

County Offices
Newland
Lincoln
LN1 1YL

17 July 2014

Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee

A meeting of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee will be held on **Friday, 25 July 2014 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
(18 Members of the Council and 5 Added Members)

Councillors J D Hough (Chairman), B Adams (Vice-Chairman), W J Aron, Mrs J Brockway, J P Churchill, S R Dodds, A G Hagues, J R Hicks, B W Keimach, Ms T Keywood-Wainwright, C R Oxby, Mrs S Ransome, Mrs L A Rollings, Mrs N J Smith, 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 and Mrs E Olivier-Townrow

**CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
AGENDA
FRIDAY, 25 JULY 2014**

Item	Title	Pages
1	Apologies for Absence / Replacement Members	
2	Declaration of Members' Interests	
3	Minutes of the previous meetings held on:-	
	3a 25 April 2014	7 - 16
	3b 13 June 2014	17 - 28
4	Strategic Priorities for 16 - 19 (25) Education and Training for 2015/16 <i>(To receive a report from Stuart Carlton, Assistant Director of Children's Services, which sets out the current position in relation to post 16 education and training and invites the Committee to make recommendations on the Strategic Priorities therein)</i>	29 - 62
5	Introduction of Universal Infant Free School Meals - Update <i>(To receive a report from Tony McGinty, Assistant Director of Public Health, which provides the Committee with an update on the implementation of free school meals for infant children in Lincolnshire's schools)</i>	63 - 66
6	Proposal to expand the capacity at Lincoln The Sir Francis Hill Community Primary School (Final Decision) <i>(To receive a report from Michelle Andrews, Head of Property and Technology Management, which invites the Committee to consider a report on the proposal to expand the capacity at Lincoln The Sir Francis Hill Community Primary School)</i>	67 - 92
7	Proposal to expand the capacity at Lincoln St Faith's C of E Infant and St Faith and St Martin C of E Junior Schools (Final Decision) <i>(To receive a report from Michelle Andrews, Head of Property and Technology Management, which invites the Committee to consider a proposal to expand the capacity at Lincoln St Faith's CofE Infant & St Faith and St Martin CofE Junior schools)</i>	93 - 122
8	Proposal to amend the age range at Ash Villa School <i>(To receive a report from Michelle Andrews, Head of Property and Technology Management, which invites the Committee to consider a report on the Proposal to amend the age range at Ash Villa School)</i>	123 - 144

- 9 Corporate Parenting Panel Update** 145 - 156
(To receive a report from Councillor David Brailsford, Chairman of the Corporate Parenting Panel, which provides the Committee with an overview of the activities of the Panel)
- 10 Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2014/2015** 157 - 166
(To receive a report from Tracy Johnson, Scrutiny Officer, which provides the Committee with an opportunity to consider its Work Programme)
- 11 CONSIDERATION OF EXEMPT INFORMATION**
In accordance with Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the following agenda items have not been circulated to the press and public on the grounds that they are considered to contain exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended. The press and public may be excluded from the meeting for the consideration of these items of business.
- 12 Domiciliary Care Service Commissioning Review** 167 - 226
(To receive a report from Lynn Brammer, Interim Commissioning Team Manager, which invites the Committee to consider details of the Domiciliary Care Commissioning Review)
- 13 Supported Accommodation** 227 - 294
(To receive a report from Mark Rainey, Project Manager – Families Working Together Team, which invites the Committee to consider an exempt report on Supported Accommodation)

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Please note: for more information about any of the following please contact the Democratic Services Officer responsible for servicing this meeting

- Business of the meeting
- Any special arrangements
- Copies of reports

Contact details set out above.

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www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/committeerecords

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**CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
25 APRIL 2014**

PRESENT: COUNCILLOR J D HOUGH (CHAIRMAN)

Councillors B Adams (Vice-Chairman), J P Churchill, S R Dodds, A G Hagues, J R Hicks, B W Keimach, C R Oxby, Mrs S Ransome, Mrs L A Rollings, Mrs N J Smith, S M Tweedale, L Wooten, R Wooten 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 and Mrs E Olivier-Townrow.

Councillors: D Brailsford and M Jones attended the meeting as observers.

Officers in attendance:-

Debbie Barnes (Executive Director of Children's Services), Keith Batty (Assistant Director of CfBT Education Services), Chris Briggs (Head of Transportation), Andrea Brown, Tracy Johnson (Scrutiny Officer), Tony McGinty (Assistant Director of Public Health - Children's and Public Health Commissioning), Andrew McLean Head of Commissioning - Children's Services), Sally Savage (Assistant Director of Children's Services) and Michelle White (CWD Team Manager).

85 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE / REPLACEMENT MEMBERS

The Chairman reported that, since the last meeting of the Committee on 7th March 2014, Dr Emile van der Zee had resigned as a Parent Governor Representative.

A letter of thanks had been sent to Dr van der Zee for his time and effort on both this Committee and the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs J Brockway, R Hunter-Clarke and Mrs C A Talbot.

There were no replacement Members in attendance.

86 DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

No declarations of Members' interests were made at this stage of the proceedings.

87 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE HELD ON 7 MARCH 2014

Due to technical difficulties, it was noted that the incorrect version of the minutes had been circulated to Members. It was therefore agreed to defer the minutes to the next meeting to allow sufficient time for consideration.

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee held on 7th March 2014 be deferred to the next meeting.

88 SENSORY EDUCATION AND SUPPORT SERVICES

Consideration was given to a report from the Executive Director of Children's Services, which provided the Committee with an overview of the Sensory Education and Support Service (SESS) and the Core Offer.

Michelle White, CWD Team Manager, introduced the report and explained the detail of the Core Offer which was funded through the central Designated Schools Grant (DSG) and offered county-wide support and specialist teaching to children with sensory impairment (Hearing, Visual and Multisensory) from birth to school leaving age.

During discussion, the following points were noted:-

- One Member had experienced the training and advised that it was an amazing service but noted that it was stretched;
- Plans for funding to provide Specialist Teaching Assistants who could support Teaching Assistants within a number of schools who have children with sensory impairments were being considered;
- It was acknowledged that there was a gap between this service and the children with autism service. Work was in the early stages of trying to narrow this gap in respect of sensory integration;
- No specific school in Lincolnshire provided British Sign Language (BSL) which meant that a school with a child whose first language was BSL would require an interpreter all day to translate the school setting to the child, not just lessons but also at break times to enable them to communicate with their peers and staff. Some staff were BSL trained, however, nationally, the perceived need of BSL seemed to be dwindling due to the new technology available to children and families;
- Two secondary and two primary schools had enhanced the support provided and work was underway to further look at how to better enhance that resource;
- Ruskington Primary School was opening an enhanced provision in September and, as a result, had attracted a child whose main form of communication was BSL;

- In relation to the Voice of the Child, the teacher completes a contact sheet which detailed the work done with the child on a daily basis. The child was then given the opportunity to look at the sheets and add their understanding of what they did that day and why they were doing it. This was then presented to the parents;
- Within Aspiration Week, Jade Etherington had agreed to attend. The photographs included in the leaflets promoting Aspiration Week, circulated with the papers, were all of children currently being supported within the County;
- There was a staff cohort of early years teachers and teaching assistants. They receive a six-weekly report on who the children were, where they were and where they were likely to go to school and what their future needs may be. A lot of these staff were based within Children's Centres which has forged strong links with the centres; and
- It was agreed that this was an impressive service and a credit to all involved.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

89 OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE POST 16

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Director of Children's Services, which provided details of the work undertaken to implement the Raising the Participation Age (RPA) in Lincolnshire.

Maggie Freeman, Head of Service 14-19, introduced the report, highlighting further budget reductions for 2015/2016. There would be a £2.8m reduction in funding in 2014/15 and a further £1.2m reduction in 2015/16.

During discussion, the following points were noted:-

- Raising the Participation Age (RPA) was implemented in September 2013 with the second phase due to be implemented in September 2014. This would mean that young people would have to participate in post 16 education or learning until their 18th birthday. If an appropriate offer of places was made then the number of young people participating post 16 should decline. However, tension remained for some school sixth forms who need to maintain their numbers for financial viability;
- Support was being provided to schools in terms of collaboration by helping them develop formal arrangements and ensuring collaboration continued despite management changes within schools;
- The leverage which could be exerted through the data was used to encourage schools to collaborate. The data available showed schools how serious the issues were which has resulted in them being more receptive to the process of collaboration;

- Schools had a statutory duty to advise the Local Authority when a pupil was leaving and, in turn, the Local Authority had a statutory duty to follow that pupil;
- Plans were currently underway for September 2015 and offers for young people were scheduled to be sent out in the Autumn 2014;
- Members felt there was a clear need to find out why the numbers of young people "dropping out" of their sixth form courses were so high and an understanding of why this was happening would likely assist in providing a more appropriate offer for that student. It was confirmed that work was ongoing to improve the offers currently presented to children;
- It was acknowledged that the Joint Sixth Form provision between Sir Robert Pattinson Academy and North Kesteven School in North Hykeham was a clear example of best practice within Lincolnshire, although the geographical location of these schools was an advantage;
- Although the model used in Ipswich and Suffolk was also an example of good practice, this could not be adopted in Lincolnshire. However, replication of this model was being promoted by encouraging schools to work together;
- Headteachers in Stamford had asked New College Stamford to join discussions for a collaboration and have asked the Local Authority to undergo more detailed mapping and costings;
- The Local Authority now only have the ability to encourage schools to take a certain route and it was suggested that officers and Members should work together to ascertain how Members could potentially use their democratic mandate to work with all schools;
- There was a suggestion that the local authority role could include encouraging schools to be mindful of their moral responsibilities in addition to ensuring the business was a success;
- In order to keep specialist teachers, for example a Japanese language teacher, schools should be encouraged to work with other schools nearby to provide that course in their area rather than for their school alone which may only be for one or two pupils. This would then give pupils and teachers increased opportunities;
- Work was nearing completion to identify the strategic priorities, including the skills shortages within the county and what companies would be looking for when recruiting. Work was ongoing with the Employment and Skills Board to clarify these details which would have some influence in terms of the strategic implications;
- Additional options regarding careers guidance and making links with employers had been included but it remained the responsibility of the school to provide independent advice and guidance to young people;
- The Aspirations document was published on a termly basis; and

- Members felt that the overall position was not acceptable at present, despite officers following statutory guidance, as young people should be able to do the courses they wanted to within Lincolnshire.

RESOLVED

1. That the report be noted.
2. That a clear strategy be formulated, taking into consideration the comments made, and presented to the Committee as part of the 16-19 Strategic Priorities report in July 2014.

90 DISCRETIONARY TRANSPORT SUPPORT FOR YOUNG LEARNERS IN LINCOLNSHIRE

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Director of Children's Services, which summarised the extent and cost of providing discretionary transport support for young learners in Lincolnshire.

Andrea McLean, Head of Service – Commissioning, introduced the report and advised that the Home to School/College Transport Guidance from the Department for Education (DfE), had been last issued in 2007. In February 2014 the DfE had issued new guidance on post 16 transport, which meant that the Council had to consult on its post 16 transport policy statement, prior to its publication on 31 May 2014.

The Committee was invited to comment on the proposed statement which was detailed at Appendix E to the report presented. It was highlighted that there was no proposals to change the current home to school transport policy.

The Chairman welcomed Mr Ian Widdows, Deputy Head of the Giles Academy, to the meeting and invited him to address the Committee. He raised concerns that some providers had not been treated fairly under the existing policy, and although the Giles Academy sixth form which offered A-level tuition it had not been classed as being a Dedicated Transport Area (DTA) Sixth Form. The school currently competed in a market with other sixth forms, providers and colleges, and as such should be treated fairly. A number of students, who attended the Giles Academy, had to pay for the additional cost of travel themselves. It was highlighted that it was important to bear in mind that at the end of key stage 4, children were free agents and could choose whatever provider they wanted based on a variety of factors. Pre-16 and post 16 transport should therefore be dealt with differently, as this was having an effect on the choices for young people.

During discussion, the Committee raised the following issues:-

- That the lack of flexibility in the post 16 transport policy was having an impact on the young people's first choices;

- Some members agreed that the policy needed to be made more readable and that different ways of providing transport needed to be investigated. The policy needed to be fairer and more equitable;
- Some concern was raised that the post 16 transport policy was making the situation worse for sixth forms. The description of schools and the Designated Transport Areas needed to be relooked at especially with collaboration;
- The Committee was advised that the Council did not commission a taxi, but commissioned transport. Whoever provided the transport would decide on what mode of transport to provide. Taxis often provided the most cost effective means of transport. Officers advised that they were not in a position to comment with regard to the cost of taxis overall, as this report related to post 16 provision;
- It was noted that there were schemes to support children with Special Educational Needs (SEN) to use public transport, which was quite often the most effective means, given the rurality of the County;
- The Committee was advised further that the Council was not obliged to provide post 16 transport, but it had chosen to do so. The DTA's had been reviewed, and as a result transport was provided to the nearest school if it was over three miles for post 16. It was noted that the DTA was not a legal requirement. It was highlighted that any new policy needed to be affordable;
- Collaboration between small school sixth forms would be important for future financial viability;
- The extortionate cost of home to school/college transport to the Council, which amounted to £25m for 2013/14. Officers advised that the policy had been supported by the Committee and the Leader of the Council who had put additional budget into Children's Services to cover the cost. Post-16 transport was subsidised but students were expected to contribute £399 to the cost; and
- That the post 16 transport policy was not fit for purpose. The Committee supported the key points set out in the statutory guidance in the first paragraph on page 73 of the report. However, it was felt that the current transport policy did not cover the Local Authority's statutory duty, and that officers should look at the policy again, taking into account the statutory guidance, and the comments raised by the Committee.

RESOLVED

That the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee did not support the Post - 16 Transport Statement presented.

91 THE FRAMEWORK FOR THE INSPECTION OF LOCAL AUTHORITY
 ARRANGEMENTS FOR SUPPORTING SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT: SELF-
 EVALUATION

Consideration was given to a report from the Executive Director of Children's Services, which provided the Scrutiny Committee with information relating to the key strengths and areas of development identified, as a result of the framework for the inspection of local authority arrangements for supporting school improvement: self-evaluation.

In guiding the Scrutiny Committee through the report, the Assistant Director of CfBT Education Services, made reference to the fact that if an inspection was to be triggered, the nine areas that would be the focus for Ofsted would fall under four main categories; which were detailed on page 117 of the report presented.

Page 120 of the report identified the strengths identified in the self-evaluation and the strategic developments underway.

It was highlighted that members needed to be prepared to talk to inspectors, should they be called. An inspection was not expected imminently, but members were asked to be prepared.

Discussion ensued, from which the Committee enquired as to whether the A-C's including English and Maths downward trend over the last three years had been identified. It was reported that a pattern had not been identified, but it was highlighted that national figures had also dropped. Officers confirmed that there was a downward trend and that this was a concern, as evidence suggested that as more schools had become academies there had been a continued downward trend. The Council would however be working with Academies with regard to this matter.

Some concern was raised as to the implications for children as a result of what was happening. As a result of this there would be children who were going to fall through the gaps.

The Committee was reassured by officers that regular talks were had with the DfE about schools and academies causing concern and that a monitoring process took place.

It was noted that officers would bring back a report with regard to CfBT in September 2014.

RESOLVED

1. That the report and particularly the section relevant to the role of elected members be noted. (It is likely that the Lead member would be required to meet with the inspection team should the need arise).

2. That reports on school improvement demonstrating rigour, challenge, ambition and vision in order to demonstrate political oversight continue to be scrutinised.
3. That the ambitious vision for improving schools, which is clearly demonstrated in public documents, be supported.
4. That the Authority be prepared to articulate the Local Authority's strategic role, and enhance schools' ability to self-manage should an inspection arise.

92 CORPORATE PARENTING PANEL UPDATE

The Committee gave consideration to an update report from the Corporate Parenting Panel, which provided details of the work of the Panel. A copy of the draft minutes from the Corporate Parenting Panel meeting held on 31 January 2014 were attached for members' consideration.

The Chairman of the Corporate Parenting Panel advised that at the meeting on 31 January 2014, the Panel had considered a range of reports as detailed in the aforementioned minutes. This included the approval of the new Looked After Children Strategy for 2013/16, and the new Looked After Children Placement Sufficiency Strategy for 2013/16. It was reported that these would be reviewed again in December 2014.

The Panel had also considered a report on the Leaving Care Service contract, which had subsequently been considered by the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee on 7 March 2014.

On 13 March 2014, the Panel had held a meeting to consider a report from Legal Services Lincolnshire regarding the legal proceedings implemented between April 2012 and November 2013, in relation to care and supervision orders.

The Committee was advised that at the next meeting of the Panel on 5 June 2014, the Panel would be considering a report on the outcomes from the CQC Review of Health Services for Children Looked After and Safeguarding in Lincolnshire, and a progress report on closing the gap for Looked After Children in terms of Education achievement. The Committee was advised further, that Senior Health officers would be asked to attend the meeting and questions would be asked with regard to a plan of action, to address the issues raised in the report.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

93 CHILDHOOD OBESITY - PROGRESS REPORT FOLLOWING DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH ANNUAL REPORT 2012

Consideration was given to a report from the Director of Public Health, which provided the Committee with an overview of childhood obesity and the progress made in tackling childhood obesity.

The Assistant Director of Public Health – Children's and Public Health Commissioning guided the Committee through the report making reference to the fact that 2008 saw activity increase with regard to obesity. It was highlighted that public health was currently in the process of commissioning service intervention between birth and reception. It was highlighted further that evidence suggested that if a mother was overweight, then the child was more likely to be overweight. Full details of the proposed interventions were shown in the report presented.

During discussion, the Committee raised the following points:-

- Being able to make it easier for children to get out and around safely i.e. cycling and provision of parks, the need to promote cycling and walking;
- Ensuring that school meals are nutritional, encouraging healthy cooking and making children aware of fruit and vegetables. The Committee was advised that there were programmes that dealt with growing food through to preparation and finally cooking; others that identified vegetables and food groups and also food skills. A further report would be presented to the Committee at the July 2014 meeting with regard to the Universal Free Schools Meals;
- District Council's involvement in tackling obesity. It was noted that some districts were promoting cycling;
- The need for an action plan to ensure that all the proposed activities and outcomes are managed; and
- That children were more likely to be overweight if they were from a poorer background.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

94 CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2014

A report by the Scrutiny Officer was considered, which provided the Scrutiny Committee with an opportunity to consider its work programme for the coming year.

There were no amendments to the presented work programme. It was reported that there were a number of pre-decision scrutiny reports due for the next three agendas.

It was highlighted that the June agenda currently had seven items listed and that the July agenda already had six items listed, and that there was potentially a further

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CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
25 APRIL 2014

report on the 16-19 Strategic Priorities, which the Committee had requested should come back for consultation, prior to pre-decision scrutiny in September.

It was agreed that an informal working group should be set up to consider the new home to school travel and transport guidance consultation and formulate a response on behalf of the Committee. Councillors J D Hough, J P Churchill and Mrs L A Rollings expressed an interest in being part of the informal working group.

RESOLVED

1. That the Work Programme, as set out at Appendix A, be agreed.
2. That the content of the Children's Services Forward Plan, as set out in Appendix B, be noted.

The meeting closed at 1.25 pm



**CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
13 JUNE 2014**

PRESENT: COUNCILLOR J D HOUGH (CHAIRMAN)

Councillors B Adams (Vice-Chairman), W J Aron, Mrs J Brockway, J P Churchill, S R Dodds, A G Hagues, J R Hicks, B W Keimach, Ms T Keyword-Wainwright, C R Oxby, Mrs L A Rollings, Mrs N J Smith, L Wootten, R Wootten and Mrs S M Wray

Added Members

Church Representatives: Mr S C Rudman and Mrs G Wright

Parent Representatives: Mrs E Olivier-Townrow

Councillor D Brailsford (Executive Support Councillor for Children's Services) attended the meeting as an observer

Officers in attendance:-

Michelle Andrews (Head of Property and Technology Management), Debbie Barnes (Executive Director of Children's Services), Keith Batty (Assistant Director of CfBT Education Services), Stuart Carlton (Assistant Director of Children's Services), Sheridan Dodsworth (Head of Service SEND), Tracy Johnson (Scrutiny Officer), Sally Savage (Assistant Director of Children's Services) and Rachel Wilson (Democratic Services Officer)

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE / REPLACEMENT MEMBERS

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs S Ransome and S M Tweedale.

Apologies were also received from Mr C V Miller (Parent Representative Added Member) and Mr P Thompson (Church Representative Added Member)

2 DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest at this point in the meeting.

2

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

13 JUNE 2014

3 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE HELD ON 7 MARCH 2014

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting held on 7 March 2014 be agreed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record, subject to it being noted that Councillor D Brailsford (Executive Support Councillor for Children's Services), Mr S Rudman (Church Representative Added Member), Mr P Thompson (Church Representative Added Member), Mrs G Wright (Church Representative Added Member) and Mrs E Olivier-Townrow (Parent Governor Added Member) were in attendance.

4 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE HELD ON 25 APRIL 2014

The Chairman advised that the minutes of the previous meeting had not been finalised and circulated in time for this meeting and would be deferred to the next meeting.

5 FRONTLINE SOCIAL WORKERS AND SAFEGUARDING SCRUTINY
REVIEW - DRAFT FINAL REPORT

Consideration was given to a report which invited the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee to consider the draft final report arising from the scrutiny review into Frontline Social Workers and Safeguarding.

Tracy Johnson, the Scrutiny Officer for the Review, gave a brief presentation which provided Members of the Committee with further details in relation to the following areas;

- Objectives of the Review;
- Methodology of the Review;
- Key findings and conclusions;
- Recommendations;

Members were provided with the opportunity to ask questions to the officers present in relation to the information contained within the report and some of the points raised during discussion included the following:

- Members were supportive of all the recommendations which were being put forward in the final report;
- It was explained that if the draft final report was given approval by the Scrutiny Committee, it would be considered by the Executive on 1 July 2014, and delegated to the Executive Councillor Adult Care and Health Services, Children's Services for a response. The Executive Councillor would have two months to formulate their response and it would then go to the October meeting of the Committee with an action plan, and the Committee would monitor the action plan on a 6 monthly basis. Implementation would commence as soon as the action plan was received by the Committee;

- The Task and Finish Group was congratulated for a very thorough report;
- It was queried whether the caseloads of each locality team were investigated during the review as the number of children in care was increasing. Members were advised that senior officers were aware of the increase in cases, and the County Council had made the decision to increase the number of social workers it employed. Therefore the Task and Finish Group had not made any recommendation in terms of caseloads;
- It was clarified that the second paragraph on page 37 of the final report referred to the national situation in relation to pressure felt by child protection workers to reclassify section 47 child protection cases to a less category of 'child in need'. It was suggested that the wording should be amended in the report to highlight that it referred to a national survey. Members were also advised that the senior management team had worked very hard to reach out to social workers to let them know that if they were under this pressure they should let management know this;
- Page 19, last paragraph, of the final report – there was a query regarding Police holding onto evidence. It was noted that this would only be done in order to strengthen the case against the perpetrators and secure a conviction. However, there were systems and processes in place to ensure that the courts and social workers could have this dialogue with the police;
- Page 5, paragraph 5 of the final report – the percentage of children subject to some form of early intervention referred to any form of contact, not just with social workers, such as at children's centres. The wording of the paragraph would be clarified to reflect this;
- Members were advised that a more modern IT system for social workers should be in place from April 2015. Although it was noted that it was unlikely that there would be a single system which could be logged into by all partners, the new system would improve the way that social workers worked;
- Members commented that they were looking forward to seeing the recommendations implemented and the impact that they would have on frontline procedures;
- It was noted that if any of the recommendations were rejected by the Executive Councillor, they would need to provide a reason;
- Members who took part in the Task and Finish Group commented that the amount of access they had to officers both within the county council and from outside organisations was appreciated. It was thought that Lincolnshire had very resilient social workers who worked exceptionally hard. It was also noted that the relationship between frontline social workers and senior managers was good, and that there was a two way challenge. This was a good basis for moving forward;
- Members were very impressed with the way that child protection was carried out in the authority, and there was a lot of good work underway. It was emphasised that the recommendations which were put forward were to support that work, and were not critical of work already being done;
- It was clarified that there was not a difference in the way that social workers were recruited, whether they were directly employed by the authority, or they were from an agency. They would all have the same checks carried out in

- relation to their qualifications. They all needed to be registered with the HCPC (Health and Care Professions Council);
- Members were advised that independent social workers in the past were used by the courts, but this practice had now reduced dramatically;
 - It was clarified that in relation to the 3700 open cases, one case related to one child. If there were cases for multiple children from the same family, each child would have its own case. Members were advised that the authority had a child level data approach, for example, if there were five children in a family, they could have five different sets of needs, or five different sets of parents and so there would be a separate case for each child;
 - Neglect was a big area of concern as there were some cases where the decision to intervene early could be made quickly, but others where the home situation was assessed as 'just good enough' and then the situation would change – sometimes for the better and sometimes for the worse. It was noted that there was no legal basis to be able to remove a child too early;
 - A working group had been set up which focused on signs of safety and embedding the signs of safety methodology into a multi-agency partnership approach;
 - In terms of obesity, it was known that there were a number of issues across the country in terms of whether obesity in children could be classed as neglect. The authority had not intervened in a child's life because they were obese. Members were advised that there were a number of interventions for families where the children were over-weight;
 - It was thought that the authority was good at dealing with cases of physical and sexual abuse, and they were dealt with quickly. However, neglect cases were much harder to deal with;
 - Members commented that they were reassured by the work which had been done during this review, and by how transparent the authority had been. It was felt that members would be able to reassure many parents that good work was being done;
 - The Scrutiny Officer was thanked for all her work in putting together the information collected and arranging the visits;
 - It was felt that an understanding of child development needed to be more widely embedded;
 - Officers commented that they were pleased by some of the things which had been said in response to the review, particularly in relation to the work of social workers. It was queried whether the Scrutiny Committee would be willing to write something for the social workers which reflected some of the comments made. It was agreed that a letter of thanks and commendation would be sent to all social workers from the Chairman on behalf of the Committee;
 - The focus of the task and finish group had had a positive impact on morale, as it made the staff feel that councillors cared about the work that they did. It was positive to get some good feedback;

RESOLVED

1. To approve the final report, with the amendments detailed above, into Frontline Social Workers and Safeguarding;
2. That the final report be submitted to the Executive for its consideration and response.

