Fund allocations for discretionary bursaries only. The funding for vulnerable student bursaries will be held centrally by the Learner Support Service and institutions will draw down this funding on demand throughout the academic year. This change will remove the possibility of the</p>

Recommendation	Recommendation Accepted? Yes/No	Initial Response	Action	Timescale	Who	Progress
as more access to Apprenticeships, are addressed.			14 – 19 Team representation on the leaving care Partnership Board		14-19 Team	<p>provider not having enough funding to meet the needs of the vulnerable young person.</p> <p>LCC has developed a youth employment plan which identifies Care Leavers as a priority group.</p> <p>The Vulnerable Learners Group, in partnership with Barnardo's, held a conference to disseminate information on the support available for vulnerable learners. Further work is being undertaken to support care leavers in accessing study programmes.</p>
<p>Recommendation 12</p> <p>Schools should be encouraged to promote all learning providers, apprenticeship providers, and colleges as part of their Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG) to help reduce the NEET figures and unemployment.</p>	Yes	<p>There is a need to give schools the means to do this. That should be met by an online prospectus of opportunities post 16</p> <p>Schools need to be aware of the value to them of their students not becoming NEET. This can be done by explaining to them the link between progression measures and the impact of this on an Ofsted inspection</p>	<p>UCAS Progress 'Search' would need to be purchased.</p> <p>Training given to schools at heads briefings and IAG training events</p>	<p>Start Dec 11 for launch at Easter 12</p> <p>Start Dec 2011 and training planned for March and July</p>	<p>John Herbert Karen Thorpe</p> <p>CEIAG team</p>	<p>On line Prospectus launched Sept 2012.</p> <p>Information being given via RPA training for schools and senior leadership training.</p> <p>All Schools/Academies and Special Schools have been given access to the internal tool (SHIRPA) to be used for early identification and targeting of young people at risk of NEET.</p>

Recommendation	Recommendation Accepted? Yes/No	Initial Response	Action	Timescale	Who	Progress
		<p>Due to changes in the priorities of the National Apprenticeship Service (NAS) a gap in promoting apprenticeships in schools was identified.</p>	<p>Two Apprentice Champions have been appointed to champion Apprenticeships across Lincolnshire with young people, parents/guardians and schools</p>	<p>Dec 2011</p>	<p>L Smith</p>	<p>Initiating/attending employer networking events resulting in contact with over 1200 employers across the County. Engagement of over 200 employers creating over 300 new Apprenticeship opportunities. 1000 young people accessed information about apprenticeships through young people's days at Sleaford, Lincoln, Boston and Stamford. High profile 'Have-a-Go' events have attracted in excess of 2500 participants and the involvement of many employers from the local areas. Relationships built with 57 of the 62 schools/Academies in the County, resulting in over 100 formal events and presentations. Relationships developed with 10 Special Schools resulting in SEN/LLDD young people becoming connected with mainstream opportunities. Training/familiarisation events with LCC/CfBT Careers Service staff, Schools careers advisers and teachers and Job Centre Plus staff resulting in up to date knowledge</p>

Recommendation	Recommendation Accepted? Yes/No	Initial Response	Action	Time scale	Who	Progress
<p>Recommendation 13 Schools and colleges should be encouraged to provide an all year round post-16 education system, which allows entry at other times during the academic year rather than just in September.</p>	Yes	<p>Colleges already have some flexibility around start dates. Schools would find this very difficult unless there was a significant change to the funding methodology</p>	<p>Raise this with the consortia. Include this in the response to the DFE funding consultation.</p>	<p>Jan 2012 Dec 2011</p>	L Smith	<p>and understanding of the Vocational/Apprenticeship route to success. All year starts are now a feature at both Grantham and Boston Colleges for Level 2 and below. Apprenticeships and Independent providers have 'roll-on roll-off' provision. It has been identified that in year starts for level 3 are required. The need for such flexibility has been discussed in the termly meeting with principals. The issue will always butt up against the viability of flexible programmes</p>
<p>Recommendation 14 The Executive should endorse and implement the action plan attached at Appendix 3 to ensure that the issues around the skills gap, lack of Apprenticeships, work experience and raising of the participation age are addressed.</p>	Yes	The Economic priorities and Learning Needs Plan has been produced and funding identified for 2011/12.	The partners deliver the plan	Mar 2012	L Smith C Hughes	Work to better understand the skills needs of employers is being undertaken by the Skills Board and LCC (Economy). The Strategic analysis will include skills information which will be included in the strategic priorities.