6 PROPOSAL TO EXPAND THE CAPACITY AT SCAMPTON POLLYPLATT PRIMARY SCHOOL (FINAL DECISION)

A report was received which invited the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee to consider a report on the proposal to expand the capacity at Scampton Pollyplatt Primary School (final decision) which was due to be considered by the Executive Councillor for Adult Care and Health Services, Children's Services on 27 June 2014.

Members were advised that the report concerned the permanent expansion of the capacity at Scampton Pollyplatt Primary School in order to accommodate the increasing number of primary age children in Scampton. The proposed implementation date was 1 September 2015. If approved, an additional purpose built classroom would be provided to ensure that the appropriate infrastructure and facilities were in place for the number of pupils on roll. It was noted that the proposal was to increase the published number of children from 20 children per year group to 30 children per year group.

It was reported that a number of objections had been received during the first element of the consultation, but these had been resolved, and no further objections were received in the second phase of the consultation.

The Committee was provided with the opportunity to ask questions to the officers present in relation to the information contained within the report and some of the points raised during discussion included the following:

- The demand for places at the school was very local and from the Scampton area rather than the surrounding villages. Officers were also aware of the additional pressure from the presence of the RAF at Scampton. It was believed that this proposal would manage this demand;
- Concerns were raised regarding the potential for an increase in workload for each class. Members were informed that although the proposal was to increase the size of each year group from 20 to 30 children this would necessarily mean an increase in class sizes and additional teaching resources would be put in place;
- The expected cost of the expansion was likely to be around £230k, and it was noted that there was a standard price per square metre for this type of project;
- In terms of consultation, officers consulted with a range of interested parties including the local councillor, and sometimes a response was received. It was noted that the consultation carried out by the authority was wider than just the statutory consultees;
- Members commented that they were pleased that the needs of the local community were able to be met;

- The new classroom would be placed so that it benefitted the whole school. The work would also include some additional remodelling of other areas of the existing school, to ensure that the building would meet the needs of the school;
- Members were in favour of constant improvements to schools, and it was essential that more modern elements could be added. It was important that the county council continued to modernise its facilities. It was also commented that more space within a school would always be useful;
- It was confirmed that the new classroom would replace the existing temporary structure;
- Concerns were raised regarding whether the school would be able to survive if the RAF decided to pull out of Scampton in the future. Members were advised that discussions had taken place with RAF Scampton, and it was believed that if that did happen, there would still be sufficient demand for school places as the RAF was likely to continue to house families in the village;
- In order to manage any fluctuations in pupil numbers in the future, it was planned that some of the smaller classrooms would be used as resource space;
- Members raised concerns regarding the implementation and importance of school travel plans, and it was felt that schools should be encouraged to put these into practice, and also needed to be taken into account when building new schools. Members were advised that officers were making much stronger links with the planning and highways departments and also had early engagement with highways schemes to determine what the pressures may be and what safety schemes may be required. It was also noted that a scrutiny review of the County Council's speed management policy had recently been completed, and school travel plans and use of safety features, such as school safety zones, around schools had been discussed and recommendations put forward;
- It was noted that it was not always feasible for children to walk to school;
- Members welcomed the involvement with highways and planning on school developments.

RESOLVED

1. That the Committee support the recommendation to the Executive Councillor set out in the report;
2. That the following comment be passed to the Executive Councillor:
 - The Committee welcomed the early involvement of the Highways and Planning Departments in the discussions regarding the impact of school expansions on school travel and parking to see where safety schemes may be required.

7 PROPOSAL TO EXPAND THE CAPACITY AT CRANWELL PRIMARY SCHOOL (FINAL DECISION)

A report was received which invited the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee to consider a report on the proposal to expand the capacity at Cranwell Primary School (Final Decision) which was due to be considered by the Executive Councillor Adult Care and Health Services, Children's Services on 27 June 2014.

It was reported that it was proposed to increase the number of children per year group from 45 to 60. Members were also advised that £600k of funding had been secured through an external bid to undertake this expansion. During the consultation process 7 responses had been received, all of which were fully supportive of the proposal.

Members of the Committee were provided with the opportunity to ask questions to the officers present in relation to the information contained within the report, and some of the points raised during discussion included the following:

- The mobile classrooms which were on the site were very old and would be replaced;
- Discussions were taking place with the RAF regarding the possibility of the school obtaining additional land to use as playing fields;
- Members felt that it was important that any new school buildings incorporated as many energy saving measures as possible. Officers advised that the aspiration was for a zero carbon impact, and were looking where, within reason, the buildings could have a positive impact on the environment and were working with the sustainability team. The school could look at obtaining Salix funding to put in their own energy saving features;
- It was suggested that for future schemes, it would be helpful if a map could be included with the report to show the location on the school site of the new building.

RESOLVED

1. That the Committee support the recommendation to the Executive Councillor set out in the report;
2. That no additional comments be passed to the Executive Councillor.

8 TRANSITION ARRANGEMENTS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE WITH SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

Consideration was given to a report which provided the Committee with an update on the arrangements which were in place to ensure that all young people with SEN had an annual Transitional Review from Year 9 onwards and that an appropriate Transition Plan was drawn up.

It was reported that in October 2013 the Local Government Ombudsman (LGO) found Lincolnshire County Council to be at fault for failing to ensure the effective transition arrangements for a young man who had Special Educational Needs (SEN).

The Children and Families Act would be implemented from 1 September 2014, and this legislation would remove both Statements of SEN and Learning Difficulty Assessment (LDA) and would introduce a single Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan for young people who require additional support above that which could be provided through the 'Local Offer'. All EHC Plans were required to be based on outcomes for young people, and this would introduce a far greater emphasis on forward planning and setting targets which would assist young people in fulfilling their aspirations. The SEND service was currently being re-structured to ensure it would meet the requirements of the legislative reforms. As a result officers would be much more closely linked to the individual plans for children and young people and would have a far greater involvement in transition planning than under existing SEN arrangements.

Members of the Committee were provided with the opportunity to ask questions to the officers present in relation to the information contained within the report, and some of the points raised during discussion included the following:

- It was requested that an update be brought to the Committee once the new legislation was in place;
- Under the new arrangements a case worker would be identified for each child, and would meet with the families;
- An extensive package of training was being put together for the new service;
- This would be a person centred plan approach, and work would also be going on with schools, and would be based around outcomes for the child. The plans would be driven by the child and their family;
- This would be a 0-25 years service, but some parts would be within Adult Services;
- This service would be provided by the local authority, regardless of whether the child attended a maintained school or an academy;
- Each of the recommendations within the Ombudsman's report had been dealt with quickly;
- All schools had a responsibility to provide an independent careers service;
- It was believed that there were approximately 250 young people with SEN who would be leaving school before September 2014 when the new legislation came into force. However, they had already been prioritised and targeted. There were approximately 500 young people who needed to be prioritised for the following September (2015);
- Members welcomed the changes which would come through in September;
- All cost analyses for the new service had been carried out, and most of the staff from the old service would be successful in gaining a position in the new service. Additional funding was being provided from government to help in this transition process;
- The protocol for the new service would be available before 1 September 2014;
- There had been extensive consultation, including with parents, on the new model.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

9 LINCOLNSHIRE SAFEGUARDING BOARDS SCRUTINY SUB-GROUP -
UPDATE

Consideration was given to a report which enabled the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee to have an overview of the activities of the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Boards Scrutiny Sub-Group.

Councillor R Oxby, Chairman of the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Boards Scrutiny Sub-Group provided an update for the Committee of the meeting held on 30 April 2014, and the following was highlighted:

- There was no Adults business on the agenda for this meeting as the Independent Chair of the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Adults Board and officers from Adult Care were attending another meeting in Birmingham;
- An update was received from the Independent Chair of the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Board (LCSB) on the work of the LCSB and its sub-groups;
- An update on the outcome of the recent serious case review on Family V was always received. It highlighted that the child's death was neither predictable nor preventable;
- An update was also received from the LCSB's Child Sexual Exploitation Officer who highlighted the work being undertaken in Lincolnshire to tackle this issue. It was noted that there was no evidence of any Lincolnshire based groups sexually exploiting children, however, children in Lincolnshire had been targeted by groups outside of Lincolnshire;
- The LCSB training programme was considered by the Sub-Group who were impressed with the number of courses offered to partner agencies;
- The next meeting of the Scrutiny Sub-Group was scheduled for 16 July 2014 and would consider the work being undertaken in Children's Services and Adult Social Care on autism and the first 4 questions from the Ofsted Framework.

RESOLVED

That the draft minutes of the meeting of the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Boards Scrutiny Sub-Group, held on 30 April 2014, be noted.

10 REVIEW OF THE METHOD OF APPOINTING LOCAL AUTHORITY
GOVERNORS ON MAINTAINED SCHOOLS

Consideration was given to a report which invited the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee to consider a report on the review of the method of appointing Local Authority Governors to maintained schools which was due to be considered by the Executive Councillor for Adult Care and Health Services, Children's Services on 27 June 2014.

It was reported that the method of appointing Local Authority Governors was being reviewed owing to the School Governance (Constitution) (England) Regulations 2012 that come into effect on 1 September 2014. The 2012 Regulations stated that Local

Authority Governors were nominated by the Local Authority but appointed by the Governing Body. The Local Authority could nominate any eligible person as a Local Authority Governor but it would be for the Governing Body to decide whether the nominee had the skills to contribute to the effective governance and success of the school, and also to decide if they met any other eligibility criteria the Governing Body had set.

Members of the Committee were provided with the opportunity to ask questions to the officers present in relation to the information contained within the report, and some of the points raised during discussion included the following:

- As a reduction of parent governors in schools was being seen, there was the potential for the level of challenge to be reduced over time;
- Members were not opposed to an increase in dialogue between the school and local authority in terms of the governing body;
- A lot of work was carried out by the Governors Support Service;
- The role of governors was to challenge and support the work of the school;
- It was suggested that the flow chart at appendix 1A of the report be amended, as it was believed that what was shown was incorrect as the governing body should not be able to submit nominations for Local Authority Governors.

RESOLVED

1. That the Committee supports the recommendation to the Executive Councillor as set out in the report;
2. That the following comment be passed to the Executive Councillor:
 - The flow chart in Appendix 1A was incorrect as it showed that the Governing Body could also submit nominations for a Local Authority Governor. However, according to the School Governance (Constitution) (England) Regulations 2012, a Local Authority Governor could only be nominated by the Local Authority. The Committee requested that the flow chart be amended to reflect the Regulations correctly.

11 PERFORMANCE - QUARTER 4 2013/14

Consideration was given to a report which provided the Committee with key performance information for Quarter 4 2013/14 that was relevant to the work of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee.

Members were provided with the opportunity to ask questions to the officers present in relation to the information contained within the report and some of the points raised during discussion included the following:

- CS012 – % privately fostered children visited within required timescales – this was still showing as below target, even though there had been a marginal improvement since the previous quarter. It was noted that the way that some of these targets were reported would be changing, but Lincolnshire was still one of the best authorities in the country in relation to this target;

- NI065 – Children becoming the subject of a Child Protection Plan for a second or subsequent time – concerns were raised regarding this indicator being behind target, members were informed that a piece of work had been requested to be carried out on re-referral rates;
- NI114 – Rate of permanent exclusions from school – it was recognised that the actual number of exclusions was small, but it was still higher than the national figure;
- The authority was seeing an increasing number of exclusions from primary schools. Following an external consultation, a number of recommendations were made, and some secondary schools suggested the setting up of exclusions panels. However, it was noted that some young people just needed some time away to go into a teaching and assessment centre rather than being permanently excluded;
- There was a whole work programme being built around exclusions, and there were concerns that the SEND reforms could increase the number of exclusions. It was suggested that this situation should be monitored closely;
- CS136 - % of pupils achieving 5 or more A*- G grade GCSEs (or equivalent) including English and Maths – there was a need to monitor the performance of this indicator closely in the future, due to the changes in examination entry policy in the past two years;
- NI102ii – Achievement gap between disadvantaged pupils and their peers (KS4) – officers were very aware of this issue, and in the next academic year would work with schools to address the issue in a more holistic way;
- CS117 - % 16-19 teenage mothers in EET – concerns were raised regarding the strategy for supporting young parents. Members were informed that all early help arrangements should be managed or commissioned through a single strategy in the future;
- There was a need for a very coherent strategy for the level of provision for children in primary school that were excluded;
- It was noted that in terms of children who were excluded, the authority did not need to place them outside of the county. Officers were still trying to determine whether the capacity at the Fortuna School was sufficient. It was noted that a report in relation to exclusions would be brought back to the meeting in October 2014;

(It was noted that Councillor N J Smith left the meeting at this point and did not return)

- CS178 – Young People Not in Education, Employment or Training – concerns were raised that this figure had increased to 3.74% which was slightly under target. However, members were informed that the authority continued to have legacy issues in relation to 18 year olds. There could be some fluctuations at this time of the year and it was expected that it would correct itself by the next quarter. If the figures continued to rise there may be a need to look at this in more detail;
- CS108 - % LAC (>20 days) with a PEP and PAF C24 – LAC absent from school – Members were informed that IT had not yet completed the necessary work in relation to the ePEP system, but work was ongoing. In relation to

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absences officers wanted to start work to identify non-attendance issues before a pattern was established;

- It was hoped that from September 2014 a new virtual headteacher would be in place;
- In relation to narrowing the gap, a programme board had been set up and it was queried whether it would be possible for any councillor participation with this? officers agreed to look into this
- Members were informed that the 'gap' had narrowed considerably at foundation stage, slightly at Key Stage 2, but more work was needed at Key Stage 4.

RESOLVED

That the performance information presented be noted.

12 CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2014

Consideration was given to a report which enabled the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee to consider its own work programme for the coming year.

It was noted that the July meeting was likely to be a long meeting, as there were eight items on the agenda, five of which were pre-decision scrutiny.

RESOLVED

1. That the content of the work programme be noted;
2. That the content of the Children's Services Forward Plan be noted.

The meeting closed at 1.00 pm

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

Report to:	Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee
Date:	25 July 2014
Subject:	Strategic Priorities for 16 – 19 (25) education and training for 2015/16

Summary:

This report sets out the current situation in relation to post 16 education and training and identifies the changes to the mix and balance of provision required to ensure full participation to the age of 18, achieve attainment targets for all students at age 19, and meet the skills requirements to support economic growth in Lincolnshire.

The report suggests and identifies the issues which will inform the priorities for the strategic commissioning of education and training provision for 16 – 18 year olds (25 for young people with an education, health and care plan).

This report invites the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee to make recommendations on the Strategic Priorities for 16 – 19 (25) education and training for 2015/16. The final report with the priorities defined is due to be considered by the Executive on 7 October 2014 and will be presented to the Scrutiny Committee on 12 September 2014.

Actions Required:

- (1) To consider the attached report and to make recommendations regarding the priorities for post 16 education and training for the academic year commencing September 2015.

1. Background

Under sections 15ZA and 18A of the Education Act 1996 (as inserted by the Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009) local authorities have a duty to secure sufficient suitable education and training opportunities to meet the reasonable needs of young people in their area, and to make available to young people age 19 and below support that will encourage, enable or assist them to participate in education or training (section 68, Education and Skills Act 2008).

The Education and Skills Act (ESA) 2008 also places a duty on all young people to participate in education and training. From 2015, they will be required to remain in learning until their 18th birthday.

The Education and Skills Act 2008 places duties on local authorities in relation to 16 and 17 year olds. These relate to Raising the Participation Age (RPA):

- A local authority in England must ensure that its functions (so far as they are capable of being so) are exercised so as to promote the effective participation in education or training of persons belonging to its areas to whom Part 1 of ESA 2008 applies, with a view to ensuring that those persons fulfil the duty to participate in education or training.
- A local authority in England must make arrangements to enable it to establish (so far as it is possible to do so) the identities of persons belonging to its area to whom Part 1 of the ESA applies but who are failing to fulfil the duty to participate in education or training.

Failure to set out the priorities and changes that are required to ensure suitable provision is available to meet the reasonable needs of all young people in the area will mean:

- Lincolnshire County Council will not deliver its statutory duties;
- Schools, Academies, Colleges and other providers will not have the information they require to enable them to develop their provision to respond to the needs of young people and employers.

In the academic year 2013-14 there have been some significant changes that impact on post 16 education, and there continue to be legislative and policy changes that will effect provision from 2015 onwards. These include:

- From 2015 young people will be required to participate in education or training until their 18th birthday. This means that in effect the current year 11, or those young people reaching the statutory school leaving age in June this year (2014), will be required to stay in education until their 18th birthday.
- Changes resulting from the Children and Families Act, which comes into force in September 2014; including the introduction of Education, Health and Care Plans for children and young people with special educational needs or disabilities (SEND) aged 0 – 25, and the entitlement to personal budgets for those who are eligible from 2015.
- Reforms to A levels from 2015 onwards, in particular 2 year linear A level programmes.
- Changes to the funding methodology for Apprenticeships which put the funding in the hands of the employer. Arrangements for funding traineeships are currently being consulted on and are likely to include similar recommendations.
- Potential reductions in post 16 funding from 2015, including the ending of transitional arrangements and possible cuts to funding rates.
- Increasing devolvement of funding and decision making to local enterprise partnerships, rather than directly from government or via local authorities.

Raising of the Participation Age (RPA)

- From September 2015 young people will be under a duty to remain in education until their 18th birthday. This in effect means that the young people currently in year 11, i.e. reaching the statutory school leaving age in June 2014, will be those who are affected. Although the duty to participate is only until their 18th birthday, young people should be encouraged to remain in education past that date, until they have completed their education programme.
- Participation rates for 16 year olds in Lincolnshire have been good, with rates at 94.5% comparing favourably with national and regional rates and those of our statistical neighbours. However, participation for 17 year olds is 8% lower, and a key challenge for 2015 will be to ensure that young people are retained in learning. This will require young people having the guidance and support to make the appropriate choices in terms of programmes of study, and that the appropriate provision is available and accessible.

Apprenticeships and Traineeships

- At the time of writing, insufficient data has been made available to enable a detailed analysis of performance in relation to apprenticeships and traineeships. Assuming this is provided in time by the Skills Funding Agency, this will be included in the September paper.
- The latest data received (November 2013) showed that the number of 16 – 18 year olds undertaking apprenticeships in Lincolnshire was continuing to grow, bucking the trend regionally and nationally where there is a decline. This is a result of our continued investment in Apprenticeship Champions, and the work undertaken in partnership with colleagues in the Economy and Culture Directorate and with the Employment and Skills Board to promote the apprenticeship route. Work has included: inset days for school staff based on employers' premises, including Siemens and Bakkavor; visits to schools; and employer events. Continued growth in apprenticeships will be required if the Government ambition, that 1 in 5 young people aged 16 – 18 will be undertaking an apprenticeship by 2020, is to be achieved.
- Traineeships are a new study programme introduced in September 2013, the aim of which is to prepare young people to develop employability skills. They include: work experience; English and maths; and other employability skills including curriculum vitae preparation, and all participants undertake a real or mock interview at the end of the programme. Traineeships have been slow to get off the ground, but are starting to gather momentum, and they will meet a gap in provision in terms of developing the employability skills of those young people who wish to undertake an apprenticeship, but who lack the skills to secure employment.
- It is not anticipated that the data, when received, will show any significant changes in the proportion of intermediate (level 2) and advanced (level 3) apprenticeships, or that there are many young people studying at level 4 (higher) or above from age 19 onwards. The lack of progression routes continues to be of concern in terms of: promoting the apprenticeship route as an alternative to the academic route; participation to the age of 18 (young

people will require level 3 programmes in which to participate following completion of level 2); and attainment of level 3 at age 19. Similarly, we do not anticipate there has been a significant shift in the skills mix of apprenticeships available in response to the skills priorities for Lincolnshire. Some initial discussions have been held with Bishop Grosseteste University around the potential to deliver higher level apprenticeships in health and social care, which is a sector priority for Lincolnshire.

- There is a potential risk that changes to the way apprenticeships are funded will impact on the financial viability of some apprenticeship providers and on the number of apprenticeships offered. Lincolnshire has a large proportion of small and medium enterprises (SMEs), some of whom are already reluctant to take apprentices due to the perceived additional bureaucracy, and it is likely that this will increase depending on the options chosen to implement the transfer of the funding to employers.

School sixth forms

- The challenges relating to the future viability of some of our smaller sixth forms as a result of funding changes, ending of transitional protection, increasing competition, and decline in the size of the cohort until 2020 were the subject of a recent paper to the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee, as was the impact of this on the range of curriculum offer. The predicted reduction in funding of £2.8 million for 2014 to school sixth forms in Lincolnshire proved to be accurate, and we estimate, based on current funding rates, that there will be a further reduction of at least £1.2 million in 2015/16. Early indications are that the Department for Education have not ruled out a reduction in the basic funding rate for 2015/16, which will of course have a further financial impact.
- All schools have been provided with information about their financial forecasts and officers have provided support to facilitate discussions regarding potential collaboration to mitigate some of the risks. There has been limited take up of the offer of support and other than the two formal arrangements that were already in place in Sleaford and North Hykeham, and some positive movement in Louth, there has been little progress towards further collaboration to date.
- The slight improvement in the numbers of students progressing from AS to A2 last year has plateaued again in 2013/14. 18% of young people fail to progress, which is unacceptably high. This will be critical in 2015 as the 2 year A level will be introduced, and AS will become a stand alone qualification. Students will not be able to progress from AS to the second year of A level, but will need to choose whether to undertake a stand-alone AS (considered to be little benefit in terms of employment), go directly onto a 2 year A level programme, or to complete AS followed by a 2 year A level programme.
- In terms of quality of provision, of the 38 schools currently with sixth forms, 14 have an Ofsted grade 1 (Outstanding), 18 are grade 2 (Good) and 6 are grade 3 (Satisfactory or Requiring Improvement, depending on the date of inspection).

General Further Education Colleges (GFE)

- At the time of writing, of the 4 main GFE colleges in Lincolnshire, one is judged by Ofsted to be outstanding, 2 Good, and one has recently been re-inspected due to a previous 'requiring improvement' grade. Learner number allocations for the four main colleges have remained reasonably steady with increases for New College Stamford and Boston College for 2014/15, and a reduction for Lincoln College. As numbers are allocated on a lagged basis (providers are funded for the numbers they delivered in the previous year), we can assume that Lincoln College failed to recruit to their target this year. Analysis last year showed that almost 1500 learners attend GFE colleges outside of Lincolnshire, including significant numbers attending Grimsby Institute for Further and Higher Education, College of West Anglia, Peterborough Regional College and North Lindsey College. We do not yet have data to show whether there have been any significant changes for 2013/14.
- Changes to adult funding and increasing restrictions regarding how the funding is used, together with the introduction of adult student loans, continue to create challenges for GFE colleges in terms of managing their overall budgets, which may potentially impact on provision for 16 – 18 year olds. Colleges are subject to the same funding mechanisms and rates for 16 – 18 year olds. However, due to their size they are able to offer a much wider choice of curriculum, including offering alternatives for students who decide they are unable to continue with their programme part way through the year, and they are better able to withstand the reductions in funding due to their ability to flex their offer to meet changing requirements. They are the main providers of vocational training, sub level 2 programmes, and apprenticeships.
- The reduction in the funding for young people in year 14 will present some challenges. The number of young people who do not continue to complete A2 following AS level remains worryingly high in Lincolnshire at 18%. Many of these young people then join a college to complete an alternative 2 year level 3 programme, which will mean colleges receive the lower rate of funding for their final year. The financial impact of this change has been capped for one year only and is unlikely to continue into 2015/16.
- The mix of curriculum in GFEs remains broadly similar to the previous year, although there has been a significant increase in enrolments onto work experience, reflecting the introduction of study programmes. There has also been a slight reduction in AS and A2 provision from 14% to 13%. It is unclear what decisions colleges might make in terms of continuity of delivery of A levels following the implementation of reform in 2015, but if they decide to discontinue delivery this can be more than adequately picked up by schools, where there is an over sufficiency. The GFE colleges have been proactive in supporting the Lincolnshire County Strategy for Post 16 Learners with Learning Difficulties and/or Disabilities (LLDD), and in 2013/14 only 6 young people with LLDD needed any form of residential provision in order to access appropriate education.
- From September 2013, GFE colleges have been able to recruit young people from age 14. It is not expected that any of the 4 Lincolnshire based colleges will do this from 2014 (other than Lincoln College through the

involvement with the University Technical College (UTC)), but 2 are considering this from 2015/16 for particular vocational pathways.

Further Education in Higher Education.

- From September 2012, Bishop Burton College has been operating from the Riseholme campus of Lincoln University to provide specialist programmes in agriculture and horticulture. They are building their own campus on land adjacent to the Lincolnshire Showground. There will be a phased transfer to the new site, and ties with Lincoln University will end completely by 2020.

Commercial and Charitable Providers (CCP)

- There have been some improvements in quality in terms of CCPs, with two of the three providers judged by Ofsted to be requiring improvement achieving grades of Good on re-inspection and the third judged to be making reasonable progress. These providers continue to be the only ones providing roll on roll off programmes with truly flexible start dates. Their unique learning environments and small group sizes mean they are able to meet the needs of some of the most vulnerable and disadvantaged learners who would find it difficult to manage on a large college campus.
- Many of them also offer apprenticeship programmes, so there are some concerns that changes to the way apprenticeships are funded may impact on future viability. The specialist nature of the provision and the narrower offer means that although there will be some budgetary challenges, these will not be to the same extent as those faced by our smaller sixth forms.
- The main independent specialist provider for LLDD based in Lincolnshire has adapted its learning offer to provide day placements rather than residential provision in line with the Lincolnshire Strategy for Post 16 Learners with Learning Difficulties and/or Disabilities.

Learners with Learning Difficulties and/or Disabilities (LLDD)

- The Lincolnshire Strategy for Post 16 Learners with Learning Difficulties and/or Disabilities was officially launched in September 2012, with the key priority being to develop local provision for Post 16 LLDD to meet their needs and aspirations for adult life within their own communities. A recent evaluation of the impact of the strategy is attached as Appendix 1, and shows that whilst there is still significant work to do, there has been substantial progress; meaning that Lincolnshire is well placed to meet the new education requirements for young people aged 16 – 25 with special educational needs or disabilities (SEND) required by the introduction of the Children and Families Act.
- Collaboration and partnership working have been key to the success of the strategy and demonstrate that this approach can be hugely successful in terms of improving the offer to Lincolnshire learners.
- September 2013 saw a substantial change in the funding arrangements for learners with high cost support needs, with placements requiring high levels of funding (over £10,000 in total) being funded and commissioned directly

by the Council. This has required a very close contractual relationship with colleges and other providers, including discussions and negotiations regarding individual learners, which is in contrast to the 'hands off' relationship the Council has in relation to all other aspects of post 16 education provision.

- In 2013/14 appropriate provision was secured for all high needs learners within budget.
- It is not anticipated that this budget, which is delegated from the Education Funding Agency, will increase in future years, but we do expect that it will come under increasing pressure as young people with increasingly complex needs come through the system, and as expectations are increased as a result of the introduction of Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plans as required in the Children and Families Act.
- Under the new legislation, young people can remain in continued education to the age of 25. This is not however, an entitlement, nor is there an expectation that young people with an EHC plan will remain in education until the age of 25. When deciding that an EHC plan is no longer required 'the local authority must have regard to whether the educational or training outcomes in the plan have been achieved'. (*Special educational needs and disability code of practice: 0 to 25 years*).
- Priorities for the coming year therefore need to be around preparing young people with SEND for adulthood. This will need to include development of study programmes that better prepare young people for adulthood including further development of supported internships, independent and supported living skills, communication, independent travel etc. As part of their funding agreements, colleges and providers will be expected to proactively work with other agencies to support transition of young people into appropriate outcomes.
- A key concern for colleges and other providers has been the timing of decisions by the Council in relation to agreeing placements and funding. The new legislation requires that all young people making the transition to post 16 education have an EHC plan completed by the end of March 2015 with the provision named by the end of June. Achievement of these timescales will be challenging, but will mean decisions are made earlier in the year.

Information Advice and Guidance

- The statutory duty to provide impartial and independent advice and guidance transferred from local authorities to schools in September 2012. From September 2013 the duty was extended to include pupils in schools in year 8 and in schools and colleges up to year 13.
- There continues to be potential and increasing tension in schools with sixth forms between the requirement to provide independent impartial guidance pre 16 and the need to retain learner numbers in the sixth form to maintain funding levels. The high numbers of students failing to progress from AS to A2 referred to earlier in this report suggests that AS is perhaps not the most appropriate programme for significant numbers of young people who have been accepted onto the courses. GFE colleges continue to report difficulties in gaining access to some schools to explain their offer.

- The local authority careers service works with young people aged 16 – 18 who are not in education, employment or training to fulfil the statutory duty to make available to young people support that will encourage, enable or assist them to participate in education or training. It also provides a traded service to schools, and early indications are that schools will continue to purchase similar levels to those in 2013/14.
- There are increasing options for young people pre 16, particularly from age 14 onwards, including, for example, UTCs and GFE colleges. In order to raise awareness of these opportunities, information is being prepared which will go to every parent of a year 6 pupil in September 2014 to enable them to consider the future opportunities which may impact on their choice of school for their child at year 7.
- The DfE published revised guidance for schools earlier this year, which reduced the emphasis on the provision of professional careers advice and increased the focus on schools developing links with employers. A 'Going for Growth' conference for school and provider staff was held in March this year by the 14 – 19 team in partnership with colleagues in Economy and Culture, to showcase some examples where partnerships with employers were working well. There will be a requirement to work with schools and employers to encourage and facilitate links and to ensure that where the links are made they are effective in both improving students' awareness of the opportunities available and the world of work. This will require the engagement of the Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership via the Employment and Skills Board.

Attainment and Closing the Gap

- Projected figures for 2013/14 show that attainment of level 2 by age 19 for Lincolnshire is 88.2%, an increase of 3% from 2012/13, and above the regional (85.2%) and national (87.3%) averages. Although there has been some improvement in attainment of level 3 at 19, from 56.2% in 2012/13 to projected 58.25% in 2013/14, performance continues to slip gradually compared to the national average (59.8%), although it is above that of the region (56.1%). Until 2009/10, performance in Lincolnshire was higher than that nationally, but since then increases in attainment have been slower than elsewhere.
- Progress in reducing the gap in attainment at both level 2 and level 3 at age 19 between those young people who have been eligible for free school meals (FSM) and the overall cohort is disappointing, and the gap remains well above the national average. The gap for level 2 has reduced by 3% to 22%, but nationally has reduced from 17% to 16%. For level 2 with English and maths, the gap remains at 35%, where nationally it remains at 27%. For level 3, the gap in Lincolnshire has actually increased by 1% to 33%, where nationally it has remained level at 24%. Given the impact of attainment of level 2 and level 3 on an individual's future employment and potential earnings, closing the gap continues to be a high priority for Lincolnshire. The introduction of free meals in FE for those who are eligible should make an impact, as for the first time colleges and other providers will have information regarding the identity of the individuals concerned and will therefore be able to target support more effectively.

- The requirement to include English and maths in study programmes should start to address the gap in attainment at level 2 with English and maths, but data will not be available to assess this until next year.
- The lack of apprenticeship opportunities at level 3, the high proportion of young people leaving school at the end of year 12 and the higher number of young people not in education, employment or training at the age of 17 are all contributory factors to the attainment of level 3 at age 19.

Curriculum

- The strategic analysis for this year includes an analysis of provision by sector tier in comparison with the skills priorities identified in the growth plan for Lincolnshire. The analysis shows little change to the vocational offer with delivery of engineering, construction and IT at the same level as last year, albeit not at sufficient levels to meet future potential demand, and there has been a reduction in retail of 2% and leisure and tourism of 3%, both of which are skills priorities.
- The majority of vocational training takes place in our GFE colleges who tailor their provision for 16 – 19 year olds to meet student demand rather than sector priorities. Work has been undertaken to raise awareness and stimulate demand for courses in the priority sectors in Lincolnshire through the Going for Growth conference mentioned earlier, the publication of 'Aspirations' three times a year, and the various events organised by the Apprentice Champions. This will remain a priority for the Employment and Skills Board (ESB) and the Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership (GLLEP).
- Work readiness and employability skills are also a priority for the ESB and GLLEP, and there is evidence that colleges have adjusted their curriculum to address this with an increase of enrolments on work experience of 9%. This is a direct result of the introduction of Study Programmes, including traineeships and supported internships, in September 2013.
- It is too early to determine the impact of this on youth employment in Lincolnshire, where the latest figures show that 16 – 25 year olds make up 28% of the total unemployed in Lincolnshire compared to 24% nationally. Given that Lincolnshire has a lower than average proportion of 16 – 25 year olds in the population this is a huge issue.
- Participation levels for 16 and 17 year olds compare well with the national and regional averages and therefore there are questions about the appropriateness of the curriculum offer in terms of preparing young people for work. This includes the advice and guidance young people receive; the vocational offer; Apprenticeship progression routes; and attainment of level 2 with English and maths and of level 3.

Provision

- The challenges facing providers in Lincolnshire, particularly those relating to school sixth forms, have been discussed at length following an earlier report and are re-iterated in this paper. The financial challenges are likely to impact increasingly on colleges and other providers.

- National policy is that all schools and providers are autonomous organisations, free to set their own curriculum (taking into account the priorities set by the local authority) and that they are free from interference from the local authority. Whilst the local authority can encourage groups of schools and providers to develop solutions to address the over provision, such as collaborative and partnership development, only the schools and providers themselves can effect change.
- The solution could be for post 16 providers in an area (schools sixth forms and colleges) to collaborate in a way that means they behave like a single large sixth form college, in that there is one curriculum offer and a single enrolment process. This could be achieved by developing formal structures whereby one institution in an area becomes the main funding and admissions authority, with the students and associated funding directed to other institutions where the particular curriculum a student requires is available. This would reduce or eliminate duplication of curriculum, reduce the number of small class sizes, make more efficient use of funding, permit staff savings, reduce the pressure for partiality in careers guidance (therefore reducing the drop out at the end of year 12) and would mean learners who changed their minds early in the academic year could access alternative courses without having to wait until the following year. Such arrangements would need to include colleges and their satellite sites, where they exist, due to the breadth of their vocational offer.
- However, there is no appetite for such formal arrangements at the present time, and therefore the next best solution would be to put informal arrangements in place that would achieve some of the benefits described. Priority would be areas where there are several small sixth forms, and in Louth, some early work is taking place to create a single curriculum offer for the whole town. The disadvantages of this approach are the informal nature of the arrangements which can lead to them breaking down (as demonstrated in Sleaford for example where one school is no longer part of the collaborative partnership) and discussions with groups of schools some areas have become bogged down in detail about timetabling, quality assurance etc.

Student finance

- It continues to be difficult to evaluate the impact of student finance on participation and attainment in post 16 education. The continuing and growing gap in attainment between young people who have been or are eligible for free school meals suggests that this is an issue.
- We have commissioned Touchstone to undertake a survey of young people to find out what the barriers are in relation to participation and attainment in post 16 learning, and whether finance has an impact on the choices young people make. The results are not available as yet, but we would hope to include in the report in September.

2. Conclusion

- There are a number of successes in relation to post 16 education in Lincolnshire, including the low levels of NEET, high participation at age 16, development of provision for LLDD, and growth in the number of Apprenticeships.
- There are, however, continuing challenges including: ensuring the mix and balance of provision is appropriate to the needs of the local economy in terms of skills; progression routes for those choosing apprenticeships; participation at age 17 (including levels of drop out from school sixth form provision); provision of impartial careers advice and guidance; attainment of level 3 at age 19; and closing the gap.
- The biggest challenge is securing the continued viability of school sixth forms and ensuring a continued broad curriculum for the future. September 2015 is when the impact of the changes to funding and the decline in the size of the cohort will have the greatest impact. Working together will help address these issues.

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	Evaluation of Lincolnshire Local Authority's Strategy for Post-16 Learners with Learning Difficulties and/or Disabilities – March 2014

5. Background Papers

Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning (ASCL) Act 2009

www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2009/22/contents

Education and Skills Act 2008

www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2008/25/contents

Children and Families Act 2014

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2014/6/contents/enacted>

Special educational needs and disability code of practice: 0 to 25 years

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/send-code-of-practice-0-to-25>

Education Act 2011

www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/21/contents/enacted

Careers guidance and inspiration for young people in schools

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/careers-guidance-for-young-people-in-schools>

Apprenticeship funding reform in England: payment mechanisms and funding principles

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/apprenticeship-funding-reform-in-england-payment-mechanisms-and-funding-principles>

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**Evaluation of Lincolnshire Local Authority's Strategy for
Post-16 Learners with Learning Difficulties and/or
Disabilities**

Carol Tennyson

March 2014

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Executive Summary

Lincolnshire Local Authority has much to celebrate in terms of the success it has had in addressing the issues highlighted in the 2010/2011 review of its post-16 provision for young people with learning difficulties and/or disabilities (LDD). Significant progress has been made in addressing the recommendations within the review report. All the stakeholders interviewed as part of this evaluation were very positive about the progress that has been made, and several expressed the view that Lincolnshire Local Authority is at the spearhead of developments nationally in this area of work.

The appointment of a co-ordinator, line-managed by the Head of Service, to 'drive' the development and implementation of a new strategy for post-16 learners with LDD has been particularly successful. The financial support the Local Authority has given to support the developments has also contributed greatly to the success of the strategy.

The establishment of a steering group and local groups has resulted in good progress being made in networking and developing positive working relationships between providers. This in turn has enabled providers to work together and to make successful bids for funding to develop new provision and programmes. A much wider range of educational provision is now available within the county and this is enabling the needs of many more young people with LDD to be met locally than has previously been the case.

Of key importance for the future, is the continuation of the hard work being carried out to establish links with Adult Social Care and Health, necessary for the planning and commissioning of jointly funded provision. It is essential to recognise that education alone cannot meet all the needs of young people over the age of 16 who have LDD, particularly those who have very complex needs. The co-ordinator is continuing her efforts to secure the involvement of Adult Social Care and Health and progress is being made. The requirements of the Children and Families Bill which highlight the need for joint working between agencies should help to push this work forward.

Although considerable progress has been made in helping young people make a positive transition from school, there needs to be a continuing focus on ensuring that data relating to learners is captured and disseminated to those who need it, that young people and their parents/carers are helped to understand the options available to them, particularly through the use of personal budgets to purchase individually tailored 'packages' of provision, and that decisions about post-16 placements are made early enough to enable smooth transitions to be made to the next placement. Similarly, there needs to be a continuing focus on the transition of young people with LDD from colleges to ensure that they progress to placements that

will meet their ongoing needs and to avoid the potential for them to become part of the NEET (not in employment, education or training) cohort.

More work is also needed to ensure there is sufficient multi-agency funded provision to meet the needs of all young people with Id/d across the county, particularly those who have very complex needs, 'extreme' autism and those who have behavioural, emotional and social difficulties. Work also needs to continue to ensure that the vocational programmes offered by colleges match the employment opportunities available and that there are sufficient supported internships to help learners to progress to employment.

Lincolnshire Local Authority should be commended for its determination to address the issues raised in the 2010/2011 review of its post-16 provision for young people with Id/d and congratulated on the considerable success it has had to date in developing and implementing its strategy for post-16 learners with Id/d. Many young people are already benefiting from the improvements that have come about as a result of the strategy. All the hard work that has been undertaken to plan and implement the strategy has created a firm foundation on which to build for the future. The Local Authority is now well placed to move forward with the next phase of the implementation of its post-16 strategy for young people with Id/d. The recommendations in this evaluation report will, it is hoped, highlight areas where further work will lead to even greater success in meeting the needs of young people with Id/d in Lincolnshire.

Introduction

Lincolnshire's Strategy for Post 16 Learners with Learning Difficulties and/or Disabilities was designed to address the issues identified and build upon the recommendations made in reviews that were undertaken in 2010 -2011 of the County's provision for young people with ld/d in its schools and colleges.

The purpose of this evaluation is to assess the progress that has been made in developing and implementing the strategy and to identify areas that require further development.

The Review of Post-16 Provision for Learners with Learning Difficulties and/or Disabilities (LLDD) in Lincolnshire

National and local context

The review of Lincolnshire's post-16 provision for young people with ld/d was undertaken at a time when there was a growing realisation nationally that current provision for young people with ld/d was not meeting their needs. The Government's Green Paper, '*Support and aspiration: A new approach to special educational needs and disability*' which was published in March 2011 highlighted the fact that children and young people with special educational needs were not achieving as well as they could and that changes were needed to ensure that education providers enabled young people with ld/d to have 'wider opportunities and support to make the most of their future and give them the best chance of a fulfilling adulthood with employment, good health and independence'.

Similar concerns about provision for young people with ld/d were raised by Ofsted in its report, '*Progression for Post 16 learners with Learning Difficulties and/or Disabilities*' which was published in August 2011. One of the main findings in the report was that 'Too few young people with ld/d progress from school to complete programmes of learning in post-16 settings which develop greater independence, lead to further study, supported or open employment, or provide skills for independence.' In addition, the report stated that there was insufficient provision available locally to meet the needs of young people with the most significant needs. This resulted in them having to move to residential educational provision away from their families and the report concluded that this practice only 'postponed the issues' as the young people still required specialist provision on their return to their home area.

The review was also taken at a time when the government was emphasising the need for cost savings. For example, the National Audit Office's report '*Oversight of Special Education for Young People Aged 16-25*' which was published in November 2011 identified that when they left school, young people with ld/d were far more likely to be without employment, education or training than young people who did not have ld/d. The report pointed out the significant savings that could be made if young people with ld/d were taught the skills they need to live as independently as possible and to secure employment appropriate to their abilities rather than spend their adult lives being supported financially by the state.

Within Lincolnshire the decision to undertake a review of the post-16 provision available for young people with ld/d was determined partly by the authority's decision to undertake a review of provision within its special schools and mainstream units for children with special educational needs. However, one of the main drivers for the review of post-16 provision was the knowledge that there would be a reduction in the funding allocated by the Young People's Learning Agency (YPLA) to the authority for

funding places for young people with ld/d at Independent Specialist Providers (ISPs) which would necessitate a cut in the budget for placements at ISPs of £2.5 million pounds over the next two years.

Recommendations of the review of post-16 provision for learners with learning difficulties and/or disabilities:

- Develop a countywide strategy to meet the on-going education, care and independence and preparation for employment needs of young people aged 16 – 25 for whom the Local Authority has responsibility
- Establish a working group led by a suitably experienced and knowledgeable officer to lead on the development of the county strategy and delivery of an action plan designed to implement the review of Post-16 Provision
- Develop a baseline of information from which future trends can be identified
- Effectively respond to the needs of learners with learning difficulties and/or disabilities (16-19) and to reduce the need for residential placements with Independent Specialist Providers
- Through dialogue with all Principals of Further Education Colleges and Independent Providers in the county, to continue to secure their on-going participation in and commitment to the Local Authority's strategy in response to the Review of Post-16 Provision for Learners with Learning Difficulties and/or Disabilities and subsequent Action Plan.
- Take full advantage of the facilities and services offered by Independent Training Providers and voluntary organisations in the community, as partners in the delivery of a relevant and personalised approach to young people's learning. Where possible these providers should be encouraged and supported to widen their offer to a larger group of learners
- Continue discussions with Linkage College to identify common ground in terms of implementing the outcomes of the Review of Post-16 Provision for Learners with Learning Difficulties and/or Disabilities, and to establish particular contributions which might be made by Independent Specialist Providers
- Build the capacity, competence and confidence of mainstream educational settings to provide for greater numbers of children and young people with special educational needs

- Secure a more collaborative approach to meeting the special educational needs of children and young people in the districts by encouraging greater partnership working between special schools, special schools and mainstream schools and special schools and the further education and training provider sector.

Progress to Date in Developing and Implementing Lincolnshire Local Authority's Strategy for Post 16 Learners with Learning Difficulties and/or Disabilities

To address the issues identified and the recommendations made in the Review of Post-16 Provision for Learners with Learning Difficulties and/or Disabilities (LLDD) in Lincolnshire the Local Authority appointed a Programme Co-ordinator to lead the development of the County's Strategy for Post-16 Provision for Learners with Learning Difficulties and/or Disabilities. The co-ordinator took up her appointment in October 2011 and was line managed by the Head of Service.

The strategy developed by the co-ordinator to address the issues highlighted in the review has provided a useful framework for developments across the county. A great deal of work has been undertaken and considerable progress has been made in addressing all the recommendations made in the review and in improving the provision available within the county for young people with learning difficulties and/or disabilities. Without exception, all the stakeholders who were interviewed as part of this evaluation stated their support for the strategy and expressed the view that the co-ordinator, with the support of the Head of Service, had 'moved mountains' since her appointment. The Local Authority is to be congratulated for the commitment it has demonstrated in taking forward this area of work to ensure that young people with learning difficulties and/or disabilities within Lincolnshire have a range of provision to meet their needs within the county when they reach the age of 16.

The focus of much of the initial work was to establish a clear picture of the provision available for post-16 learners with ld/d across the county and to identify new provision that was needed. Careful thought and planning has gone into trying to ensure that the 'right' provision has been developed in the 'right' places to meet the needs of young people across all parts of the county. This hard work is now bearing fruit and young people are benefiting from a wider range of provision and learning programmes that should enable them to develop skills that will enhance their adult lives. Although it is too early to be able to evaluate the strategy in terms of its impact on young people's achievements and the benefits it has given them in their adult lives, it is a good time to assess the progress that has been made to date in developing and implementing the strategy. This assessment of progress to date is designed to highlight successes in developing and implementing the strategy and to identify areas where further work is needed. This assessment should then enable the Local Authority to plan the next steps in taking the work forward.

The progress that has been made in developing and implementing the county's strategy for post-16 provision for young people with learning difficulties and/or disabilities is summarised below under the eight priorities listed in the strategic plan.

Priority 1: To establish a clear working relationship between the range of agencies involved with funding/commissioning of services and provision for young people aged 16-25 who have a learning difficulty and/or disability, leading to creative joint planning and funding of the most appropriate provision for each individual to enable them to make the transition to adult life in their own community

Good progress has been made in developing positive working relationships between educational providers within the county. The local groups established in each district of the county by the co-ordinator have worked well and have led to better communication, networking and sharing of good practice between providers. Providers feel that they are now able to 'speak with one voice' and this has resulted in them being able to make joint bids for funding for projects. The amount of time and work that has been needed to establish these groups should not be underestimated and all the stakeholders interviewed as part of the evaluation praised the co-ordinator for her commitment to the establishment of the groups and her continuing support for their work. These groups are now a major asset within the county and should prove to be particularly useful for planning and reviewing the Local Authority's provision for post-16 young people with learning difficulties and/or disabilities in the future.