Recommendation	Recommendation Accepted? Yes/No	Initial Response	Action	Timescale	Who	Progress
<p>Recommendation 15 All elected members should seek to influence the mix of provision, demand and support for learners through their roles as community leaders; employers; media advocates and as governors of schools and colleges by, for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Taking every opportunity to articulate to parents, young people and employers the economic needs of the county and the future trajectory of the economy ❖ Encouraging all employers to convert jobs with little training to Apprenticeships for young people ❖ Ensuring that debates about plans for growth in provision reflect the county's needs and recognise the impact on the future viability of smaller institutions of new provision by another provider 					Elected Members	<p>LCC is working with Economic Development and Human Resources to increase employment opportunities for young people within the Council.</p> <p>The Council has a well-publicised and assessed apprenticeship and graduate programme. The council currently employs 39 apprentices and 5 graduates.</p> <p>Members of the Committee were asked to consider at the meeting on 19 October 2012 how they wish to complement this at a ward level to take this recommendation forward so best practice can be shared. The Committee discussed this issue and highlighted the difficulties of doing this in practical terms. It was agreed that members should concentrate on what is available in their wards and pass on this knowledge to the wider community.</p>

Open Report on behalf of David O'Connor, Executive Director Performance and Governance

Report to:	Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee
Date:	26 July 2013
Subject:	Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2013/14

Summary:

This item enables the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee to consider its own work programme for the coming year.

Actions Required:

- (1) To note the priorities identified for the Committee's future work programme, as set out in Appendix A to this report;
- (2) To comment and agree on the content of the work programme, as set out in Appendix B to this report.

1. Background

Future Priorities

At the last meeting of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee, members were asked to list their three top priorities for the Committee to look at over the next 12 to 18 months. Members then worked in groups of three to agree their top three priorities as a group. These priorities have been analysed and compiled under different headings of Education, Social Care, Health, School Transport, Partnership Working, and Youth Provision. Appendix A contains the priorities and details any proposed actions for future scrutiny activity. The priorities listed in italics are the priorities listed by members which were not included in the group priorities.

Current Work Programme

The current work programme for the Committee is attached at Appendix B to this report. This has been amended to reflect the priorities identified by the Committee.

Forward Plan

Also attached at Appendix C for the Committee's consideration is a list of the intended key decisions of the Executive or Executive Councillor for Adult Care and

Health Services, Children's Services, which fall within the remit of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee.

Scrutiny Activity Definitions

Set out below are the definitions used to describe the types of scrutiny, relating to the items:

Budget Scrutiny - The Committee is scrutinising the previous year's budget, the current year's budget or proposals for the future year's budget.

Pre-Decision Scrutiny - The Committee is scrutinising a proposal, prior to a decision on the proposal by the Executive, the Executive Councillor or a senior officer.

Performance Scrutiny - The Committee is scrutinising periodic performance, issue specific performance or external inspection reports.

Policy Development - The Committee is involved in the development of policy, usually at an early stage, where a range of options are being considered.

Consultation - The Committee is responding to (or making arrangements to respond to) a consultation, either formally or informally. This includes pre-consultation engagement.

Status Report - The Committee is considering a topic for the first time where a specific issue has been raised or members wish to gain a greater understanding.

Update Report - The Committee is scrutinising an item following earlier consideration.

Scrutiny Review Activity - This includes discussion on possible scrutiny review items; finalising the scoping for the review; monitoring or interim reports; approval of the final report; and the response to the report.

2. Conclusion

That consideration is given to the content of this report.

3. Consultation

a) Policy Proofing Actions Required

No policy proofing is required for this report.

4. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee Priorities
Appendix B	Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee Work Programme
Appendix C	Children's Services Forward Plan

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 Tracy Johnson, who can be contacted on 01522 552164 or Tracy.Johnson@lincolnshire.gov.uk .