There is still work to be done in establishing clear working relationships with agencies outside education. The coordinator continues to work hard to secure the involvement of these agencies in the planning of the county's post-16 provision for young people with learning difficulties and/or disabilities, particularly the involvement of Adult Social Care and Health in relation to their role at the point when young people are making the transition from school to college and again when they are making the transition from college. It appears that responsibility for the transition process is still perceived to lie mainly with education. The stakeholders interviewed as part of this evaluation were of the view that turnover of staff and changes in roles of personnel within Adult Social Care and Health combined with budget and time constraints could be the main causes of slow progress in this area.

As it is very likely that many of the young people who are the focus of this strategy will need support from both Adult Social Care and Health in the future, it is crucial that these agencies work jointly with education to identify and plan the provision that will be needed and that they are actively involved at an early stage in the planning of the young person's transition to post-16 provision. This joint working will be even more important if the requirements of the new legislation (Children and Families Bill) are to be met, particularly in relation to Education, Health and Care plans.

Priority 2: To establish a system of data capture and analysis which indicates projected needs as early as possible when a young person is making a transition from one provider to another up until the age of 25, allowing maximum opportunity for putting appropriate resources in place

The stakeholders interviewed as part of this evaluation were of the opinion that this is an area that requires further work. They are of the view that although individual providers may have reliable data it is not clear that the Local Authority has the 'big picture' it needs in order to plan provision effectively.

It appears that the positive working relationships that have been formed within the local groups have led to sharing of data between providers. For example, the closer working relationships between schools and colleges have enabled them to share data about the young people who will be leaving school and making the transition to college and to plan provision to meet their needs.

However, several stakeholders highlighted the reluctance of some providers to share data and one stated that they have to 'drag information from whoever they can'. There appears to be significant differences between schools in terms of the review process and the timely production of reports to inform the transition process. In some, the review process works well and the information is available in good time. However, in others, reviews appear to be delayed and decisions about future placements are made very late causing stress and anxiety for the young people and their parents. It also appears that some young people start post-16 programmes without the provider having much information about their needs. In some cases learners' 139a reports are not received by the provider for some time after the commencement of the learners' placements.

The creation of transition co-ordinators posts to address these issues is now having a positive impact but there is concern about what will happen if these temporary posts are not continued.

A further issue appears to be the lack of information about young people who are leaving colleges. Although colleges are now required to provide destination data for their leavers, the Welfare to Work team reported that they are 'picking up young people who have been sitting at home for months'. This is of concern both in terms of the welfare of the young people themselves and also in terms of the Local Authority being able to identify the number of young people who are not in employment, education or training (NEET).

Priority 3: To develop a clear knowledge of the provision available to post-16 LLDD within each local area including the offer from colleges, schools, independent training providers, social care, health and the voluntary and community sector and develop a system to share this information in the most appropriate way with the young person, their family/carers and other professional and interested parties involved in supporting the young person

A great deal of work has been done over the past two years to establish a clear picture of the provision that is available across the county for post-16 learners with learning difficulties and/or disabilities. The local groups have again been very useful in facilitating this work. Many of the stakeholders interviewed as part of the evaluation commented that there is now a greater understanding amongst providers of the range programmes each of them offers and the nature of their specialisms. However, this 'picture' of provision consists mainly of educational provision together with that provided by the voluntary and community sector. There still needs to be greater clarity about the provision and services that are provided by Adult Social Care and Health.

The directory of provision that has been produced in order to share information about the provision available with parents/carers, young people and professionals appears to have been well received. Parents are positive about the fact that it is produced as a paper document whereas some professionals feel that it should be web-based so that the information can be updated as and when necessary. There is some concern that the information about provision might not be getting to everyone who needs it as some interviewees felt that some advisers are still not aware of all the provision available and the nature of this provision eg day only / residential. It also appears that the information may not be reaching all young people as some providers stated that applicants were not applying for places as a result of seeing the provision in the directory.

Priority 4: To plan and develop the range and capacity of provision across Lincolnshire to meet the identified needs and aspirations of post-16 lldd within their local area, ensuring the learner can access the most appropriate provision and receive the required support and guidance to make the placement successful

A great deal of progress has been made in extending the range of post-16 provision available for young people with learning difficulties and/or disabilities. The early groundwork to establish a picture of the provision available across the county and to identify the gaps where young people's needs could not be met within existing post-16 provision has proved invaluable in providing a firm foundation for planning. The work undertaken by the local groups and the opportunities they have been given by the Local Authority to bid for development funding (£600,000 over two years) have

been particularly positive. In addition, the Local Authority's success in securing approximately £2.75 million of funding from the Demographic Growth Capital Fund has further supported the development work. One interviewee commented that the strategy is 'the most successful thing the authority has ever done'. Members of the local groups have appreciated the opportunity to shape the post-16 provision and feel that a key element of their success in securing funding has been the strength of their joint bids.

The range of new provision that has been developed as part of the strategy is particularly impressive and includes the following:

- Development of the Inglelow Centre at Boston College which provides vocational learning opportunities and entrepreneurial activities including Inglelow cafe, an ebay shop and horticultural facilities;
- Enterprise facilities and the development of Supported Internship Study Programmes at Lincoln College;
- Enhanced personal care facilities at Grantham College
- New accommodation and provision for learners with complex medical needs at New College, Stamford (in partnership with Bourne Willoughby and Spalding Garth Schools);
- Growing Futures (development of a community hub in which space within the building and grounds is leased by a number of organisations including Lincoln College, the Pelican Trust, Mencap and Action for Children). A number of enterprise activities such as a cafe, photography and printing, a soapy car wash and Deals on Wheels (a service for renovating anything that has wheels) are available for learners and there is also a hydrotherapy pool;
- Lyte Bytes Internet Cafe and photography / printing enterprise which provides joint education and training facilities for young people at Grantham College, Earlesfield YPLP and Sandon School in association with the Jubilee Life Centre Charitable Trust;
- Horticultural enterprise for learners at Gainsborough College, Aegir School, Hill Holt Wood and YASIG;
- A high street shop in Stamford (a collaborative project between New College Stamford, Remploy, the Willoughby School, Queen Eleanor School and SENSE) to provide work placements and supported internships;
- Partnership arrangement to provide and share work experience placements for learners at Linkage College, Boston College, the Wolds Federation and Joseph Banks Charitable Trust. Learners can access work placements at each of the sites which enables them to progress from fully supported placements to less sheltered environments and helps them to learn how to travel to work. The partnership has also established a Young Enterprise Board;
- Development of the Pheasantry as a joint project between St Francis School and Grantham College to provide learning opportunities for young people who

have very complex physical, personal care and medical needs and require highly specialised facilities and support.

The extended range of provision that is now available in Lincolnshire for young people with Id/d has resulted in the needs of more of them being able to be met within their local areas. This in turn has enabled the Local Authority to reduce its spending on high cost learners at independent specialist providers and to focus its funding on the development of provision that will meet a wider range of needs both now and in the future. The financial impact that the developments have had can be seen from the fact that the authority's projected costs for high cost learners at ISPs for 2010/2011 were in excess of £8 million and these reduced to approximately £2 million for 2012/13 (which included £600,000 for supported placements in general further education colleges), and in 2013/14 only six learners have been funded for part or full time residential provision.

Although a great deal of progress has been made in developing provision it appears that there is still more to do. There is concern that more multi-agency funded provision is needed in some areas of the county for young people who have very complex and profound difficulties and for those who have 'extreme' autism. There is also a concern that there is insufficient provision for young people who have behavioural, emotional and/or social difficulties (BESD). Several interviewees highlighted the need for more supported internships and the need for providers to offer provision at smaller 'satellite' sites to reduce the long commutes that are undertaken by some learners.

Although work based training providers accept learners who have Id/d it does not appear that there is any financial incentive for them to do so as they are not able to claim funding for the additional support many of them need. A further difficulty for work based training providers appears to be the Education Funding Agency's funding arrangements whereby learners with learning difficulties and/or disabilities are funded (as are all other learners) on the basis of 600 hours on a full-time programme when the learners often need additional time (as a result of their learning difficulties and/or disabilities) to reach their potential and achieve successful outcomes.

Although some progress appears to have been made in relation to supported internships, most of the stakeholders interviewed are of the opinion that there is still work to do. There is a perception that employers do not understand supported internships and finance for both supported internships and work experience is reported to be a problem for schools. There is also concern that individual providers are spending a lot of time negotiating placements for learners and in developing procedures and protocols for such things as applications and health and safety requirements. Duplication of effort could be avoided, and as a result much time saved, if the Local Authority took the lead in developing a working partnership with

the 'big' employers in the county to produce procedures and protocols that could be used by all providers.

The 'demise' of the Connexions service appears to have had a significant impact on this area of work and several interviewees were concerned that some young people had been given little or the wrong advice about the provision available for them. It is clear that the very helpful directory of provision that has been developed cannot itself fill the gap left by the demise of the Connexions service and that young people need high quality advice and guidance about the provision that is available to them. The appointment of three transition officers has been a very positive step in addressing this issue and there is clear evidence that their work is enabling young people to progress from school to post-16 placements that are appropriate for their needs. However, there is concern about what will happen if these temporary posts are not made permanent.

A major concern expressed by a number of interviewees is young people's transition from colleges. Adult Social Care provision is not perceived to be fully meeting needs and there is concern that some learners are quickly losing the skills they have developed at college as a result of this. There is also concern that responsibility for this transition often rests with individual education providers and there is insufficient help available to enable young people and their parents/carers to understand how they can use a personal budget to buy a 'package' of provision that is tailored to the individual needs of the learner. Although the involvement of the Welfare To Work Team in helping young people progress from colleges is seen as very positive and there is clear evidence that they are having significant success in placing young people into employment, there are concerns that they are unable to meet the demand for their service with the resources currently available to them.

Priority 5: To ensure that post-16 learning opportunities prepare young people for their future lives in for example: sheltered/supported employment, volunteering, independent/supported living or day/residential care. This should be achieved through individual learning programmes incorporating measurable outcomes focused on retention, achievement and destination, captured and analysed through a robust, reliable information management system

A major advantage of the new provision that has been developed is that providers are now able to offer more opportunities for learners to learn skills that are relevant to their future lives in real environments. Most of the stakeholders who were interviewed as part of the evaluation are of the opinion that 'wheels are slowly turning' and that this area of work is in the early stages of development but 'positive moves' are being made. It is perhaps inevitable that less progress has been made in

relation to this priority as the new provision had to be put in place before new programmes could be implemented.

There are, however, concerns that general further education providers have reduced the provision they have previously made at entry levels 1-3. There are also concerns that programmes within post-16 provision are not well-matched to the range of employment opportunities in the area. For example, colleges are offering programmes such as small animal care but the Welfare to Work team are aware that there are few employment opportunities available to young people with Id/d in this field.

The introduction of study programmes is perceived to be positive by many of the stakeholders who stated that they are now able to develop programmes that are very specific to individual learners rather than having to enter them, as they had previously had to do, for qualification driven programmes that did not meet the learners' needs. Many of the stakeholders expressed their appreciation of the work the co-ordinator has done to raise awareness of study programmes. The review template she has developed to reflect the stages in the RARPA (Recognising and Recording Progress and Achievement) process which is at the heart of study programmes is considered to be helpful and is expected to lead to greater consistency in reviewing and recording learners' progress and providing better information about the progress learners have made.

Stakeholders felt that greater involvement from ASC/Health would have a positive impact on this area of work. Their knowledge and experience of, for example, supported living environments would enable them to influence the development of study programmes to ensure that the programmes would equip young people with the skills they need for such environments.

Priority 6: To undertake a skills audit to identify the range, nature and location of existing skills. Implement a programme of training and development and a skills sharing strategy across the county to ensure that providers are able to meet the needs of young people within Lincolnshire

The audit of staff skills provided very useful information about staff who have specialist skills and experience that they could share with other staff across the county. It also highlighted areas of need where training would be required to support the implementation of the strategy.

Many of the stakeholders interviewed as part of the evaluation were very positive about the training that had been provided. They stated that the meetings of the local groups had been very useful for sharing information and keeping up to date with national and local developments. They also welcomed the opportunities there had been to share skills such as Makaton signing between staff in schools and colleges.

The TSI (Training in Systematic Instruction) training was particularly valued and several stakeholders gave examples of how young people had made significant progress in developing skills as a result of this method of training. The RARPA training was also viewed positively and thought to be useful in helping staff understand how to use the RARPA process within study programmes.

The financial support that has been given by the Local Authority and CfBT to individual staff has been much appreciated. For example, a member of college staff has been supported financially to undertake a post-graduate degree in autism to help the college develop its provision to meet the needs of these learners. Financial support has also been very helpful in enabling a college to release a member of support staff to go into a special school for one day per week for two terms to work with learners who will be progressing from the school to the college to facilitate their transition.

Priority 7: To create appropriate channels for sharing information between providers and other agencies and develop clear, transparent, timely lines of communication with young people, their families and/or carers

The local groups have proved to offer a particularly effective means of sharing information particularly in the way they have enabled providers to develop the positive working relationships which are necessary for this. Several stakeholders interviewed as part of the evaluation stated their belief that there are now 'firmer foundations' for sharing information than there has been previously.

However, there are still concerns about the reluctance of some providers to share information. Although competition between providers and the new funding process were thought to be reasons why it might be difficult to get information, it is unlikely that these are the only factors. One stakeholder stated that providers 'miss Connexions dreadfully' and it may be that there is still a gap to be filled in terms of the role of Connexions officers in passing on information.

The issue of decisions about a young person's next placement after school being made very late was raised as a particular concern by several stakeholders. The lateness of these decisions is particularly stressful for young people and their parents and/or carers and impacts negatively on the transition process. Although some decisions appear to be delayed as a result of difficulties in completing reviews in schools, the main reason for late decisions appears to be related to funding. Parents are not clear about the criteria that are used to decide whether or not a young person is eligible for educational funding and similarly whether or not they are eligible for support from Adult Social Care and/or the Health Authority. Joint planning and commissioning of provision through Education, Adult Social Care and Health needs to be developed fully. A further factor may be the lack of a brokerage service that works with individual young people and their families/carers to make

them aware of the post-16 provision that is available and to help them create a 'package' of provision that is carefully matched to the needs of the young person and his/her family. Difficulties may also be a consequence of the fact that the practice of using personal budgets to purchase such a 'package' appears to be very underdeveloped.

Priority 8: To ensure that the Local Authority continues to meet its legal obligations in relation to 16-25 provision for LLDD

Much of the work that has been undertaken in relation to the planning and implementation of the Local Authority's strategy for post-16 provision for young people with Id/d has helped the authority to respond to government initiatives and recommendations. It is also helping the Local Authority to take positive steps towards being able to meet the requirements of new legislation within the Children and Families Bill which will come into force in September 2014.

The issues that the Authority has had to face in relation to its post-16 provision for lldd are common to many other local authorities across the country. Several of the stakeholders interviewed as part of the evaluation were of the opinion that Lincolnshire Local Authority is at the 'spearhead' of developments in this area of work.

The appointment of a co-ordinator to 'drive' the development of the new strategy and the provision of financial support for its implementation have contributed very significantly to the progress that has been made to date. The challenge now for the Local Authority is to build upon this progress to address the issues that have been identified as part of the evaluation.

Recommendations

The following recommendations are made for the consideration of the Local Authority. They are designed to build on the considerable successes of the strategy to date and to inform any future development work.

1 Multi-agency planning and commissioning of the 'local offer'

- Continue to work to secure further involvement of Adult Social Care, Health and voluntary organisations in the planning, development and delivery of multi-agency funded post-16 provision and support to meet the needs of young people with Id/d across the county
- Ensure there is sufficient multi-agency funded provision to meet the needs of young people who have profound learning difficulties and/or disabilities together with complex medical needs, those who have 'extreme' autism and those who have behavioural, emotional, and social difficulties
- Ensure the continuation of the local groups to support effective communication and to provide a focus for the joint planning and commissioning of post-16 provision and services to meet the needs of young people with Id/d in each area of the county.

2 Data and information sharing

- Continue to investigate reliable means of capturing accurate data
- Develop protocols for sharing information between providers and agencies
- Continue to update and produce the directory of provision as a paper document and investigate the possibility of producing a web-based version of the directory.

3 Advice and guidance

- Ensure young people with Id/d and their parents/carers are given good quality and timely advice and guidance to help the young people make successful transitions from school and from college
- Review the roles of the learning difficulty advisers and the transition officers to ensure they are used to best effect in supporting young people with Id/d and their parents/carers through the transition process
- Pilot the use of a brokerage system to help young people with Id/d and their parents/carers to use individual budgets to purchase individually tailored 'packages' of provision
- Ensure funding decisions re young people's placements on leaving school are made early enough to enable them to make a smooth transition to their next placement.

4 Range of provision

- Encourage the further development of study programmes
- Promote the development of supported internships to providers and employers and investigate the financial difficulties that might hinder this work
- Ensure the skills and experience of the Welfare to Work team are used to best effect in helping providers to identify vocational programmes that are well-matched to employment opportunities
- Allocate responsibility to a post holder in the Local Authority to take the lead in developing a working partnership with the 'big' employers in the county to explain supported internships and to produce procedures and protocols for matters such as applications and health and safety that can be used by all providers
- Ensure work based training providers are not discouraged from making provision for young people with Id/d through a lack of additional support funding and inflexibility in the number of hours for which learners with Id/d can be funded on a full-time programme.

Annex 1: Methodology

The evaluation comprised the following elements:

- Scrutiny of relevant documents and reports
- Telephone interviews with stakeholders including representatives from: special schools; general further education colleges; independent specialist colleges; work-based training providers; Welfare to Work team; transitions officers; parents. Many of these representatives have also been members of the strategic planning group and/or local groups.
- Visit to Growing Futures
- Discussions with young people with Id/d.

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Open Report on behalf of Dr. Tony Hill, Executive Director of Public Health

Report to:	Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee
Date:	25 July 2014
Subject:	Introduction of Universal Infant Free School Meals - Update Report

Summary:

The introduction of free school meals for all infant school children from September 2014 is a government policy sourced from the National School Food Plan. The roll out of the plan has been logistically challenging for all local authorities nationwide.

Whilst the Plan is proving challenging to deliver, we are confident that 100 per cent of primary schools in Lincolnshire will have meal provision in line with the national nutritional offer by September 2014. Whilst the primary objective is for hot meals, there is still some risk that a small number of schools may only be able to offer cold food at first.

Support is available to schools to deliver this new responsibility from a range of sources, including: transitional revenue funding; capital funding and practical support and services from nationally commissioned organisations.

The position in Lincolnshire remains challenging, particularly in rural areas where many smaller schools lack in-house food preparation areas. However, the situation is improving on a weekly basis. Once we have achieved 100 per cent coverage from September, further work will be required to develop a more sustainable delivery model within the county.

Actions Required:

The Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee is asked to note the challenging, but rapidly improving, situation around the implementation of free school meals for infant children in Lincolnshire's schools.

1. Background

School food is widely believed to hold the potential to positively influence the eating patterns of school children towards healthier diets, thereby reducing the risk of

obesity and overweight, and contributing to the achievement of better long-term health. Not only does good school food offer greater health benefits for children and young people, it also increases attention in class and attainment throughout the academic year. Socially, free food in school offers parents a potential financial saving of up to £400 per child per year. The Government's School Food Plan sets out a target of at least 70% school meal uptake against the current national uptake level of around 45%. This figure is approximately 30% in Lincolnshire.

To support the targets set out in the School Food Plan, the government has launched the Universal Infant Free School Meals Offer which will see all reception, year 1 and year 2 (infant school) children offered a free nutritious school meal with effect from September 2014. The Universal Infant Free School Meal Offer is seen as stage one of the implementation of 'fixing' our school meal system and making it 'solvent' again. £1.2 million capital has been allocated to Lincolnshire to support projects that prepare for this large increase in meal provision. Whilst schools will be allocated a flat rate of £2.30 per meal from September 2014, the current cost of a school meal in Lincolnshire is £2.43. Schools will be expected to make up any shortfall in revenue funding.

Nationally, the Universal Infant Free School Meal Offer has been met with scepticism because of the tight timeframe for implementation and the lack of detail provided from the national team. Locally in Lincolnshire, the challenge is exacerbated by the lack of one central catering team, a shortfall of school kitchens and the sparse geography of our county. All of the aforementioned have led to a system that is fragile, overcomplicated, expensive and overly susceptible to private sector suppliers' business decisions.

We currently have a hub and spoke delivery model encompassing 33 catering providers operating across the county. Our caterers offer differing quality of school meals out of a range of kitchens, often being transported for long distances, lowering the quality of the food on arrival with children and increasing unit price. Whilst this model can cope with the current low school meal uptake, it is not fit for purpose to implement the new National Food Plan levels of uptake.

The Food in Schools Team has carried out analysis on the current market and this has been simplified into a RAG analysis of the county's provision - hot spots in all districts have been identified. A school rated as 'red' currently finds itself without a hot meal supplier in place from September 2014. The number of schools which were initially at red has reduced from 55 to 4 schools which are located in - Lincoln (0), East Lindsey (2), Boston (2), Grantham (0), Sleaford (0) and South Holland (0). We remain confident that we will achieve one hundred percent coverage in September but, unfortunately, due to the fluidity of the current model this cannot be guaranteed.

In order to address the current situation, we have devised a two stage approach. Firstly, a number of actions that need to be addressed in the short term to 'fill the immediate gap' and then a number of actions to resolve the long-term sustainability of school meals within the county. This is described in the 'Plan on a Page' at Appendix A.

We are working closely with all schools, individually and on a cluster basis, to help them identify what they need to do to be ready for September. Our support will include sourcing food supply, advising on food hygiene, brokering of solutions available nationally and providing capital funding for improvement schemes that meet certain criteria.

2. Conclusion

Despite the difficulties surrounding this programme of work, we are confident that 100 per cent of primary schools will be in a position to offer universal free school meals to the children of Lincolnshire in September 2014.

Feeding children a hot, nutritionally balanced meal during the school day is good for them across a number of key outcomes and moving forward we will work hard to ensure that a more sustainable delivery model is developed within the county.

3. Consultation

a) Policy Proofing Actions Required

Not applicable

4. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	The Plan on a Page

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
National School Food Plan	www.schoolfoodplan.com/plan

This report was written by Mr. Tony McGinty, Assistant Director of Public Health, who can be contacted on 01522 554229 or tony.mcginty@lincolnshire.gov.uk

INTRODUCTION OF UNIVERSAL INFANT FREE SCHOOL MEALS

'THE PLAN ON A PAGE'

<p>Objective One: All schools with adequate meal supply by September 2014</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Master supply and demand database established and maintained. 2. Validate PKL and Cygnet 'off the shelf' solutions by Easter. 3. Cluster meetings achieve consensus on local supply solutions by mid May 2014. 4. Develop model agreements that are fit for different supply arrangements during July 2014. 	<p>Objective Two: All schools serving food to all eligible children in a quality environment by September 2014</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All schools aware of national sources of help and advice and how to access them by April 2014 via County conference. 2. Updated school food hygiene and service toolkit and standards available from June 2014. 3. EHO capacity in place from May 2014. 4. Dip sample school site visits June to December 2014. 5. Agree marketing strategy to increase uptake of free school meals from start point in September 2014 in line with national plan.
<p>Objective Three: A revised sustainable food plan and target operating model agreed for the County</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Engagement and expert groups established to produce a draft plan by January 2015. 2. Final plan subject to scrutiny and decision in March 2015. 3. Procurement Plan for implementation agreed by April 2015. 4. Schools property strategy and capital plan revised April 2015. 5. Kitchen co-production models to be developed for April 2015. 	<p>Objective Four: Maximise Pupil Premium income to address education and health inequalities from September 2014</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pupil registration for free school meals sustained in September 2014 and improved in line with national plan. 2. New processes for increasing pupil premium registration piloted from September 2014 and implemented by May 2015.

**Report Reference:
Policy and Scrutiny**

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

Report to:	Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee
Date:	25 July 2014
Subject:	Proposal to expand the capacity at Lincoln The Sir Francis Hill Community Primary School (Final Decision)

Summary:

This report invites the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee to consider a report on the Proposal to expand the capacity at Lincoln The Sir Francis Hill Community Primary School (Final Decision) which is due to be considered by the Executive Councillor for Adult Care and Health Services, Children's Services on 8 August 2014. The views of the Scrutiny Committee will be reported to the Executive Councillor as part of its 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 set out in the report.
- (2) To agree any additional comments to be passed to the Executive Councillor in relation to this item.

1. Background

The Executive Councillor for Adult Care and Health Services, Children's Services is due to consider the report on the Proposal to expand the capacity at Lincoln The Sir Francis Hill Community 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 and Health Services, 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 and Health Services, Children's Services on Proposal to expand the capacity at Lincoln The Sir Francis Hill Community 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, Executive Director of Children's Services

Report to:	Councillor Mrs P A Bradwell, Executive Councillor: Adult Care and Health Services, Children's Services
Date:	8 August 2014
Subject:	Proposal to Expand the Capacity at Lincoln The Sir Francis Hill Community Primary School (final decision)
Decision Reference:	I006621
Key decision?	Yes

Summary:

This report concerns the permanent expansion of the capacity at The Sir Francis Hill Community Primary School to ensure that there is the required number of primary school places in Lincoln to accommodate the increasing pupil numbers in the area. The proposed implementation date is 1 September 2015. If this expansion proposal is approved additional classrooms would be provided together with the additional accommodation required to provide the appropriate infrastructure and facilities for the number of pupils on roll.

It is the Local Authority's (LA) statutory duty to ensure that there are sufficient school places to accommodate all pupils of statutory school age in Lincolnshire. The LA believes that this proposal is the best available option to address the increasing pressure on primary school places in Lincoln.

The LA is co-ordinating the process following statutory guidelines published in The Department for Education (DfE) guide "School Organisation Maintained Schools Guidance for proposers and decision-makers" January 2014 (with attached Annex A and B) in accordance with the terms of the Education and Inspections Act (EIA) 2006 as updated by the Education Act 2011.

On 4 March 2014 a four week period of consultation commenced which closed on 1 April 2014 and is further referred to later in this report in the Consultation section.

Following the consultation period the decision was taken on 30 April 2014 to publish a Statutory Notice on 29 May 2014. This initiated a four week Representation Period up to 26 June 2014 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 26 August 2014).

This report seeks to advise the Executive Councillor on making the final decision regarding the proposed expansion of The Sir Francis Hill Community 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 expansion of the capacity for primary age provision from 420 to 630 places at The Sir Francis Hill Community Primary School with effect from 1 September 2015.

Alternatives Considered:

1. The Council retains the school as it is at present with no expansion of the capacity at The Sir Francis Hill Community Primary School.

However, the above alternative would have the following disadvantages:

It is likely that there would be insufficient primary school places in Lincoln and the LA may be unable to comply with its statutory duty to ensure that there are sufficient school places for children of a statutory school age in the area in future years.

It would place increasing pressure on The Sir Francis Hill Community Primary School and other primary schools in Lincoln, some of which are already offering places above their Published Admission Number (PAN) at the request of the LA. Any further over-offers for future intakes would lead to concerns over the consequent impact of overcrowding on the quality of education provided if additional accommodation is not provided.

It would likely lead, in the future, to children being offered places at alternative schools within the city of Lincoln other than their local school, or at schools outside of the city, resulting in increased transport costs, car usage and therefore traffic, and also concerns over the impact of the additional travelling time on the young children concerned.

2. The Council retains the school as it is at present with no expansion of the capacity at The Sir Francis Hill Community Primary School but looks to increase capacity at other primary schools in the surrounding area.

Other options in Lincoln have been explored and all primary schools have been considered for potential expansion. Other than those already proposed for expansion alternative schools have not been found to be as suitable due to reasons such as geographical location in relation to demographic pressures, 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 and there are limited alternative

solutions. This is the most appropriate primary school in the area for expansion.

Reasons for Recommendation:

To enable the LA to meet its statutory obligation to ensure that there are sufficient school places in Lincoln for all children of statutory school age. 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. The LA 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.

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.

The proposal will assist in meeting parental preference. 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 and that successful and popular schools be allowed to grow. The Sir Francis Hill Community Primary School is rated overall by Ofsted as a 'Good' school with 'Outstanding' Features. The demand for Reception places in Lincoln is projected to increase. This proposal will ensure that parents will be able to send their children to a school in the local area.

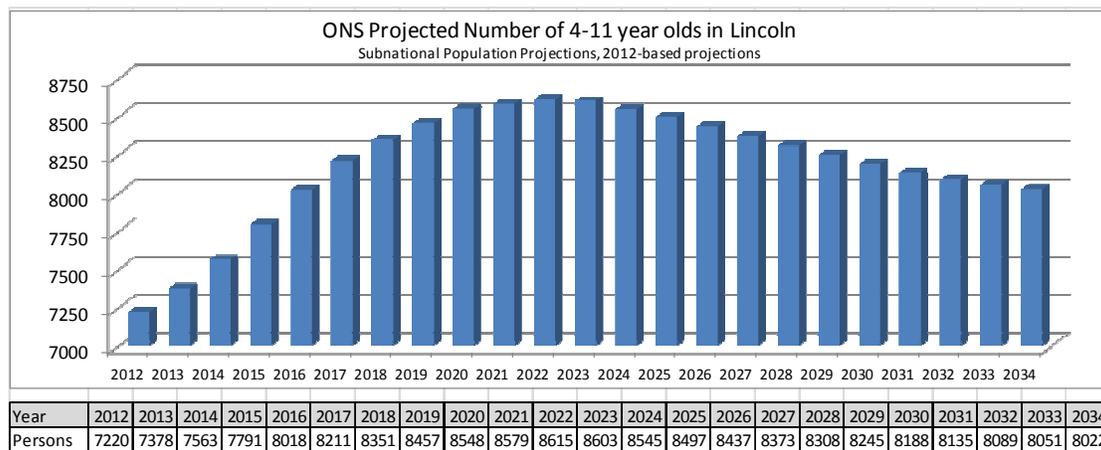
The LA considers the proposal to be the most appropriate available solution to the expected shortage of primary school places in Lincoln to enable local children to attend their local school. There are also proposals to increase the capacity at other schools in other areas of Lincoln but this proposal is not directly related to any other proposal. This proposal has the support of the Headteacher and Governing Body and also the School Improvement Service (CfBT) who is confident that the school has the leadership, management and governance required to drive forward a successful expansion which will provide the opportunity to improve the learning experience and outcomes for the children.

1. Background

National birth rates, mostly concentrated in more urban areas, have been steadily rising in recent years. This increased birth rate, combined in some areas with inward migration and housing development, is now starting to have an impact at primary school age putting significant pressure on primary schools across the country where there is a shortage of Reception places. There is expected to be a long term requirement for more school places and the city of Lincoln will

experience a shortage of available places if capacity at one or more of the local schools is not increased.

Population data (NHS GP Registrations, supported by the Office of National Statistics – ONS, as shown in the graph and table below) confirms this expected long term requirement for more places for children of a statutory school age in this area of Lincoln. Therefore, 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. There are proposals being considered for school expansions in other parts of Lincoln to ensure that there are sufficient places right across the city.



The proposal being consulted on is to permanently expand the school from the existing capacity of 420 places based on a PAN of 60 to 630 places (PAN 90), with a proposed implementation date of September 2015. This would increase the PAN initially for the Reception intake in September 2015 to 90 with the PAN for all other years remaining at 60. The increased intake of up to 90 would then be phased in with each subsequent Reception intake commencing in September 2016 until the PAN of 90 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.

Having additional classes and more children 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 expansion proposal is approved, further additional classrooms would be provided together with the additional accommodation required to provide the appropriate infrastructure and facilities for the number of pupils on roll. It is proposed that building/refurbishment work to add necessary additional accommodation would begin during the academic year 2014/15 with a minor capital project to have Reception accommodation available for the start of term in September 2015 for the first increased intake. The remaining work would be carried out in 2015/16 (subject to planning permission being granted). This would be managed to cause minimal disruption to the school during

term time making the best use of school holidays where possible. Suitable additional teaching and resource spaces both inside and outside will be required to ensure sufficient facilities are in place to accommodate up to 630 primary aged children in total.

The planning application process is dealt with and consulted on separately. There will be an opportunity for those that are interested to respond directly to the planning application at a later date.

Reaching the decision – Preliminary Considerations

The requirements for decision making relating to school organisation in LA Maintained schools are set out in Annex B of the guide “School Organisation Maintained Schools January 2014” published by the DfE.

The DfE does not prescribe the exact process which a decision maker should follow but the decision maker must have regard to this guidance. The decision maker should consider the views of those affected by the proposal and should not simply take account of the numbers of people expressing a view but give greatest weight to those stakeholders most likely to be affected and especially the parents of children at the school concerned.

Factors to be considered by Decision Makers

The Consultation and Representation Period

The Executive Councillor must be satisfied that the appropriate consultation and representation periods have been carried out and that all of the responses received have been given due consideration.

Although there is no longer a prescribed consultation period prior to the publication of the Statutory Notice and Complete Proposal the DfE's guidance states "*a strong expectation on schools and LAs to consult interested parties in developing their proposal prior to publication*". The LA conducted a four week period of pre-consultation to fulfil this expectation and also to operate a fair and open process and ensure all views were considered. A Statutory Notice and Complete Proposal, initiating a four week Representation Period, were published in accordance with current statutory requirements.

Responses submitted during both the Consultation and Representation Period have been made available to the Executive Councillor for consideration when taking the final decision and further details of these responses are provided in section 5 of this report (**Consultation**).

Education standards and diversity of provision

The Executive Councillor should consider the quality and diversity of schools in the area and be satisfied that the proposal will meet the aspirations of parents, contribute to raising local standards of provision and lead to a closing of attainment gaps. 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 most recent Ofsted report following an inspection at the school was published in July 2012 and evaluated the school overall as “Good” with "Outstanding" Features.

The opportunity offered by this expansion proposal for purpose built permanent accommodation will provide a platform on which standards of attainment can improve with enhanced provision at the school.

The LA believes that this proposal provides the best option to maintain and improve standards of attainment with an enhanced quality of education for current and future children in the area whilst maintaining diversity.

Demand

The Executive Councillor must consider the evidence presented for any projected increase in pupil population (eg planned housing developments and increasing birth rates) and any anticipated new provision (eg a new free school). A decision must also take into account parental preference and the quality and popularity of schools in the area that have surplus capacity. Surplus capacity in less popular schools should not in itself prevent the addition of new places. The DfE recognises that for parental preference to work effectively there may be some surplus capacity in the system overall but that competition for places to be taken up will lead to existing schools improving standards.

The expansion is required to meet the projected demand for places in Lincoln and to ensure that the LA meets its duty of providing sufficient places for children of statutory school age in the immediate area, without the need to transport young children more than 2 miles away. The expansion is proposed to meet the need for additional capacity in Lincoln and not to replace existing capacity in the primary sector, therefore not having a significant negative impact on neighbouring primary schools.

As stated earlier in this report, an increased birth rate in recent years is putting significant pressure on primary schools across the country with an expected shortage of school places if additional capacity is not created. Birth data for the Lincoln area confirms that this increase in births is resulting in larger projected intakes than there are currently places for in planning areas across the city. There is expected to be a long term requirement for more primary school places.

The number on roll at the time of the census taken in January 2014 was 393 which is broken down by year group in the table below. The published admissions number per year group is currently 60 with a permanent PAN capacity of 420:

	Rec	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Total
Number on Roll	60	60	60	57	55	42	59	393

Data from January 2014 School Census

There is expected to be a shortage of available primary places if capacity in Lincoln is not increased. A permanent sustainable solution is needed to accommodate these extra children to avoid overcrowding and/or transporting young children to alternative schools outside of their local community.

The school is popular with parents and in recent years has been oversubscribed.

School size

Assumptions that schools should be of a certain size to be a good school should not be made although the viability and cost-effectiveness of a proposal is an important factor in the decision-making process eg the impact on a LA's budget to provide additional funding to a small school to compensate for its size.

If the expansion proposal is not approved with the school remaining at its current size the demand for places would put increasing pressure on the school leading to concerns over the consequent impact of overcrowding on the quality of educational provision if additional accommodation is not provided. This expansion will provide additional classrooms together with the appropriate infrastructure and facilities for a school of this size.

Proposed admission arrangements

Before approving the proposals the LA must ensure that the admission arrangements of the school are compliant with the School Admissions Code. The proposed increase to the PAN at The Sir Francis Hill Community Primary School will be processed in accordance with the School Admissions Code to determine admission arrangements for the academic year commencing September 2015.

National Curriculum

All maintained schools must follow the National Curriculum unless they have secured an exemption.

The Sir Francis Hill Community Primary School currently follows the National curriculum and will continue to do so if the proposed expansion is approved.

Equal Opportunity

The LA must have 'due regard' to the need to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations and should consider whether there are any sex, race or disability discrimination issues that arise out of the proposed expansion. There should 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.

Community cohesion

The impact on the community must be considered and schools have a key part to play in providing opportunities for young people from different backgrounds to learn from and respect each other and gain an understanding of other cultures, faiths and communities. The decision-maker must take account of the community served by the school and the views of different sections of the community.

This expansion will enable the school to admit local children without discrimination and therefore continue to meet the needs of children from all backgrounds represented in the local community.

Comments were raised during consultation with reference to the need for hall space and suitable outdoor space including the quality of space and safe provision. All of these concerns will be taken into consideration in the design and future planning of the school buildings and site if the proposal goes ahead.

Travel and accessibility

The Executive Councillor should be satisfied that accessibility planning has been properly taken into account and that proposed changes do not adversely impact on disadvantaged groups. Proposals should not unreasonably extend journey times or increase transport costs or result in too many children being prevented from travelling sustainably due to unsuitable walking or cycling 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.

Discussions have already been taking place between the school and other interested parties to consider how potential access and traffic can be mitigated against. The school have been asked to update and produce a robust travel plan that should include any other means of travel such as walking, cycling, park and stride etc. The LA are also discussing with the school the possibility of having

phased start times for KS1 and KS2 to help ease traffic congestion as has been successfully adopted for other schools in the county. Also included in the brief for the project is a proposal to extend the existing car park and to look at widening the entrance with an 'in' and an 'out'.

The LA will continue to work with Highways, planners and the school to ensure that all of these any potential issues are taken into consideration as part of the planning application process. The LA will continue to look for suitable solutions to help mitigate against all concerns.

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.

Capital

The Executive Councillor should be satisfied that any land, premises or capital required to implement the proposals will be available and that all relevant parties have given their agreement. A proposal cannot be approved conditionally upon funding being made available. Where the expansion is reliant on the DfE for funding it cannot be assumed that approval of the proposal will trigger the release of capital funds unless previously confirmed in writing.

This proposed expansion will incur capital costs that the LA will manage through the capital programme. All capital costs are being covered by DfE capital grant funding. The funding is provided to add capacity to primary provision where it is needed and is not intended for alternative uses elsewhere. The capital project aims to create the required facilities to allow for up to 630 pupils to be accommodated.

School premises and playing fields

All schools are required to provide suitable outdoor space to both enable physical education for pupils in accordance with the curriculum and also for pupils to play outside safely. DfE guidelines suggest areas for pitches and games courts but these are non-statutory.

The site size is of a suitable size to accommodate a 3FE primary school without impacting on playing field and outdoor learning and playing space. Appendix A shows the current site plan for information. At this stage there are no detailed designs of how the school might be expanded, but initial feasibility studies have indicated that expansion will be achievable without negatively impacting on the existing school premises and playing fields. Sufficient suitable accommodation, playing field and hard team games area will be provided for the maximum number of children that the school will be expected to accommodate.

Special Educational Needs (SEN) Provision and SEN Improvement Test

If the proposal is 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.

2. Conclusion

The final decision is required from the Executive Councillor to determine whether to approve the proposal to expand the capacity at The Sir Francis Hill Community 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 and the Representation Period (see section 5) 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.

It is recommended that the proposal is implemented to ensure the best educational opportunities for the children of Lincoln. 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 set out in the report.

4. Resource Comments:

If the final decision is taken to expand the school then the refurbishment and building costs would be met from DfE capital grant funding, with on-going revenue costs being funded from the Dedicated Schools Grant. The proposal to expand the capacity would help the LA to meet its statutory duty to ensure sufficient places are available for all pupils, and provide better value for money through adoption of a PAN of 90.

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

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. Under the DfE guidelines which came into effect in January 2014 there is no longer a prescribed consultation period for significant changes to schools (including physical expansions). However there is a *"strong expectation on schools and LAs to consult interested parties in developing their proposal prior to publication"*. To comply with this the LA has conducted a four week period of pre-consultation. Any documentation issued 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 proposal to the attention of all those who might be interested and take into account their views.

Guidance requires current pupils to be consulted and the Headteacher of The Sir Francis Hill Community Primary School has consulted with the children currently attending the school. The children were able to discuss both the opportunities and issues that might arise out of their school increasing in size and consider what this would mean in practice for them.

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 guidance issued by the DfE in January only prescribes the minimum of who must be consulted and *"any other body or person that the local authority think appropriate and it is unlikely that there will be any cases where it was not felt appropriate to notify the parents at the school of the proposals"*. The list of interested parties was therefore compiled according to these principles comprising as wide a range of consultees as practicable to ensure that all interested parties were included and incorporated parents and the Chief Executive of the District Council as well as individual councillors as appropriate.

A letter incorporating relevant information and reasons for the proposal was sent out to interested parties on 4 March 2014 to commence a four 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 1 April 2014. 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/schoolorganisation

All written responses received during consultation have been provided to the Executive Councillor for consideration. To briefly summarise there were 3 valid responses in total with 2 in favour and 1 against the proposal. The response against the proposal indicated a preference for increasing capacity elsewhere, along with the possibility of a new purpose built school. Alternative expansion and new school options have been looked at, but this proposal is considered to be the best solution to address the need for places in this area, as referred to earlier in this report. There was also a concern raised about outdoor space and the quality of space and safe provision. The site size is suitable for a 3FE primary in accordance with current guidance, and additional hard play will be provided if required. The subjects of class sizes and facilities such as the hall were also raised. The proposal will not increase class sizes and will ensure that all class sizes remain

within the regulatory 30 limit for Key Stage 1. Accommodation such as hall space, group rooms and kitchen facilities will all be considered within the scope of the project, not just the number of classrooms.

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 30 April to proceed to Statutory Notice. A statutory 4 week Representation Period was entered into on 29 May 2014 commencing with the publication of the Statutory Notice (Appendix B) in the local press, on the Lincolnshire County Council's website and at the school gates. The Complete Proposal, available in paper and electronic format (Appendix C) to which the Statutory Notice refers, was sent to interested parties as detailed in the statutory guidance and was also published on the website under the webpage 'Current Consultations' at www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/schoolorganisation. 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. 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 final decision in August. 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 expansion of the capacity from 420 to 630 for primary age provision at The Sir Francis Hill Community Primary School with effect from 1 September 2015 if it is decided to proceed.

a) Has Local Member Been Consulted?

Yes, the local member has been made aware of the proposal to expand Lincoln The Sir Francis Hill Community Primary School.

b) Has Executive Councillor Been Consulted?

Yes, the Executive Councillor has been involved in the discussions regarding the proposal to expand Lincoln The Sir Francis Hill Community Primary School.

c) Scrutiny Comments

The Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee will consider this report at its meeting on 25 July 2014. Comments from this meeting will be presented to the Executive Councillor for Adult Care, Health and Children's Services on 8 August 2014.

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 existing site, 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.

6. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Current School Site Plan
Appendix B	Statutory Notice
Appendix C	Complete Proposal

7. Background Papers

Document title	Where the document can be viewed
Report on the proposal to expand the capacity at The Sir Francis Hill Community Primary School (decision to go to Statutory Notice)	Lincolnshire County Council Committee Records Reference I006620 30 April 2014
The DfE guide "School Organisation Maintained Schools Guidance for proposers and decision-makers" January 2014; letter to commence the operator selection process; list of interested parties; blank response form and the responses received from all interested parties.	All available on request from the Property and Technology Management Team, Corporate Property
Impact Analysis	Available on request from the Property and Technology Management Team, Corporate Property

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

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- TEAM GAME
11,994m²
- ACCESS & PATHS
2,896m²
- PLAYING FIELD
16,759m²
- CAR-PARKING
344m²
- TEAM GAME HARD PLAY
1,138m²
- G.I.A.
2,880m²
- HARD SURFACE
1,907m²
- SITE AREA
36,200m²
- SOFT LANDSCAPE
9,060m²

Rev.	Date	Description	By	Checked By



Client: MOUCHEL PROPERTY RECORDS

Project: Lincoln Sir Francis Hill Community Primary School, Bristol Drive
L0026

Drawing Title: AMP Site Plan
925/2120

Drawn By: SH
Checked By: _____

Scale: N.T.S.
Date: March 2012

Project No.: _____ Drawing No.: _____ Revision: _____

Drawing Status: _____

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APPENDIX B

Proposal to expand Sir Francis Hill Community Primary School, Lincoln.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN in accordance with section 19(1) of 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 a prescribed alteration to Sir Francis Hill Community Primary School, Lincoln LN6 7UE with effect from 1 September 2015.

The proposal is to increase the Published Admission Number (PAN) from 60 to 90 and to permanently expand the school from the existing PAN capacity of 420 to 630 places. This would increase the PAN from 60 to 90 with effect from 1 September 2015. This would initially increase the PAN for the Reception intake in September 2015 to 90 with the PAN for all other years remaining at 60. The increased intake of up to 90 would then be phased in with each subsequent Reception intake commencing in September 2016 until the PAN of 90 applies to all year groups.

The prescribed alteration being consulted on is not related to any other statutory proposal. All statutory consultation requirements in respect of this proposal have been complied with.

The current net capacity of Sir Francis Hill Community Primary School is 420 and the proposed net capacity will be 630. There are currently 390 primary aged pupils on roll.

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

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

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

Further details on the consultation which have led to this proposal can be accessed on-line under "Current Consultations" via <http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/schoolorganisation>

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

Publication Date: 29 May 2014

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APPENDIX C



Complete Proposal
to Expand
Sir Francis Hill Community Primary School,
Lincoln

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

PROPOSALS TO MAKE A PRESCRIBED ALTERATION TO A SCHOOL

29 May 2014

Contact details

This proposal has been published by Lincolnshire County Council, County Offices, Newland, Lincoln LN1 1YQ regarding the expansion of Sir Francis Hill Community Primary School, Bristol Drive, Lincoln LN6 7UE.

Implementation

The proposal is to expand Sir Francis Hill Community Primary School with effect from 1 September 2015. This proposal is being made to ensure that there are sufficient primary school places in this area of Lincoln 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.

Objections and Comments

Any person or organisation may object to or make comments on the proposal by sending them to Property & Technology Management, Lincolnshire County Council, County Offices, Newland, Lincoln LN1 1YQ or by emailing schoolorganisation@lincolnshire.gov.uk to be received by the deadline of 26 June 2014.

Alteration description

The proposal under consideration is to increase the Published Admission Number (PAN) from 60 to 90 and to permanently expand the school from the existing PAN capacity of 420 to 630 places. This would initially increase the PAN for the Reception intake in September 2015 to 90 with the PAN for all other years remaining at 60. The increased intake of up to 90 would then be phased in with each subsequent Reception intake commencing in September 2016 until the PAN of 90 applies to all year groups.

School Capacity and Site

It will not be possible to meet the growing demand for school places in the area without additional accommodation. Accommodation will be provided, subject to planning permission and final approval of this proposal, for September 2015. The necessary building work would take place during the academic year 2014/2015. This would be managed to cause minimal disruption to the school during term time making best use of school holidays where possible.

The planning application process required is dealt with and consulted on separately from this process. There will be an opportunity for those that are interested to respond directly to the planning application.

The number on roll at the time of the census taken in January 2014 was 393 which is broken down by year group in the table below. The published admissions number per year group is currently 60 with a permanent PAN capacity of 420:

	Rec	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Total
Number on Roll	60	60	60	57	55	42	59	393

Data from January 2014 Census

Objectives

The proposal detailed in this document is to expand Sir Francis Hill Community Primary School with effect from 1 September 2015 and the objective is both to ensure that there are sufficient primary school places in the area 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.

The LA considers this to be one of the best available solutions to the expected shortage of primary school places in Lincoln and the surrounding area 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. There are also proposals to add capacity in other schools across Lincoln, although this proposal is not directly related to any others. The LA believes the 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 and at the same time it will assist in meeting parental preference.

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 to expand on this scale 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 that they serve. The proposal to expand Sir Francis Hill Primary School has the support of the Headteacher and Governing Body and the LA believes it to be the most appropriate option for expansion in the area. It is important that the LA considers all views submitted during consultation.

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. The relevant DfE guidance was updated in January 2014. Under this guidance there is no longer a requirement for a prescribed consultation period prior to the publication of the Statutory Notice and Complete Proposal. However, the DfE still has a strong expectation that LAs will consult interested parties in developing their proposal. To

fulfil this expectation the LA undertook the following consultation. This is also to enable the LA to operate a fair and open process and ensure all views are considered.