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Education	ACTIONS	Social Care	ACTIONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scrutinising Academies – admissions/selection, governance and <i>impact on other schools</i> 	<p>A report will be brought to CYPSC on Relationships with Academies at its 6 September 2013 meeting.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SEN/Autism and integration into mainstream schools 	<p>This will be covered by the Support and Aspiration report due to the 6 September 2013 meeting.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secondary provision for more able pupils in Stamford 	<p>This is subject to 4 yearly reviews A report was received by CYPSC at its meeting on 13 May 2011. The next update will be due in May 2015.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safeguarding and adoption 	<p>A report on the recent Serious Case Review will be brought to the 26 July 2013 meeting. Adoption will be covered by the Corporate Parenting training on 18 July 2013.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring admissions and exclusions and available assistance for exclusions 	<p>An update on the implementation of the action plan from the scrutiny review will be coming to CYPSC at its 18 October 2013 meeting.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Impact of immigration and demographics - positive and negative effects 	<p>This will be included in the Sufficiency of School Places report due to CYPSC at its 18 October 2013 meeting.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain and develop small rural schools 	<p>A report on the development and implementation of Collaborative Partnerships between small schools will come to the CYPSC meeting on 10 January 2014.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Addressing truancy and family social problems and outcomes <i>Anti-social behaviour in problem families affecting school attendance</i> 	<p>An update on the troubled families / families working together project is due to the CYPSC meeting on 7 March 2014.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increasing sports in schools – 2012 legacy School swimming 	<p>These issues will be included in the interim report on Community Access to School Facilities due to the 25 April 2014 meeting.</p>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low standards in maths and English grammar 	<p>There are no issues with this in Lincolnshire so no actions are required.</p>		

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing best educational services to schools 	<p>Not to be taken forward at this time.</p>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Post 16 provision for LLDD 	<p>A report on Support and Aspiration for Children with Special Educational Needs – Monitoring Plan will be brought to CYPSC at its 6 September 2013 meeting.</p>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Discipline in schools</i> 	<p>This has been covered by the School Admissions and Exclusions in Lincolnshire scrutiny report.</p>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Class numbers</i> • <i>School places – young children having to travel to school pass local schools</i> 	<p>A report on Sufficiency of School Places will come to the CYPSC meeting on 18 October 2013.</p>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Teaching standards</i> 	<p>This will be covered by the Relationships with Academies report to the 6 September 2013 meeting.</p>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Bridging gap between Free School Meals (FSM) and GCSE attainment</i> 	<p>A report on Narrowing the Gap will come to the CYPSC meeting on 18 October 2013.</p>		
<p><i>Recruitment and retention of teaching staff including headteachers</i></p>	<p>There are no issues at the current time so no actions will be taken.</p>		

Health	ACTIONS	Partnership Working	ACTIONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Childhood obesity and general health 	<p>A report on Childhood Obesity will be brought to the CYPSC meeting on 7 March 2014.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community outreach – school & community sports, social, community and arts activities within schools and communities 	<p>An interim report on Community Access to School Facilities will be brought to the CYPSC meeting on 25 April 2014.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Reviewing why children under 4 years of age are taken to A&E after accidents at home, as the numbers are going up</i> 	<p>Not a topic for this committee. The Health Scrutiny Committee for Lincolnshire is more appropriate for this topic.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthen partnership between Diocesan church school providers and LA providers for education 	<p>There are regular termly meetings between the Council and faith providers. An update will be brought to CYPSC in 2014.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Improving services for children and young people diagnosed with cancer, as there is no palliative care in the administrative county of Lincolnshire</i> 	<p>Not a topic for this committee. The Health Scrutiny Committee for Lincolnshire is more appropriate for this topic.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engagement with Youth Cabinet to encompass their views and ideas 	<p>Discussion will take place at a premeeting on how to engage with the Youth Cabinet.</p>
School Transport	ACTIONS	Youth Provision	ACTIONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School Transport including Post 16 transport to college School Travel Plans Congestion outside schools 	<p>This may be reviewed at some point in 2014 in preparation for any policy changes in 2015 following the next Comprehensive Spending Review.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Youth Centres 	<p>A report on the Youth Offer will be brought to CYPSC at its meeting on 18 October 2013.</p>

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CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Theme: “That every child, in every part of the county should achieve their potential”