Consultation originally began on 04 March 2014 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, on 14 March 2014, 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 01 April 2014. 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/parents/schools/for-schools/school-organisation-planning-team/current-consultations/

There were 3 valid responses in total with 2 in favour and 1 against the proposal. The response against the proposal indicated a preference for increasing capacity elsewhere, along with the possibility of a new purpose built school. Alternative expansion and new school options have been looked at, but this proposal is considered to be the best solution to address the need for places in this area, as referred to earlier in this report. There was also a concern raised about outdoor space and the quality of space and safe provision. The site size is suitable for a 3FE primary in accordance with current guidance, and additional hard play will be provided if required. The subjects of class sizes and facilities such as the hall were also raised. The proposal will not increase class sizes and will ensure that all class sizes remain within the regulatory 30 limit for Key Stage 1. Accommodation such as hall space, group rooms and kitchen facilities will all be considered within the scope of the project, not just the number of classrooms.

Under current legislation the LA is the decision maker for the proposal.

Project Costs

This proposed expansion will incur capital costs that the LA will fund from the Children's Services capital programme. All capital costs are being covered by the Basic Need funding allocated by the DfE. This funding is provided to add capacity to primary provision where it is needed, and is not intended for alternative uses elsewhere. The capital project aims to create the required facilities to allow for up to 630 pupils to be accommodated.

Revenue costs associated with the proposed expansion would be funded from the Dedicated Schools Grant (Growth Fund).

Special Educational Needs (SEN) provision

The expansion of the school is 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 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

National birth rates have been steadily rising in recent years. This increased birth rate, combined in some areas with changes in migrational trends and the effect of new housing development, is now starting put significant pressure on primary schools across the country. There is expected to be a shortage of school places if additional capacity is not created. Birth data for the Lincoln area shows an increase in births resulting in larger projected intakes than there are currently places for in planning areas across the city. There is expected to be a long term requirement for more primary school places.

Lincoln will therefore experience a shortage of available primary places if capacity in the area is not increased. A permanent sustainable solution is needed to accommodate these extra children to avoid overcrowding and/or transporting young children to alternative schools outside of their local communities.

The expansion is required to meet the projected demand for places in Lincoln and to ensure that the LA meets its duty of providing sufficient places for children of statutory school age in the immediate area, without the need to transport young children more than 2 miles away. The expansion is proposed to meet the need for additional capacity in Lincoln and not to replace existing capacity in the primary sector, therefore not having a significant negative impact on neighbouring primary schools.

Having additional classes and more children 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.

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 to help ensure that pupils do not have to be placed outside of the area against any of their preferences.

The most recent Ofsted report following an inspection at the school was published in July 2012 and evaluated the school as "Good" with "Outstanding" features.

The school is popular with parents and in recent years has been oversubscribed.

Related Proposals

The proposal to expand Sir Francis Hill Community Primary School is 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 Property and Technology Management, Corporate Property, Lincolnshire County Council, County Offices, Newland, Lincoln, Lincolnshire, LN1 1YQ or by emailing schoolorganisation@lincolnshire.gov.uk

At the close of the 4 week representation period (statutory formal consultation) on 26 June 2014 responses will be collated and analysed and a further report will be presented to the Executive Councillor for a final decision in August 2014 on the expansion of the school. 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.

**Report Reference:
Policy and Scrutiny**

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

Report to:	Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee
Date:	25 July 2014
Subject:	Proposal to expand the capacity at Lincoln St Faith's CofE Infant & St Faith and St Martin CofE Junior schools (Final Decision)

Summary:

This report invites the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee to consider a report on the Proposal to expand the capacity at Lincoln St Faith's CofE Infant & St Faith and St Martin CofE Junior schools (Final Decision) which is due to be considered by the Executive Councillor for Adult Care and Health Services, Children's Services on 8 August 2014. The views of the Scrutiny Committee will be reported to the Executive Councillor as part of its 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 set out in the report.
- (2) To agree any additional comments to be passed to the Executive Councillor in relation to this item.

1. Background

The Executive Councillor for Adult Care and Health Services, Children's Services is due to consider the report on the Proposal to expand the capacity at Lincoln St Faith's CofE Infant & St Faith and St Martin CofE Junior schools (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 and Health Services, 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 and Health Services, Children's Services on Proposal to expand the capacity at Lincoln St Faith's CofE Infant & St Faith and St Martin CofE Junior schools (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, Executive Director of Children's Services

Report to:	Councillor Mrs P A Bradwell, Executive Councillor: Adult Care and Health Services, Children's Services
Date:	8 August 2014
Subject:	Proposal to Expand the Capacity at Lincoln St Faith's CE Infant and St Faith and St Martin CE Junior Schools (final decision)
Decision Reference:	I006626
Key decision?	Yes

Summary:

This report concerns the permanent expansion of the capacity at both St Faith's CE Infant and St Faith and St Martin CE Junior Schools in Lincoln to ensure that there are the required number of primary school places in this part of the city of Lincoln to accommodate the increasing pupil numbers in the area. The proposed implementation dates for these changes are 1 September 2015 for the infant school and 1 September 2018 for the junior school.

It is the Local Authority's (LA) statutory duty to ensure that there are sufficient school places to accommodate all pupils of statutory school age in Lincolnshire. The LA believes that this proposal is the best available option to address the increasing pressure on primary school places in Lincoln.

The LA is co-ordinating the process following statutory guidelines published in The Department for Education (DfE) guide "School Organisation Maintained Schools Guidance for proposers and decision-makers" January 2014 (with attached Annex A and B) in accordance with the terms of the Education and Inspections Act (EIA) 2006 as updated by the Education Act 2011.

On 6 March 2014 a four week period of consultation commenced which closed on 3 April 2014 and is further referred to later in this report in the Consultation section.

Following the consultation period the decision was taken on 30 April 2014 to publish a Statutory Notice on 29 May 2014. This initiated a four week Representation Period up to 26 June 2014 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 26 August 2014).

This report seeks to advise the Executive Councillor on making the final decision on the related proposals regarding the proposed expansion of the capacity at St Faith's CE Infant School with effect from 1 September 2015 and St Faith and St Martin CE Junior School with effect from 1 September 2018.

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 expansion of the capacity for primary age provision from 180 to 270 places at St Faith's CE Infant School with effect from 1 September 2015 and from 240 to 360 at St Faith and St Martin CE Junior School with effect from 1 September 2018.

Alternatives Considered:

1. For the Council to retain the current capacity levels with no expansion at either the infant or junior school.

However, the above alternative would have the following disadvantages:

It is likely that there would be insufficient primary school places in Lincoln and the LA may be unable to comply with its statutory duty to ensure that there are sufficient school places for children of a statutory school age in the area in future years.

It would place increasing pressure on St Faith's CE Infant and St Faith and St Martin CE Junior Schools and other primary schools in Lincoln, some of which are already offering places above their Published Admission Number (PAN) at the request of the LA. Any further over-offers for future intakes would lead to concerns over the consequent impact of overcrowding on the quality of education provided if additional accommodation is not provided.

It would likely lead, in the future, to children being offered places at alternative schools within the city of Lincoln other than their local school, or at schools outside of the city, with increasing transport costs, car usage and therefore traffic, and also concerns over the impact of the additional travelling time on the young children concerned.

2. For the LA not to expand St Faith's CE Infant and St Faith and St Martin CE Junior Schools but to look to increase capacity at other primary schools in the surrounding area.

Other options in Lincoln have been explored and all primary schools have been considered for potential expansion. Other than those already proposed for expansion alternative schools have not been found to be as suitable due to reasons such as geographical location in relation to demographic pressures, 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 and there are limited alternative solutions. These schools are the most appropriate primary age provision in the area for expansion.

Reasons for Recommendation:

To enable the LA to meet its statutory obligation to ensure that there are sufficient school places in Lincoln for all children of statutory school age. The LA believes that the related proposals in this report present the best available option to address the increasing pressure on primary school places in the area and enable the LA to fulfil its statutory duty of ensuring that there are sufficient school places to accommodate all pupils of primary school age in Lincolnshire. The LA 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.

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. The related proposals will both enhance the quality of provision and sustain local provision.

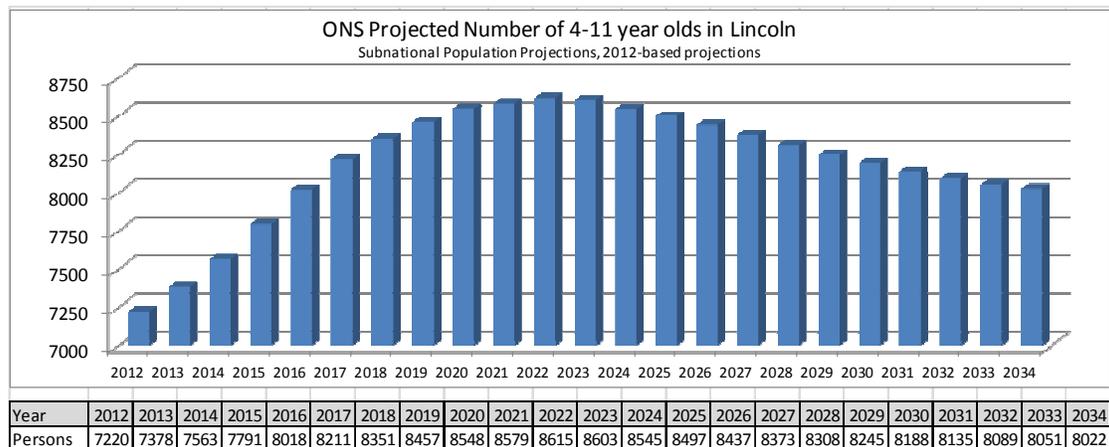
The proposals in this report will assist in meeting parental preference. The Government has made it clear that the wishes of parents should be taken into account in planning and managing school estates. DfE guidance states that places should be allocated where parents want them and that successful and popular schools be allowed to grow. The St Faith's CE Infant School is rated overall by Ofsted as a 'Good' school. St Faith's and St Martin is currently rated as 'Requires Improvement', but since their Ofsted necessary steps have been taken to ensure that significant improvement is being made. The School Improvement Service is confident that by the time the expansion would need to happen (September 2018) the school will have made the progress required to successfully manage an expansion. The related proposals will ensure that parents will be able to send their children to a school in the local area.

The LA considers the proposals recommended in this report to be the most appropriate available solution to the expected shortage of primary school places in Lincoln to enable local children to attend their local school. There is currently also a proposal to increase the capacity at another school in another area of Lincoln but the proposals in this report are not directly related to this or any other proposal. The recommendations in this report have the support of the Headteacher and Governing Body and also the School Improvement Service (CfBT) who is confident that the school has the leadership, management and governance required to drive forward a successful expansion which will provide the opportunity to improve the learning experience and outcomes for the children.

1. Background

National birth rates, mostly concentrated in more urban areas, have been steadily rising in recent years. This increased birth rate, combined in some areas with inward migration and housing development, is now starting to have an impact at primary school age putting significant pressure on schools across the country where there is a shortage of Reception places. There is expected to be a long term requirement for more school places and the city of Lincoln will experience a shortage of available places if capacity at one or more of the local schools is not increased. In particular the West of Lincoln is seeing increased pupil numbers both from new housing such as the large new development off Carholme Road and relatively new developments off Long Leys Road in the St George's area. This is in addition to natural increases in birth rates. The intakes of both schools have already been increased from 50 to 60 in recent years to accommodate increases in pressure, and this is set to continue. It is therefore vital that there is sufficient capacity in local schools to be able to accommodate all local children.

Population data (NHS GP Registrations, supported by the Office of National Statistics – ONS, as shown in the graph and table below) and existing planning permissions confirm an expected long term requirement for more places for children of a statutory school age in Lincoln. Therefore, a permanent sustainable solution is needed to accommodate these extra children to avoid overcrowding and/or transporting very young children to alternative schools outside of their local community. There are proposals being considered for school expansions in other parts of Lincoln to ensure that there are sufficient places right across the city.



The proposal being consulted on is to permanently expand both schools to be able to take up to an additional 30 children per year group with a PAN of 90 at each school. This would result in the current capacity of 180 places at St Faith's Infant School being increased to take up to a maximum of 270 and at St Faith and St Martin the capacity would be increased from 240 to be able to take up to 360. The proposed implementation dates for these changes are 1st September 2015 for St Faith's Infant School and 1st September 2018 for St Faith and St Martin Junior. This would increase the PAN initially for the Reception intake in September 2015 to

90 with the PAN for all other years remaining at 60 across both schools. The increased intake to 90 would then be phased in with each subsequent Reception intake until the PAN of 90 applies to all year groups, with the first increase in PAN at St Faith and St Martin Junior School being September 2018 when the larger intakes from St Faith's Infant School start to filter through. This phased approach will allow the schools to effectively manage staffing and teaching structures and help to ensure that pupil numbers at other local schools will be maintained.

Both of these expansion proposals are related, as one cannot happen without the other to ensure that there are sufficient primary age places across all year groups to meet the needs of the local community. The LA and governors will assess all responses to this consultation and consider the practical solutions for ensuring that there would be suitable indoor and outdoor facilities for taking additional children before making a final decision.

Having additional classes and more children 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 will begin during the academic year 2014/15 on the infant site (subject to planning permission being granted) and planned to be completed in readiness for the start of term in September 2015. Building work on the junior school site would start later, but early enough to ensure that accommodation would be ready for September 2018. Building projects would be managed to cause minimal disruption to the schools during term time making the best use of school holidays where possible. Suitable additional teaching and resource spaces both inside and outside will be required to ensure sufficient facilities are in place to accommodate up to 630 primary aged children in total across the two school sites.

The planning application process is dealt with and consulted on separately. There will be an opportunity for those that are interested to respond directly to the planning application at a later date.

Reaching the decision – Preliminary Considerations

The requirements for decision making relating to school organisation in LA Maintained schools are set out in Annex B of the guide "School Organisation Maintained Schools January 2014" published by the DfE.

The DfE does not prescribe the exact process which a decision maker should follow but the decision maker must have regard to this guidance. The decision maker should consider the views of those affected by a proposal and should not simply take account of the numbers of people expressing a view but give greatest weight to those stakeholders most likely to be affected and especially the parents of children at the school concerned.

Factors to be considered by Decision Makers

The Consultation and Representation Period

The Executive Councillor must be satisfied that the appropriate consultation and representation periods have been carried out and that all of the responses received have been given due consideration.

Although there is no longer a prescribed consultation period prior to the publication of the Statutory Notice and Complete Proposal the DfE's guidance states "*a strong expectation on schools and LAs to consult interested parties in developing their proposal prior to publication*". The LA conducted a four week period of pre-consultation to fulfil this expectation and also to operate a fair and open process and ensure all views were considered. A Statutory Notice and Complete Proposal, initiating a four week Representation Period, were published in accordance with current statutory requirements.

Responses submitted during both the Consultation and Representation Period have been made available to the Executive Councillor for consideration when taking the final decision and further details of these responses are provided in section 5 of this report (**Consultation**).

Education standards and diversity of provision

The Executive Councillor should consider the quality and diversity of schools in the area and be satisfied that a proposal will meet the aspirations of parents, contribute to raising local standards of provision and lead to a closing of attainment gaps. 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 St Faith's CE Infant School is rated overall by Ofsted as a 'Good' school. St Faith's and St Martin is currently rated as 'Requires Improvement', but since their Ofsted necessary steps have been taken to ensure that significant improvement is being made. As detailed earlier in this report the School Improvement Service is confident that by the time the expansion would need to happen (September 2018) the school will have made the progress required to successfully manage an expansion.

The opportunity offered by the related expansion proposals for purpose built permanent accommodation will provide a platform on which standards of attainment can improve with enhanced provision at both schools.

The LA believes that the proposals recommended in this report provide the best option to maintain and improve standards of attainment with an enhanced quality of education for current and future children in the area whilst maintaining diversity.

Demand

The Executive Councillor must consider the evidence presented for any projected increase in pupil population (eg planned housing developments and increasing birth rates) and any anticipated new provision (eg a new free school). A decision must also take into account parental preference and the quality and popularity of schools in the area that have surplus capacity. Surplus capacity in less popular schools should not in itself prevent the addition of new places. The DfE recognises that for parental preference to work effectively there may be some surplus capacity in the system overall but that competition for places to be taken up will lead to existing schools improving standards.

The proposed expansion is required to meet the projected demand for places in Lincoln and to ensure that the LA meets its duty of providing sufficient places for children of statutory school age in the immediate area, without the need to transport young children more than 2 miles away. The related expansion proposals are proposed to meet the need for additional capacity in Lincoln and not to replace existing capacity in the primary sector, therefore not having a significant negative impact on neighbouring primary schools.

As stated earlier in this report, an increased birth rate in recent years is putting significant pressure on primary schools across the country with an expected shortage of school places if additional capacity is not created. Birth data for the Lincoln area confirms that this increase in births is resulting in larger projected intakes than there are currently places for in planning areas across the city. There is expected to be a long term requirement for more primary school places. It will not be possible to meet the growing demand for school places in the Lincoln West Planning Area without additional accommodation. Accommodation will be provided, subject to planning permission and final approval of this proposal, for September 2015 at the infant school and September 2018 at the junior school.

The number on roll at the time of the school census taken in January 2014 was 177 at the infant school and 206 at the junior school. This is broken down by year group in the table below. It also shows the potential Reception intakes for September 2014 to 2016 which is based on NHS GP registration data and historical trends. These projections do not take into account the fact that other schools that serve the Lincoln West Planning Area (Mount Street Infant, Westgate Junior and St Peter in Eastgate Infant) are also projected to be over-subscribed and will not have the capacity to take additional pupils beyond their PAN. Those pupils are expected to require a place at St Faith's Infant and St Faith and St Martin Junior to ensure that they can attend a local school. Those numbers will be in addition to the projected numbers shown in the table below. The published admissions number per year group is currently 60 at St Faith's Infant and St Faith and St Martin Junior:

	2016	2015	2014	Rec	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Total
Infant	72	71	69	58	59	60	-	-	-	-	177
Junior	-	-	-	-	-	-	54	58	52	42	206

Data from January 2014 School Census, NHS GP Registration and trend analysis

School size

Assumptions that schools should be of a certain size to be a good school should not be made although the viability and cost-effectiveness of a proposal is an important factor in the decision-making process eg the impact on a LA's budget to provide additional funding to a small school to compensate for its size.

If the related expansion proposals are not approved with the schools remaining at their current size the demand for places would put increasing pressure on both schools leading to concerns over the consequent impact of overcrowding on the quality of educational provision if additional accommodation is not provided. The related expansion proposals will provide additional classrooms together with the appropriate infrastructure and facilities for schools of their size.

Proposed admission arrangements

Before approving the proposals the LA must ensure that the admission arrangements of the school are compliant with the School Admissions Code. The proposed increases to the PAN at both the infant and junior schools will be processed in accordance with the School Admissions Code to determine admission arrangements for the academic year commencing September 2015.

National Curriculum

All maintained schools must follow the National Curriculum unless they have secured an exemption.

Both St Faith's CE Infant and St Faith and St Martin CE Junior Schools currently follow the National curriculum and will continue to do so if the proposed related expansions are approved.

Equal Opportunity

The LA must have 'due regard' to the need to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations and should consider whether there are any sex, race or disability discrimination issues that arise out of the proposed expansion. There should 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 these related proposals. 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.

Community cohesion

The impact on the community must be considered and schools have a key part to play in providing opportunities for young people from different backgrounds to learn from and respect each other and gain an understanding of other cultures, faiths

and communities. The decision-maker must take account of the community served by the school and the views of different sections of the community.

This expansion will enable the school to admit local children without discrimination and therefore continue to meet the needs of children from all backgrounds represented in the local community.

Comments were raised during consultation with reference to the adequacy of the toilets, the need for hall space and suitable outdoor space. All of these concerns will be taken into consideration in the design and future planning of the school buildings and site if the proposals go ahead.

Travel and accessibility

The Executive Councillor should be satisfied that accessibility planning has been properly taken into account and that proposed changes do not adversely impact on disadvantaged groups. Proposals should not unreasonably extend journey times or increase transport costs or result in too many children being prevented from travelling sustainably due to unsuitable walking or cycling routes. A 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 related proposals 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.

Capital

The Executive Councillor should be satisfied that any land, premises or capital required to implement the proposals will be available and that all relevant parties have given their agreement. A proposal cannot be approved conditionally upon funding being made available. Where the expansion is reliant on the DfE for funding it cannot be assumed that approval of a proposal will trigger the release of capital funds unless previously confirmed in writing.

The related expansion proposals within this report will incur capital costs that the LA will manage through the capital programme. All capital costs are being covered by Basic Need capital funding allocated by the DfE. The funding is provided to add capacity to primary provision where it is needed and is not intended for alternative uses elsewhere. The capital project aims to create the required facilities to accommodate up to 630 primary aged children in total across the two school sites

School premises and playing fields

All schools are required to provide suitable outdoor space to both enable physical education for pupils in accordance with the curriculum and also for pupils to play outside safely. DfE guidelines suggest areas for pitches and games courts but these are non-statutory.

The site size for each of the two schools is limited. Any plans must ensure minimal impact on playing field and outdoor learning and playing space. Appendices A1 and A2 show the current site plans for information. At this stage there are no detailed designs of how the school might be expanded, but initial feasibility studies have indicated that expansion will be achievable without negatively impacting on the existing school premises and playing fields. Sufficient suitable accommodation, playing field and hard team games area will be provided for the maximum number of children that the school will be expected to accommodate. The Infant school site has land to the front of the school that can be utilised. The Junior school site is particularly limited, but early investigations have indicated that it may be possible to improve the efficiency of the site to increase outdoor hard play by rearranging the accommodation on the site and building into embankments in unused areas of the site and also considering options to build up.

Special Educational Needs (SEN) Provision and SEN Improvement Test

If the related 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.

2. Conclusion

The final decision is required from the Executive Councillor to determine whether to approve the related proposals to expand the capacity at St Faith's CE Infant School with effect from 1 September 2015 and St Faith and St Martin CE Junior School with effect from 1 September 2018 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 and the Representation Period (see section 5) must be considered.

The LA believes the related proposals recommended in this report to be in the best interests of local children and local parents as well as educational provision in the area and they support the council's aim of ensuring that as many children as possible can reach their full potential. This will also enable the LA to fulfil its statutory duty of ensuring that there are sufficient places to accommodate all pupils of statutory school age in Lincolnshire.

It is recommended that the related proposals are implemented to ensure the best educational opportunities for the children of Lincoln with the advantages being 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 set out in the report.

4. Resource Comments:

If the final decision is taken to expand the infant and junior schools then the refurbishment costs would be met from Basic Need capital funding allocated by the DfE, with on-going revenue costs being funded from the Dedicated Schools Grant. The proposal to expand the capacity would help the LA to meet its statutory duty to ensure sufficient places are available for all pupils, and provide better value for money through the adoption of a PAN of 90 at each school.

5. Consultation

In order for the schools 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

Under these guidelines the LA must ensure that sufficient time and information are provided for people to understand and form a view on a proposal and make a response. Under the DfE guidelines which came into effect in January 2014 there is no longer a prescribed consultation period for significant changes to schools (including physical expansions). However there is a "*strong expectation on schools and LAs to consult interested parties in developing their proposal prior to publication*". To comply with this the LA has conducted a four week period of pre-consultation. Any documentation issued 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 proposal to the attention of all those who might be interested and take into account their views.

Guidance requires current pupils to be consulted and the Headteachers of both the infant and junior schools have consulted with the children currently attending the schools. The children were able to discuss both the opportunities and issues that

might arise out of their schools increasing in size and consider what this would mean in practice for them.

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 guidance issued by the DfE in January only prescribe the minimum of who must be consulted and "*any other body or person that the local authority think appropriate and it is unlikely that that there will be any cases where it was not felt appropriate to notify the parents at the school of the proposals*". The list of interested parties was therefore compiled according to these principles comprising as wide a range of consultees as practicable to ensure that all interested parties were included and incorporated parents and the Chief Executive of the District Council as well as individual councillors as appropriate.

A letter incorporating relevant information and reasons for the proposal was sent out to interested parties on 6 March 2014 to commence a four week period of consultation. Individual appointments were offered to anyone interested to meet with representatives of the LA at the school to ask questions and raise any concerns and three separate meetings were held. One individual representing the junior school took the opportunity to meet and raised concerns about the adequacy of the existing toilets and the potential increased traffic and loss of outdoor space that they felt might follow the expansion. Similar concerns were also raised by two parents of children at the infant school. The LA officer was able to give assurance that all of these issues will be taken into consideration in the design and future planning of the buildings and on both school sites if the proposals go ahead. The parents also expressed concerns about the impact on the ethos and culture of their school together with the impact on the current pupils but were reassured that this has already been taken into consideration by the LA in the proposed phased intake basis of the implementation of the expansion. In addition, although the parents had concerns about the expansion they understood the need for additional places within the community. They want children to be able to attend their local school firstly to avoid young children having to travel and also be separated from their friends within the community and secondly from an environmental point of view to reduce car usage. They could also see the potential benefits of more suitable hall space and additional facilities and suggested that this would provide an opportunity to carry out a review of the outside space and its usage at the school, particularly at the Junior school.

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 3 April 2014. 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/schoolorganisation

All written responses received during consultation have been provided to the Executive Councillor for consideration. To briefly summarise, however, there were 14 valid responses in total with 7 in favour and 7 against the proposal. The majority of the responses were received from parents with 5 in favour and 7 against. The main concerns of those against the proposal were loss of outdoor space and potential increases in class size. If the proposal goes ahead, the design and future planning of the buildings and sites at both schools will be undertaken with the aim of ensuring minimal impact and making best use of the outdoor space. The

expansion proposal is to increase the PAN at both schools from 60 to 90 both of which are based on class sizes of a maximum of 30 and therefore class sizes should not be affected and will ensure that all class sizes will remain within the regulatory 30 limit for Key Stage 1. Accommodation such as hall space, group rooms and kitchen facilities will all be considered within the scope of the project, not just the number of classrooms.

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 30 April to proceed to Statutory Notice. A statutory 4 week Representation Period was entered into on 29 May 2014 commencing with the publication of the Statutory Notice (Appendix B) in the local press, on the Lincolnshire County Council's website and at the school gates. The Complete Proposal, available in paper and electronic format (Appendix C) to which the Statutory Notice refers, was sent to interested parties as detailed in the statutory guidance and was also published on the website under the webpage 'Current Consultations' at www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/schoolorganisation. 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. No responses were received during the Representation Period.

Under current legislation the LA is the decision maker and is co-ordinating the statutory process before making a final decision in August. 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 expansion of the capacity for primary age provision from 180 to 270 places at St Faith's CE Infant School with effect from 1 September 2015 and from 240 to 360 at St Faith and St Martin CE Junior School with effect from 1 September 2018.

a) Has Local Member Been Consulted?

Yes, the local member has been made aware of the proposal to expand Lincoln St Faith's CE Infant and St Faith and St Martin CE Junior Schools.

b) Has Executive Councillor Been Consulted?

Yes, the Executive Councillor has been involved in the discussions regarding the proposal to expand Lincoln St Faith's CE Infant and St Faith and St Martin CE Junior Schools.

c) Scrutiny Comments

The Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee will consider this report at its meeting on 25 July 2014. Comments from this meeting will be presented to the Executive Councillor for Adult Care, Health and Children's Services on 8 August 2014.

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 existing sites, 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.

6. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A1/A2	Current School Site Plans
Appendix B	Statutory Notice
Appendix C	Complete Proposal

7. Background Papers

Document title	Where the document can be viewed
Report on the proposals to expand the capacity at Lincoln St Faith's C of E Infant and St Faith and St Martin Cof E Junior Schools (decision to go to Statutory Notice)	Lincolnshire County Council Committee Records Reference I006625 30 April 2014
The DfE guide "School Organisation Maintained Schools Guidance for proposers and decision-makers" January 2014; letter to commence the operator selection process; list of interested parties; blank response form and the responses received from all interested parties.	All available on request from the Property and Technology Management Team, Corporate Property
Impact Analysis	Available on request from the Property and Technology Management Team, Corporate Property

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

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- HARD SURFACE
1,101m²
- CAR-PARKING
382m²
- SOFT LANDSCAPE
4,576m²
- G.I.A.
1,065m²
- ACCESS & PATHS
1,426m²
- SITE AREA
9,100m²

Rev.	Date	Description	By	Checked By



Client: MOUCHEL PROPERTY RECORDS

Project: Lincoln St Faith's CE Infant School, West Parade
L0011

Drawing Title
AMP Plan
925/3108

Drawn By: JDH
Checked By: _____

Scale: N.T.S.
Date: March 2012

Project No.: _____ Drawing No.: _____ Revision: _____

Drawing Status

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SR1

-  TEAM GAME HARD PLAY 704m²
-  HABITAT AREA 34m²

-  HARD SURFACE 1,301m²
-  ACCESS & PATHS 772m²

-  SOFT LANDSCAPE 2,447m²
-  G.I.A. 1,884m²

SR2

-  CAR PARKING 516m²
-  SOFT LANDSCAPE 384m²

-  SITE AREA 900m²
-  SITE AREA 7,400m²

Rev.	Date	Description	By	Checked By



Client
MOUCHEL PROPERTY RECORDS

Project
Lincoln St Faith and St Martin CE Junior School
L0010

Drawing Title
AMP Plan
925/3107

Drawn By
JDH

Checked By

Scale
N.T.S.

Date
May 2013

Project No.

Drawing No.

Revision

Drawing Status

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APPENDIX B

Proposals to expand St Faith's Church of England Infant School and St Faith and St Martin Church of England Junior School, Lincoln.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN in accordance with section 19(1) of 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 a prescribed alteration to St Faith's Church of England Infant School, West Parade, Lincoln LN1 1QS with effect from 1 September 2015 and St Faith and St Martin Church of England Junior School, Hampton Street, Lincoln LN1 1LW with effect from 1 September 2018.

The proposals are to increase the Published Admission Number (PAN) of each school from 60 to 90 and to permanently expand St Faith's Infant school from the existing PAN capacity of 180 to 270 places and St Faith and St Martin Junior School from the existing PAN capacity of 240 to 360. The proposal is to increase the PAN initially for the Reception intake at the infant school in September 2015 to 90 with the PAN for all other years remaining at 60 across both schools. The increased intake to 90 would then be phased in with each subsequent Reception intake until the PAN of 90 applies to all year groups, with the first increase in PAN at St Faith and St Martin Junior School being September 2018 when the larger intakes from St Faith's Infant School start to filter through.

The prescribed alterations being consulted on are directly related to one another. Both expansion proposals will be determined together and therefore are dependent on the success of the other. All statutory consultation requirements in respect of this proposal have been complied with.

The current net capacity of St Faith's Infant School is 180 and the proposed net capacity will be 270. There are currently 180 pupils on roll. The current net capacity of St Faith and St Martin Junior School is 240 and the proposed net capacity will be 360. There are currently 200 pupils on roll.

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

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

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

Further details on the consultation which have led to this proposal can be accessed on-line under "Current Consultations" via <http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/schoolorganisation>

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

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Complete Proposal
to Expand both
St Faith's CE Infant School and St Faith and St
Martin Junior School, Lincoln
(related expansion proposals)

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

PROPOSALS TO MAKE A PRESCRIBED ALTERATION TO A SCHOOL

29 May 2014

Contact details

This proposal has been published by Lincolnshire County Council, County Offices, Newland, Lincoln LN1 1YQ regarding the expansion of St Faith's Church of England Infant School, West Parade, Lincoln LN1 1QS and St Faith and St Martin Church of England Junior School, Hampton Street, Lincoln LN1 1LW.

Implementation

The proposal is to expand St Faith's CE Infant School with effect from 1 September 2015 and St Faith and St Martin CE Junior School with effect from 1 September 2018. This proposal is being made to ensure that there are sufficient primary school places in this area of Lincoln 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.

Objections and Comments

Any person or organisation may object to or make comments on the proposal by sending them to Property & Technology Management, Lincolnshire County Council, County Offices, Newland, Lincoln LN1 1YQ or by emailing schoolorganisation@lincolnshire.gov.uk to be received by the deadline of 26 June 2014.

Alteration description

The proposal being consulted on is to permanently expand both schools to be able to take up to an additional 30 children per year group with a Published Admission Number (PAN) of 90 at each school. This would result in the current capacity of 180 places at St Faith's Infant School being increased to take up to a maximum of 270 and at St Faith and St Martin the capacity would be increased from 240 to be able to take up to 360. The proposed implementation dates for these changes are 1st September 2015 for St Faith's Infant School and 1st September 2018 for St Faith and St Martin Junior. This would increase the PAN initially for the Reception intake in September 2015 to 90 with the PAN for all other years remaining at 60 across both schools. The increased intake to 90 would then be phased in with each subsequent Reception intake until the PAN of 90 applies to all year groups, with the first increase in PAN at St Faith and St Martin Junior School being September 2018 when the larger intakes from St Faith's Infant School start to filter through.

Both of these expansion proposals are related, as one cannot happen without the other to ensure that there are sufficient primary age places across all year groups to meet the needs of the local community.

School Capacity and Site

It will not be possible to meet the growing demand for school places in the Lincoln West Planning Area without additional accommodation. Accommodation will be provided, subject to planning permission and final approval of this proposal, for September 2015 at the infant school and September 2018 at the junior school. The necessary building work would be expected to take place during the academic year 2014/2015 at the infant school and 2017/2018 at the junior school. This would be

managed to cause minimal disruption to the school during term time making best use of school holidays where possible.

The planning application process required is dealt with and consulted on separately from this process. There will be an opportunity for those that are interested to respond directly to the planning application.

The number on roll at the time of the school census taken in January 2014 was 177 at the infant school and 206 at the junior school. This is broken down by year group in the table below. It also shows the potential Reception intakes for September 2014 to 2016 which is based on NHS GP registration data and historical trends. These projections do not take into account the fact that other schools that serve the Lincoln West Planning Area (Mount Street Infant, Westgate Junior and St Peter In Eastgate Infant) are also projected to be over-subscribed and will not have the capacity to take additional pupils beyond their PAN. Those pupils are expected to require a place at St Faith's Infant and St Faith and St Martin Junior to ensure that they can attend a local school. Those numbers will be in addition to the projected numbers shown in the table below. The published admissions number per year group is currently 60 at St Faith's Infant and St Faith and St Martin Junior:

	2016	2015	2014	Rec	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Total
Infant	72	71	69	58	59	60	-	-	-	-	177
Junior	-	-	-	-	-	-	54	58	52	42	206

Data from January 2014 Census, NHS GP Registration and trend analysis

The LA and governors will assess all responses to this consultation and consider the practical solutions for ensuring that there would be suitable indoor and outdoor facilities for taking additional children before making a final decision.

Objectives

The proposal detailed in this document is to expand St Faith's CE Infant School with effect from 1 September 2015 and St Faith and St Martin Junior from 1 September 2018. The objective is both to ensure that there are sufficient primary school places in the area 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.

The LA considers this to be the best available solution to the expected shortage of primary school places in the Lincoln West Planning Area 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. These two proposals are directly related to each other and one cannot proceed without the other. There are proposals to expand schools in other planning areas across Lincoln, but they are not directly related to these proposals.

The LA believes the expansion proposals at St Faith's and St Faith and St Martin 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 and at the same time it will assist in meeting parental preference.

Other options in this area have been explored and all primary schools (including other infant and junior schools) have been considered for potential expansion, but none have been found to be as suitable to expand on this scale due to reasons such as severely undersized sites, distance that pupils would have to travel, access, parental preference, potential planning issues, potential impact on standards and the fact that other schools are of suitable sizes for the areas that they serve in relation to where the pupils live. The LA believes this proposal to be the most appropriate option for expansion in the area. It is important that the LA considers all views submitted during consultation.

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. The relevant DfE guidance was updated in January 2014. Under this guidance there is no longer a requirement for a prescribed consultation period prior to the publication of the Statutory Notice and Complete Proposal. However, the DfE still has a strong expectation that LAs will consult interested parties in developing their proposal. To fulfil this expectation the LA undertook the following consultation. This is also to enable the LA to operate a fair and open process and ensure all views are considered.

Consultation originally began on 06 March 2014. A letter incorporating relevant information and reasons for the proposal was sent out to interested parties on 06 March 2014 to commence a four week period of consultation. Individual appointments were offered to anyone interested to meet with representatives of the LA at the school to ask questions and raise any concerns and three separate meetings were held. One individual representing the junior school took the opportunity to meet and raised concerns about the adequacy of the existing toilets and the potential increased traffic and loss of outdoor space that they felt might follow the expansion. Similar concerns were also raised by two parents of children at the infant school. The LA officer was able to give assurance that all of these issues will be taken into consideration in the design and future planning of the buildings and on both school sites if the proposal goes ahead. The parents also expressed concerns about the impact on the ethos and culture of their school together with the impact on the current pupils but were reassured that this has already been taken into consideration by the LA in the proposed phased intake basis of the implementation of the expansion. In addition, although the parents had concerns about the expansion they understood the need for additional places within the community. They do want children to be able to attend their local school firstly to avoid young children having to travel and also be separated from their friends within the

community and secondly from an environmental point of view to reduce car usage. They could also see the potential benefits of more suitable hall space and additional facilities and suggested that this would provide an opportunity to carry out a review of the outside space and its usage at the school.

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 3 April 2014. 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/schoolorganisation

All written responses received during consultation have been provided to the Executive Councillor for consideration and further details are confirmed in this report in Appendix A. To briefly summarise, however, there were 14 valid responses in total with 7 in favour and 7 against the proposal. The majority of the responses were received from parents with 5 in favour and 7 against. The main concerns of those against the proposal were loss of outdoor space and potential increases in class size. If the proposal goes ahead, the design and future planning of the buildings and sites at both schools will be undertaken with the aim of ensuring minimal impact and making best use of the outdoor space. The expansion proposal is to increase the PAN from 60 to 90 both of which are based on class sizes of a maximum of 30 and therefore class sizes should not be affected.

Under current legislation the LA is the decision maker for the proposal.

Project Costs

This proposed expansion will incur capital costs that the LA will fund from the Children's Services capital programme. All capital costs are being covered by the Basic Need funding allocated by the DfE. This funding is provided to add capacity to primary provision where it is needed, and is not intended for alternative uses elsewhere. The capital project aims to create the required facilities at both schools.

Revenue costs associated with the proposed expansion would be funded from the Dedicated Schools Grant (Growth Fund).

Special Educational Needs (SEN) provision

The expansion of the schools is 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 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

National birth rates have been steadily rising in recent years. This increased birth rate, combined in some areas with changes in migrational trends and the effect of new housing development, is now starting put significant pressure on primary schools across the country. There is expected to be a shortage of school places if additional capacity is not created. Birth data for the Lincoln area shows an increase

in births resulting in larger projected intakes than there are currently places for in planning areas across the city. This area also has the added pressures of over 300 new homes being built on a housing development off Carholme Road on the former E2V site. There is expected to be a long term requirement for more primary school places.

Lincoln will therefore experience a shortage of available primary places if capacity in the area is not increased. A permanent sustainable solution is needed to accommodate these extra children to avoid overcrowding and/or transporting young children to alternative schools outside of their local communities.

The expansion is required to meet the projected demand for places in Lincoln and to ensure that the LA meets its duty of providing sufficient places for children of statutory school age in the immediate area, without the need to transport young children more than 2 miles away. The expansion is proposed to meet the need for additional capacity in Lincoln and not to replace existing capacity in the primary sector, therefore not having a significant negative impact on neighbouring primary schools.

Having additional classes and more children on roll at the schools will also have financial benefits for the schools. 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.

Expansion of successful and popular schools

The proposal will assist in meeting parental preference. 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 St Faith's CE Infant School is rated overall by Ofsted as a 'Good' school. St Faith's and St Martin is currently rated as 'Requires Improvement', but since their Ofsted necessary steps have been taken to ensure that significant improvement is being made. The School Improvement Service are confident that by the time the expansion would need to happen (commencing in 2017) the school will have made the progress required to successfully manage an expansion.

The LA considers the proposal to be the most appropriate available solution to the expected shortage of primary school places in this area of Lincoln to enable local children to attend their local school. This proposal has the support of the School Improvement Service (CfBT) who are confident that the schools have the leadership, management and governance required to drive forward a successful expansion which will provide the opportunity to improve the learning experience and outcomes for the children.

Related Proposals

The prescribed alterations (expansions) being consulted on at both the infant and the junior school are directly related to one another. Both expansion proposals will be determined together and therefore are dependent on the success of the other.

What will happen now?

Any person may object to or make comments on this proposal by sending them to Property and Technology Management, Corporate Property, Lincolnshire County Council, County Offices, Newland, Lincoln, Lincolnshire, LN1 1YQ or by emailing schoolorganisation@lincolnshire.gov.uk

At the close of the 4 week representation period (statutory formal consultation) on 26 June 2014 responses will be collated and analysed and a further report will be presented to the Executive Councillor for a final decision in August 2014 on the expansion of the school. 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.

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**Report Reference:
Policy and Scrutiny**

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

Report to:	Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee
Date:	25 July 2014
Subject:	Proposal to amend the age range at Ash Villa School

Summary:

This report invites the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee to consider a report on the Proposal to amend the age range at Ash Villa School which is due to be considered by the Executive Councillor for Adult Care and Health Services, Children's Services on 8 August 2014. The views of the Scrutiny Committee will be reported to the Executive Councillor as part of its 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 set out in the report.
- (2) To agree any additional comments to be passed to the Executive Councillor in relation to this item.

1. Background

The Executive Councillor for Adult Care and Health Services, Children's Services is due to consider the report on the Proposal to amend the age range at Ash Villa 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 and Health Services, 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 and Health Services, Children's Services on Proposal to amend the age range at Ash Villa 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: Adult Care and Health Services, Children's Services
Date:	8 August 2014
Subject:	Proposal to amend the age range of Ash Villa School, Sleaford (final decision)
Decision Reference:	I006623
Key decision?	Yes

Summary:

This report concerns the proposal to amend the age range at Ash Villa School, Willoughby Road, Greylees, Sleaford, NG34 8QA from 11–16 years to 11-18 years with a proposed implementation date of 1 September 2014. The proposal is being put forward to enable the hospital school to support all inpatients at the Ash Villa Hospital unit.

It is the Local Authority's (LA) statutory duty to maintain a sufficient number of suitable school places in Lincolnshire. Following statutory consultation, if the proposal is approved, the age range will be amended with effect from 1st September 2014.

The LA is co-ordinating the process following statutory guidance from the Department for Education (DfE) regarding "[School organisation \(maintained schools\)](#)" in accordance with the terms of the Education and Inspections Act (EIA) 2006 as updated by the Education Act 2011 and The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013.

Consultation commenced on 27 February 2014 with a four week period of consultation which closed on 27 March 2014 and is further referred to later in this report in the Consultation section. Following the consultation period the decision was taken on 30 April 2014 to publish a Statutory Notice on 28 May 2014. This initiated a four week Representation Period up to 25 June 2014 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 of the end of the Representation Period (by 25 August 2014).

This report seeks to advise the Executive Councillor on making the final decision regarding the proposed amendment to the age range at the school.

Recommendation(s):

Following the completion of the statutory process, in accordance with current legislation, the Executive Councillor is recommended to take the final decision to approve the proposal to amend the age range at Ash Villa from 11 – 16 to 11 – 18 years with effect from 1 September 2014.

Alternatives Considered:

1. That the council retains the age range at the school as 11 – 16 years and the consultation process is stopped. This would mean that the school would continue as it is currently and there would be no further consultation on amendment to the age range at Ash Villa.

However, the above alternative would have the following disadvantages:

There would potentially be insufficient available specialist school places in this area of Lincolnshire and the LA may be unable to comply with its statutory duty to ensure that there are sufficient suitable school places.

Not to proceed with this proposal would lead to an inability to meet obligations with regard to the post-16 education of the patients at Ash Villa Hospital. Because of the limitations imposed by their mental health conditions and the structure of their therapeutic regimes, alternative placements are not viable except as partnerships with Ash Villa School or as part-time placements closely supervised by it. The most likely scenario, most of the time and for most pupils, is that the large part of their post-16 education will need to be delivered by the hospital school itself.

Without the school being authorised to deliver post-16 education, the standards achieved by students would be severely impacted upon and the life chances of young people harmed. Pre-existing “home” placements might be lost and transition to new placements fail, leading to young people, after discharge, being not in employment, education or training. Even for those young people able to affect a return to a pre-existing placement, their achievement would be likely to be adversely affected without having continued their post-16 education as fully as possible during their hospital stay. To achieve educational success is an important element in the emotional well-being of all young people and has enhanced significance for the patients at Ash Villa Hospital, who have suffered high level mental health problems.

2. That the council retains the school as it is at present with no amendment to the age range, the consultation process is stopped and the LA looks to other schools in the surrounding area to implement the changes required.

As indicated in Section 1 (Background), the specialist nature of the

educational provision at Ash Villa (it is the only Tier 4 establishment in the county) means that alternatives for providing post-16 education for the in-patients at Ash Villa Hospital are not available. The young people placed there require educational provision that is complementary to and closely integrated with their medical treatment and that has the specialist capacity to be fully responsive to the over-riding imperatives of therapy. Whilst other local provision could be drawn-upon as part of a young person's overall educational programme, this would only be feasible within a core programme "owned" and delivered by Ash Villa School.

The proposal has the support of the Headteacher and Governing Body and also the School Improvement Service (CfBT) which is confident that the school has the strong leadership and management required to drive forward a successful change and provide the opportunity to improve the learning experience and outcomes for the children.

Reasons for Recommendation:

To enable the LA to meet its statutory obligation to ensure that students at Ash Villa School receive the post-16 education required for all young people since the raising of the participation age.

A small increase in total pupil numbers and authorisation to provide post-16 education will allow Ash Villa School to meet the needs, as now required in statutory terms, of some of the most vulnerable young people in the education system. The specialist nature of the hospital and the practical considerations of residential placement and therapeutic programmes mean that the hospital school has either to deliver post-16 education directly or to be the facilitator, co-ordinator and lead partner in any shared arrangements.

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 secondary education.

The LA considers the proposal to be the best available solution to the provision of post-16 education for the in-patients at Ash Villa Hospital school.

1. Background

The Ash Villa Hospital unit provides inpatient care for young people experiencing mental health difficulties. The age range of inpatients admitted to the unit is 11-18. Due to the differing age ranges of Ash Villa School and the unit, the school is currently unable to provide formal educational support to those young people attending sixth-form or college (post-16 education) prior to admission.

In addition, a number of young people on the unit who are above the school's current age range are not in any formal education, employment or training prior to admission. Raising the age range of Ash Villa School would enable work to take place with these young people, to try and re-engage them with education and potentially lead to more successful outcomes post-discharge.

The county has two hospital schools: Pilgrim Hospital and Ash Villa. The former meets needs at Tier 3 and is non-residential. Ash Villa is residential and meets the more acute needs assessed as requiring Tier 4 provision. There is no other establishment of Ash Villa Hospital's type in the county. The length of stay is extremely variable, from a few weeks to as much as a year, and this is a further complicating factor in delivering education to post-16 students.

Key components in the educational programmes at Ash Villa School, for students of all ages, are to maintain continuity as much as possible during highly disrupted and traumatic stages in their lives. Wherever possible, the plan is to sustain home placements by close liaison with the original school or college and the delivery of teaching that is fully complementary. Where a young person, for any reason, lacks a viable home placement, Ash Villa School endeavours to identify one and to provide effective transition into it.

The school is very small, currently funded for 9 students (although there is the usual provision for meeting some additional numbers with in-year adjustments). Statistics for the academic year 2012-13 suggest that the number of post-16 students would be a total of approximately 4 in an average week.

Reaching the decision – Preliminary Considerations

The requirements for decision making relating to school organisation in LA Maintained schools are set out in Annex B of the guide "School Organisation Maintained Schools January 2014" published by the DfE.

The DfE does not prescribe the exact process which a decision maker should follow but the decision maker must have regard to this guidance. The decision maker should consider the views of those affected by the proposal and should not simply take account of the numbers of people expressing a view but give greatest weight to those stakeholders most likely to be affected and especially the parents of children at the school concerned.

Factors to be considered by Decision Makers

The Consultation and Representation Period

The Executive Councillor must be satisfied that the appropriate consultation and representation periods have been carried out and that all of the responses received have been given due consideration.

Although there is no longer a prescribed consultation period prior to the publication of the Statutory Notice and Complete Proposal the DfE's guidance states "a strong expectation on schools and LAs to consult interested parties in developing their

proposal prior to publication". The LA conducted a four week period of pre-consultation to fulfil this expectation and also to operate a fair and open process and ensure all views were considered. A Statutory Notice and Complete Proposal, initiating a four week Representation Period, were published in accordance with current statutory requirements.