Chairman: Councillor John Hough

Vice Chairman: Councillor Bob Adams

26 July 2013		
Item	Contributor	Purpose
Children’s Centres – Progress and Successes	Stuart Carlton Assistant Director	Update Report
Youth Housing Strategy	Phil Taylor Lincolnshire Youth Housing Coordinator	Consultation
Proposal to revoke the decision taken in May 2012 to expand Spalding Primary School	Michelle Andrews Interim Head of Property and Technology Management	Pre-Decision Scrutiny (Executive Councillor Decision on 9 August 2013)
Proposal for a new primary Academy in Spalding (submission to Secretary of State of results and evaluation of process to identify an operator)	Michelle Andrews	Pre-Decision Scrutiny (Executive Councillor Decision on 9 August 2013)
Related Proposals to Amend the Age Range and Expand the Capacity at Grantham The Isaac Newton Primary School (Final decision)	Michelle Andrews	Pre-Decision Scrutiny (Executive Councillor Decision on 9 August 2013)
Improving Access to Post-16 Learning Provision in Lincolnshire Action Plan – Second Monitoring Update	Maggie Freeman Head of Service 11-19	Scrutiny Review Activity

6 September 2013		
Item	Contributor	Purpose
Strategic Priorities for 16 – 19 (25) education and training for 2014/15	Maggie Freeman	Pre-Decision Scrutiny (Executive Decision on 1 October)
School Funding Reform: Findings from the Review of 2013/14 & Arrangements and changes for 2014/15	Tony Warnock Head of Finance – Children’s and Specialist Services	Consultation
Theme Performance: Quarter 1	Debbie Barnes Director of Children's Services	Performance Scrutiny

6 September 2013		
Item	Contributor	Purpose
Relationships with Academies	Tim Culpin Head of School Improvement	Status Report
Support and Aspiration for Children with Special Educational Needs - Monitoring Plan	Gary Nixon Head of Service Additional Needs Sheridan Dodsworth Head of Service Children with Disabilities	Status Report
Lincolnshire Safeguarding Boards Scrutiny Sub-Group Update	Chairman / Vice-Chairman of Scrutiny Sub-Group	Update Report
Corporate Parenting Panel Update	Chairman / Vice-Chairman of Panel	Update Report

18 October 2013		
Item	Contributor	Purpose
School Funding Reform: Findings from the Review of 2013/14 & Arrangements and changes for 2014/15	Tony Warnock Head of Finance – Children’s and Specialist Services	Pre-Decision Scrutiny (Executive Councillor Decision on 30 October 2013)
“Always Someone Else’s Problem” - Office of the Children’s Commissioner’s Report on Illegal Exclusions	Keith Batty Assistant Director CfBT Education Services	Status Report
School Admissions and Exclusions in Lincolnshire Action Plan – First Monitoring Update	Keith Batty	Scrutiny Review Activity
Narrowing the Attainment Gap (including vulnerable learners)	Maggie Freeman Tim Culpin	Status Report
Sufficiency of School Places	Matt Clayton School Organisation Planning Manager	Status Report
Youth Offer	Stuart Carlton	Update Report

29 November 2013		
Item	Contributor	Purpose
Theme Performance: Quarter 2	Debbie Barnes	Performance Scrutiny
Lincolnshire Safeguarding Boards Scrutiny Sub-Group Update	Chairman / Vice-Chairman of Scrutiny Sub-Group	Update Report

29 November 2013		
Item	Contributor	Purpose
Corporate Parenting Panel Update	Chairman / Vice-Chairman of Panel	Update Report

10 January 2014		
Item	Contributor	Purpose
Children's Services Budget 2013/2014 and 2014/15	Debbie Barnes	Budget Scrutiny
Child Poverty Strategy and Action Plan Update	TBC	Update Report
Early Help Strategy	Stuart Carlton	Status Report
Collaborative Partnerships for sustaining small and medium sized primary schools in Lincolnshire - Update	Tim Culpin	Update Report

7 March 2014		
Item	Contributor	Purpose
Families Working Together	Stuart Carlton Jo Kavanagh Lincolnshire's Troubled Families Co-ordinator/ Head of Service Youth Offending	Update Report
Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) – Tier 2 Update	Stuart Carlton Charlotte Gray Commissioning Officer	Update Report
Early Education Offer for 2 Years Old Living in Disadvantaged Communities	Steph Douglas Head of Service Birth to Five	Status Report
Theme Performance: Quarter 3	Debbie Barnes	Performance Scrutiny
Lincolnshire Public Health Annual Report 2012 – Progress against recommendations on Childhood Obesity	Dr Tony Hill Director of Public Health	Status Report

25 April 2014		
Item	Contributor	Purpose
Community Access to School Facilities – Interim report	Keith Batty Assistant Director CfBT Education Services	Update Report

25 April 2014		
Item	Contributor	Purpose
Opportunities for Young People Post 16	Maggie Freeman	Status Report

13 June 2014		
Item	Contributor	Purpose
Theme Performance: Quarter 4	Debbie Barnes	Performance Scrutiny

25 July 2014		
Item	Contributor	Purpose
Strategies for Recruiting Qualified and Experienced Social Workers	Janice Spencer Assistant Director	Status Report

Items to be Scheduled

- Strengthening partnerships between Diocesan church school providers and LA providers for education (2014)
- Stamford Endowed Schools Scholarship Tapering- Interim (4th Year) Review – May 2015

Theme Outcomes

The Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee is aligned to the five principles set out in the Children and Young People’s Plan 2012-2015:

- 1. Early Intervention and Prevention**
 - Strong universal services, providing early action and intensive support to vulnerable children and young people.
- 2. Safeguarding and Best Start in Life**
 - Ensuring children are safe in every environment.
 - Encouraging community responsibility for safeguarding.
- 3. Aspiration and Well Being**
 - Ensuring all those working with children champion the importance of aspiration.
 - Develop self-esteem, self-belief and resilience in all children, young people and their families.
- 4. Learning and Achievement**
 - All children being the best that they can be.
 - Closing the gap between vulnerable groups and children living in disadvantaged communities.

5. Best Use of Resources

- Integrating delivery with a focus on outcomes, life chances and opportunities.
- Effective use of resources to provide better services locally.
- Empower communities, creating opportunities for them to engage.

For more information about the work of this Committee please contact Tracy Johnson, Scrutiny Officer, on 01522 552164 or by e-mail at tracy.johnson@lincolnshire.gov.uk

LINCOLNSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – FORWARD PLAN OF DECISIONS RELATING TO CHILDREN’S SERVICES FROM 3 JULY 2013

DEC REF	MATTERS FOR DECISION	DATE OF DECISION	DECISION MAKER	PEOPLE/GROUPS CONSULTED PRIOR TO DECISION	DOCUMENTS TO BE SUBMITTED FOR DECISION	HOW TO COMMENT ON THE DECISION BEFORE IT IS MADE AND THE DATE BY WHICH COMMENTS MUST BE RECEIVED	RESPONSIBLE PORTFOLIO HOLDER AND CHIEF OFFICER	KEY DECISION YES/NO	DIVISIONS AFFECTED
1004696	Proposal to amend the age range and expand capacity at The Isaac Newton Primary School, Grantham (Final Decision)	9 August 2013	Executive Councillor: Adult Care and Health Services, Children's Services	Interested parties as DfE guidance including parents, school staff, neighbouring schools, County District and Parish Councils, MP's, Trade Unions and Diocese	Report	Interim Head of Property and Technology Management e-mail: michelle.andrews@lincolnshire.gov.uk Tel: 01522 553269	Executive Councillor: Adult Care and Health Services, Children's Services and Executive Director of Children's Services	Yes	Grantham Barrowby; Grantham East; Grantham North; Grantham North West; Grantham South
1004733	Proposal for a new primary Academy in Spalding (submission to Secretary of State of results and evaluation of process to identify an operator)	9 August 2013	Executive Councillor: Adult Care and Health Services, Children's Services	All Headteachers and Chairs of Governors of all Lincolnshire schools and Academies; RC and CofE Dioceses; County, District and Town Councils. Details were also made available to potential interested parties via the DfE, Independent Academies Association and the New Schools Network websites as well as the LCC website	Report	Interim Head of Property and Technology Management Tel: 01522 553269 e-mail: michelle.andrews@lincolnshire.gov.uk	Executive Councillor: Adult Care and Health Services, Children's Services and Executive Director of Children's Services	Yes	Spalding East and Moulton; Spalding Elloe; Spalding South; Spalding West
1004777	Proposal to revoke the decision to expand Spalding Primary School	9 August 2013	Executive Councillor: Adult Care and Health Services, Children's Services		Report	Interim Head of Property and Technology Management Tel: 01522 55553269 e-mail: michelle.andrews@lincolnshire.gov.uk	Executive Councillor: Adult Care and Health Services, Children's Services and Executive Director of Children's Services	Yes	Spalding East and Moulton; Spalding Elloe; Spalding South; Spalding West

 Indicates amendment to existing item

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