Responses submitted during both the Consultation and Representation Period have been made available to the Executive Councillor for consideration when taking the final decision and further details of these responses are provided in section 5 of this report (**Consultation**).

Education standards and diversity of provision

The Executive Councillor should consider the quality and diversity of educational provision in the area and be satisfied that the proposal will meet the aspirations of parents, contribute to raising local standards of provision and lead to the narrowing of attainment gaps. 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 most recent Ofsted report following an inspection at the school was published in September 2012 and evaluated the school overall as "Good".

As detailed earlier in this report (Alternatives considered) without the school being authorised to deliver post-16 education, the standards achieved by students would be severely impacted upon and the life chances of young people harmed. Pre-existing "home" placements might be lost and transition to new placements fail, leading to young people, after discharge, being not in employment, education or training. Even for those young people able to affect a return to a pre-existing placement, their achievement would be likely to be adversely effected without having continued their post-16 education as fully as possible during their hospital stay. To achieve educational success is an important element in the emotional well-being of all young people and has enhanced significance for the patients at Ash Villa Hospital, who have suffered high level mental health problems.

The LA believes that this proposal provides the best option to maintain and improve standards of attainment with an enhanced quality of education for current and future children who need to be inpatients at the hospital.

Demand

The Executive Councillor must consider the evidence presented for any projected demand and the decision must also take into account parental preference.

There is no other establishment of Ash Villa's type in the county. The school is currently unable to provide formal educational support for young people attending post-16 education prior to admission to the hospital unit. Raising the age range would also enable the school to work with young people in the unit who are not in any formal education, employment or training.

School size and admission arrangements

Assumptions that schools should be of a certain size to be a good school should not be made although the viability and cost-effectiveness of a proposal is an important factor in the decision-making process.

The school is very small, currently funded for 9 students (although there is the usual provision for meeting some additional numbers with in-year adjustments). Statistics for the academic year 2012-13 suggest that post-16 students would be a total, in an average week, of approximately 4. Admissions to the school are only made in respect of young people who are in-patients at Ash Villa Hospital. With regards to costs and value for money: although hospital school funding is distinct from general special school funding, due regard has been given to the special funding bands in Lincolnshire which are in turn an expression of the government's formula for special schools funding.

National Curriculum

All maintained schools must follow the National Curriculum unless they have secured an exemption.

Ash Villa School currently follows the National curriculum and will continue to do so if the proposed amendment to the age range is approved.

Equal Opportunity

The LA must have 'due regard' to the need to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations and should consider whether there are any sex, race or disability discrimination issues that arise out of the proposed expansion. There should 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. Further, if approved, the proposal will enable educational provision to be offered to more young people.

In all educational provision the LA will continue to be committed to provide access to a range of opportunities which reflect the ethnic and cultural mix of the relevant area while ensuring that such opportunities are open to all.

Community cohesion

The impact on the community must be considered and schools have a key part to play in providing opportunities for young people from different backgrounds to learn from and respect each other and gain an understanding of other cultures, faiths

and communities. The decision-maker must take account of the community served by the school and the views of different sections of the community.

The school is the only one of its type in the county and will continue to provide education to in-patients at the hospital unit. This provision is open to meet the needs of all young people of Lincolnshire who may require in-patient care and therefore the school will continue to provide for young people from varied backgrounds.

Travel and accessibility

The proposal to amend the age range at the school will not have a significant impact on travel or accessibility in that all pupils will be in-patients at the hospital unit.

Capital

No land, premises or capital investment will be required to implement the proposal.

School premises and playing fields

There will be no implications regarding outdoor space if the proposal to amend the age range is approved.

Special Educational Needs (SEN) Provision and SEN Improvement Test

If the proposal is approved there is likely to be an improvement to SEN provision in that education will be provided for a wider age range. The LA will continue to ensure suitable provision for all children with special educational needs and 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.

Addition of post-16 provision

The decision-maker should look for evidence that a proposal to add post-16 education will improve, extend the range and increase participation in high quality educational training opportunities and how the new places will fit within the 16 – 19 organisation in the area.

As confirmed above there is no other establishment of Ash Villa's type in the county and raising the school age will extend the range of and participation in provision.

2. Conclusion

The final decision is required from the Executive Councillor to determine whether to approve the proposal to amend the age range at Ash Villa School. The factors to consider in making this decision are within this report and all valid responses received must be considered.

The LA believes this proposal to be in the best interests of Lincolnshire children and parents as well as educational provision in Lincolnshire 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 suitable places to accommodate all pupils in Lincolnshire.

It is recommended that the proposal is implemented to ensure the best educational opportunities for the children of Lincolnshire. 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 in the report.

4. Resource Comments:

If the decision to amend the age range is approved, the future additional revenue costs will be funded from the Dedicated Schools Grant.

5. Consultation

In order for the school to amend the age range at the school the LA must follow the guidance of the DfE as detailed in the statutory guidance from the Department for Education (DfE) regarding "School organisation (maintained schools)" in accordance with the terms of the Education and Inspections Act (EIA) 2006 as updated by the Education Act 2011 and The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013. Although there is no statutory requirement for consultation under the new regulations, this is considered good practice.

The LA should 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 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, the Chief Executive of the District Council, the Parish Clerk of the local Parish Council as well as individual councillors as appropriate.

A letter incorporating relevant information and reasons for the proposal was sent out to interested parties on 27 February 2014 to commence a four 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 letter by 27 March 2014. Copies of the letter commencing consultation and the response form were also published on the County Council website under the webpage "Current Consultations" on <http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/schoolorganisation>

The written responses received during consultation have been provided to the Executive Councillor for consideration and further details are confirmed in the appendix attached to the background report. To briefly summarise, however, there were 5 valid responses in total with none against the proposal.

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 30 April 2014 to proceed to Statutory Notice. A statutory 4 week Representation Period was entered into on 28 May 2014 commencing with the publication of the Statutory Notice (Appendix A) in the local press, on the Lincolnshire County Council's website and at the school entrance. The Complete Proposal, available in paper and electronic format (Appendix B) to which the Statutory Notice refers, was sent to interested parties as detailed in the statutory guidance and was also published on the website under the webpage 'Current Consultations' at www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/schoolorganisation. 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. No responses were submitted 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 final decision in August. 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 from 11 – 16 years to 11 – 18 years at Ash Villa School with effect from 1 September 2014 if it is decided to proceed.

a) Has Local Member Been Consulted?

Yes the local member has been made aware of the proposals to amend the age range.

b) Has Executive Councillor Been Consulted?

Yes the Executive Councillor has been involved in the discussions regarding the proposals to amend the age range.

c) Scrutiny Comments

The Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee will consider this report at its meeting on 25 July 2014. Comments from this meeting will be presented to the Executive Councillor for Adult Care, Health and Children's Services on 8 August 2014.

d) Policy Proofing Actions Required

An Impact Assessment has been completed. In summary the analysis indicates that there will be no significant negative impact arising out of the Executive Councillor's decision. However, if the proposal is approved there will be the potential for a positive impact in that it will likely lead to improved educational success which is an important element in the emotional well-being of all young people and in particular for the patients at Ash Villa School.

6. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Statutory 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
Report on the proposal to amend the age range children at Ash Villa School	Lincolnshire County Council Committee Records Reference 1006622 30 April 2014
The DfE guide "School Organisation Maintained Schools Guidance for proposers and decision-makers" January 2014 with attached Annex A and B	https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-organisation-maintained-schools

List of interested parties; letter to commence consultation; the blank consultation response form; and the responses received from all interested parties.	All available on request from the Property and Technology Management Team, Corporate Property, Lincolnshire County Council
Impact Analysis	Available on request from the Property and Technology Management Team, Corporate Property, Lincolnshire County Council

This report was written by Michelle Andrews, Head of Service, Property and Technology Management who can be contacted on 01522 553269 or Michelle.andrews@lincolnshire.gov.uk

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APPENDIX A

Proposal to amend the age range of Ash Villa School in Sleaford.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN in accordance with section (19)3 of 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 Ash Villa School, Greylees, Sleaford, NG34 8QA.

Lincolnshire County Council intends to make a prescribed alteration to amend the age range from 11-16 years to 11-18 years.

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

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 schoolorganisation@lincolnshire.gov.uk or through the website www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/schoolorganisation

Within four 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.

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

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

Publication Date: 28 May 2014

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Complete Proposal
to amend the age range of
Ash Villa School, Sleaford

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

PROPOSALS TO MAKE A PRESCRIBED ALTERATION TO A SCHOOL

28 May 2014

Contact details

This proposal has been published by Lincolnshire County Council, County Offices, Newland, Lincoln LN1 1YQ regarding the age range change of Ash Villa School, Greylees, Sleaford, NG34 8QA.

Implementation

It is the Local Authority's (LA) statutory duty to maintain a sufficient number of suitable school places in Lincolnshire. Following statutory consultation, if the proposal is approved, the age range change will be amended and implemented with effect from 1st September 2014.

Objections and Comments

Any person or organisation may object to or make comments on the proposal by sending them to Property & Technology Management, Lincolnshire County Council, County Offices, Newland, Lincoln LN1 1YQ or by emailing schoolorganisation@lincolnshire.gov.uk to be received by the deadline of 25 June 2014.

Alteration description

The proposal is to amend the age range at Ash Villa School, Willoughby Road, Greylees, Sleaford, NG34 8QA from 11–16 years to 11-18 years with a proposed implementation date of 1 September 2014. The proposal is being put forward to enable the hospital school to support all inpatients at the Ash Villa Hospital unit.

School Capacity and Site

If this proposal is approved the post 16 pupils will be accommodated within the existing facilities which are sufficient to provided appropriate infrastructure and accommodation on the existing site for the number of pupils on roll.

The number on roll of 11-16 aged pupils at the time of the May 2014 school census was 12 as shown by year group in the table below:

	Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10	Y11	Total
Number on Roll	0	1	0	3	8	12

Objectives

The proposal detailed in this document is to increase the age range to enable the LA to meet its statutory obligation to ensure that students at Ash Villa School receive the post-16 education required for all young people since the raising of the participation age.

A small increase in total pupil numbers and authorisation to provide post-16 education will allow Ash Villa School to meet the needs, as now required in statutory terms, of some of the most vulnerable young people in the education system. The specialist nature of the hospital and the practical considerations of residential

placement and therapeutic programmes mean that the hospital school has either to deliver post-16 education directly or to be the facilitator, co-ordinator and lead partner in any shared arrangements.

The proposal is being made 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 secondary education.

The LA considers the proposal to be the best available solution to the provision of post-16 education for the in-patients at Ash Villa Hospital school.

The Ash Villa Hospital unit provides inpatient care for young people experiencing mental health difficulties. The age range of inpatients admitted to the unit is 11-18. Due to the differing age ranges of Ash Villa School and the unit, the school is currently unable to provide formal educational support to those young people attending sixth-form or college (post-16 education) prior to admission.

In addition, a number of young people on the unit who are above the school's current age range are not in any formal education, employment or training prior to admission. Raising the age range of Ash Villa School would enable work to take place with these young people, to try and re-engage them with education and potentially lead to more successful outcomes post-discharge.

The county has two hospital schools: Pilgrim Hospital and Ash Villa. The former meets needs at Tier 3 and is non-residential. Ash Villa is residential and meets the more acute needs assessed as requiring Tier 4 provision. There is no other establishment of Ash Villa Hospital's type in the county. The length of stay is extremely variable, from a few weeks to as much as a year, and this is a further complicating factor in delivering education to post-16 students.

Key components in the educational programmes at Ash Villa School, for students of all ages, are to maintain continuity as much as possible during highly disrupted and traumatic stages in their lives. Wherever possible, the plan is to sustain home placements by close liaison with the original school or college and the delivery of teaching that is fully complementary. Where a young person, for any reason, lacks a viable home placement, Ash Villa School endeavours to identify one and to provide effective transition into it.

The school is very small, currently funded for 9 students (although there is the usual provision for meeting some additional numbers with in-year adjustments). Statistics for the academic year 2012-13 suggest that post-16 students would be a total, in an average week, of approximately 4.

The proposal to amend the age range has the support of the Headteacher and Governing Body and the LA believes it to be the most appropriate option, but it is important that the LA considers all views submitted during the consultation and representation periods.

The publication of the Statutory Notice enables 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 before a final decision is made.

Consultation

In order for the school to amend the age range at the school the LA must follow the guidance of the DfE as detailed in the statutory guidance from the Department for Education (DfE) regarding "School organisation (maintained schools)" in accordance with the terms of the Education and Inspections Act (EIA) 2006 as updated by the Education Act 2011 and The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013. Although there is no statutory requirement for consultation under the new regulations, this is considered good practice.

The LA should 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 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, the Chief Executive of the District Council, the Parish Clerk of the local Parish Council as well as individual councillors as appropriate.

A letter incorporating relevant information and reasons for the proposal was sent out to interested parties on 27 February 2014 to commence a four 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 letter by 27 March 2014. Copies of the letter commencing consultation and the response form were also published on the County Council website under the webpage Current Consultations on <http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/schoolorganisation>

The written responses received during consultation have been provided to the Executive Councillor for consideration and further details are confirmed in this report in Appendix A. To briefly summarise, however, there were 5 valid responses in total with none against the proposal.

The Representation Period which commenced with the publication of the Statutory Notice gives 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 by the Executive Councillor in August 2014. 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.

Project Costs

This proposed expansion will incur no capital costs.

Special Educational Needs (SEN) provision

The change in age range of the school is not likely to have any impact on SEN provision other than an opportunity to improve opportunities for young people to access resources and good quality teaching, learning and school 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 Ash Villa Hospital unit provides inpatient care for young people experiencing mental health difficulties. The age range of inpatients admitted to the unit is 11-18. Due to the differing age ranges of Ash Villa School and the unit, the school is currently unable to provide formal educational support to those young people attending sixth-form or college (post-16 education) prior to admission.

In addition, a number of young people on the unit who are above the school's current age range are not in any formal education, employment or training prior to admission. Raising the age range of Ash Villa School would enable work to take place with these young people, to try and re-engage them with education and potentially lead to more successful outcomes post-discharge.

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Key components in the educational programmes at Ash Villa School, for students of all ages, are to maintain continuity as much as possible during highly disrupted and traumatic stages in their lives. Wherever possible, the plan is to sustain home placements by close liaison with the original school or college and the delivery of teaching that is fully complementary. Where a young person, for any reason, lacks a viable home placement, Ash Villa School endeavours to identify one and to provide effective transition into it.

The school is very small with the usual provision for meeting some additional numbers with in-year adjustments. Statistics for the academic year 2012-13 suggest that post-16 students would be a total, in an average week, of approximately 4.

Related Proposals

The proposal to change the age range of Ash Villa School is 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 Property and Technology Management, Children's Services, Lincolnshire County Council, County Offices, Newland, Lincoln, Lincolnshire, LN1 1YQ or by emailing schoolorganisation@lincolnshire.gov.uk

At the close of the 4 week representation period (statutory formal consultation) on 25 June 2014 responses will be collated and analysed and a final report will be presented to the Executive Councillor in August 2014 for a decision on the expansion of the school. 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.

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

Report to:	Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee
Date:	25 July 2014
Subject:	Corporate Parenting Panel update

Summary:

The work of the Corporate Parenting Panel remains critical in promoting life chances and opportunities for vulnerable children, looked after children and care leavers. Members act as champions on behalf of these groups of children and young people. The Panel meets on a quarterly basis and includes representatives from looked after children and foster carers.

Through the presentation of reports, performance information, and visiting members responsibilities, the Panel scrutinise that arrangements for the safety and welfare of looked after children and care leavers are in accordance with what every good parent would want for their own child.

It is agreed that the minutes of the Corporate Parenting Panel be presented to the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee and the draft minutes of the meeting held 13/03/2014 are attached.

Actions Required:

The Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee is asked to note the work of the Corporate Parenting Panel and to consider the matters raised and addressed.

1. Background

The Panel meet quarterly and is continually evolving and is very proactive in seeking information to inform members about the quality of services provided by the Local Authority and partner agencies, as is evidenced in the recording of the minutes.

2. Conclusion

The on-going scrutiny process looking at how well we meet our respective responsibilities and the different aspects of a child and young person's needs is pivotal to the work of the Corporate Parenting Panel. The attached draft minutes

provide an account of the work undertaken since the previous panel held on 31/01/2014.

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	Corporate Parenting Panel minutes 13/03/2014

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 Tara Jones, who can be contacted on 01522 552686 or tara.jones@lincolnshire.gov.uk.

PRESENT: COUNCILLOR D BRAILSFORD (CHAIRMAN)

Councillors A G Hagues, J D Hough (Vice-Chairman), P J O'Connor and L Wootten.

External Members: Mrs Marilyn Graham-Williams (Foster Carer) and Mr Ted Normandale (National Youth Advocacy Service).

Officer/invited guests in attendance: Rebecca Andrews (Principal Lawyer, Legal Services), Dave Clarke (Secure Unit Principal), Sheridan Dodsworth (Head of Service, Children with Disabilities), Judith Gilbert (Democratic Services Officer), John Harris (Joint Head of Regulated Services), Colin Hopkirk (Participation Officer), Tracy Johnson (Scrutiny Officer), Tara Jones (Joint Head of Regulated Services), Nicola Leaning (Lawyer, Legal Services), Kerry Mitchell (Leaving Care Manager, Barnardo's), Jinny Niven (Interim Customer Relations and Complaints Manager) and Janice Spencer (Assistant Director Children's Service).

51. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors J R Hicks and R J Hunter-Clarke.

Apologies were also received from Jean Burbidge (Lincolnshire Community Health Services), Polly Coombes (Foster Carer), Samantha Edwards (Lincolnshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust) and Cassie Hanley-Ball (Chair, V4C The Looked After Children Council).

52. DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

No declarations of members' interests were made at this stage of proceedings.

53. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 31 JANUARY 2014

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the previous meeting held on the 31 January 2014 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record. It was, however, noted that Councillor L Wootten had given her apologies to the meeting due to a prior civic engagement.

54. V4C THE LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN COUNCIL QUARTERLY MINUTES

The Panel considered the notes of the V4C (Voices for Choices) Executive Minutes dated 21 January 2014 and 18 February 2014.

It was noted that the FAB! Awards which had taken place on Saturday 8 March 2014 at the Epic Centre, Lincoln, had been very well attended and the day was most successful and enjoyable. The Panel was informed that foster carers who had cared for young people for over thirty-five years received awards. It was also noted that Lincolnshire County Council would write to the foster carers expressing their thanks to them for their dedication over the last thirty-five years.

It was observed that one young person had been sponsored in completing the Three Peaks Challenge with the sponsorship money raised being donated to Help the Heroes which the Panel felt was very commendable.

It was reported that a Residential Adventure Weekend with approximately sixteen young people which included members of the Youth Cabinet and Young Inspectors had been planned for the weekend of 15 and 16 March 2014 at a Youth Hostel in Derbyshire which would be a chance for all who attended to interact together and share their experience with the newly elected Youth Cabinet.

The Panel was informed that Manchester Metro University were holding an assessment event on 27 March 2014 at Loxley House, Nottingham, where three members of V4C Executive Group would be part of an assessment panel for social worker presentations for the "step-up" social work degree course.

It was conveyed that Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Education's visit held recently had been successful and two young people were invited to meet the group. Feedback from Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Education was that the young people they met engaged well with the group and gave positive accounts of their life in care.

It was acknowledged that four young people from the V4C Executive had been engaged with the Duke of Edinburgh Awards and all felt this had been a really positive experience. It was expressed that Lincolnshire County Council may need to promote this more widely and more work was needed in this area. It was noted that the Duke of Edinburgh Awards do not as a rule note if a child is Looked After. It was felt that the young people who had been engaged with the Duke of Edinburgh Awards had benefitted from this giving them greater confidence and self-esteem in their lives. It was requested that a further report be submitted to a future meeting of the Panel outlining how many looked after children had benefitted previously and guidance on how this could be promoted further in the future was needed.

The Panel was informed that work was currently being explored with regard to using Skype for future meetings which could save travelling expenses and time in attending meetings for staff and young people as well as making all meetings accessible. The Group was also looking at making more use of a volunteer drivers' scheme.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted and a further report as detailed be submitted to a future Corporate Parenting Panel Meeting.

55. VISITING MEMBERS' QUARTERLY REPORT AND VISITING MEMBER FEEDBACK

(Councillor J D Hough joined the meeting)

The Panel received an updated report outlining Councillors' visits to Children's Homes between April 2013 and March 2014. Some Panel Members expressed concern that the information circulated may need to be updated as some visits made by Councillors had not been recorded on the Visiting Members' Log Sheet received.

It was reported that it had been a difficult time in the main stream residential units over this period with a complex mix of young people but staff had managed behavioural difficulties well. It was noted that Strut House in Lincoln and Haven Cottage in Boston had been graded as outstanding. The Panel was informed that the homes were used for respite care cover for young people with disabilities.

It was agreed that Councillor L Wootten would update the Panel with information relating to her visit at the next Corporate Parenting Panel to be held on 5 June 2014 and the Panel was encouraged to make visits to the Children's Homes.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

56. LEGAL SERVICES LINCOLNSHIRE

The Panel was informed that the Legal Child Care Team currently provided legal advice and support for Lincolnshire County Council. Instructions were received by the Legal Child Care Team from Children's Services and the Team currently had 16 members of staff which comprised of 8 lawyers and 2 senior legal officers plus support staff. It was emphasised that they did not make decisions about the care of children but worked closely with Children's Services staff and the courts in order to support the future outcomes for children. They held regular meetings with the Judge and had a close working relationship in order to determine the most suitable outcome for the child.

The Panel received a report regarding the implementation of legal proceedings between April 2012 and November 2013. It was noted that between April 2012 and March 2013 care proceedings were issued in respect of 222 children consisting of 212 applications for Care Orders and 7 applications for Supervision Orders. There was also 1 application for a Care Order and Secure Accommodation Order. Between April 2013 and November 2013 care proceedings were issued in respect of 101 children, 99 of the applications were for Care Orders and 2 applications for Supervision Orders. It was reported that between April 2012 and March 2013 care proceedings were concluded in respect of 206 children and between April 2013 and November 2013 care proceedings were concluded in respect of 155 children.

It was reported that from April 2014 all Court cases should be completed by twenty six weeks although it was noted currently that the average court case was concluded after 22 weeks and that Lincolnshire County Council was the top performing organisation in England with regard to concluding court cases. Social Workers were seeing a large increase in the amount of cases now being dealt with and a recruitment exercise was currently being undertaken to recruit additional social workers. It was observed that legal aid arrangements had changed from April 2013 and the fees of those who provided legal aid had decreased considerably and timescales reduced.

It was noted that from 1 July 2013 a new Public Law Outline came into force and since this date 38 cases had been issued in respect of 58 children.

The Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Services (CAFCASS) Plus Initiative had received 34 cases before court proceedings were issued. Of these 34 cases, 3 cases had been diverted from CAFCASS with children remaining in the care of their parents. Currently 23 cases had been issued, 8 of which were for unborn babies. Referrals at 20 weeks pregnancy may be made in order that social workers may work with the parents and families prior to the baby being born.

The Panel was informed that the number of children proceeding into foster care was gradually reducing and Children's Services were now looking into other alternative methods to place children other than adoption.

Concern was expressed that there may be children who were being abused which Lincolnshire County Council was unaware of. It was confirmed that Lincolnshire County Council received little criticism at the way children were currently protected.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

57. PERFORMANCE REPORT

The Panel received a report from Quarter 3 2013/2014 which showed:

(a) The percentage of Looked After Children with an up-to-date health check

It was noted that the performance in Quarter 3 was 4.5% below target of which 1.72% of young people who exercised their right to refuse a health assessment. It was noted that possibly there was a shortage of Doctors who were able to complete this assessment.

(b) The percentage of Looked After Children with an up-to-date dental check

It was reported that again performance was below target and this could possibly be due to inputting errors. It was noted also that possibly there were a number of young people who refused to attend a dental appointment. It was hoped that this target would improve in the next quarter.

(c) The percentage of Looked After Children with up-to-date routine immunisations

Performance was below target but it was felt that a substantial proportion of young people looked after were within the age range where they did not require immunisations every year. This target was reported on because it was felt important that no immunisations were missed.

(d) Timeliness and stability of Looked After Children

It was reported that although this target had improved, the set target may never be reached as it was imperative that the best interests for the child were always considered a priority. It was confirmed that a letter had been sent to the Education Secretary regarding this set target.

(e) Stability of Placements of Looked After Child

It was noted that there had been a marked deterioration in the past quarter in the number of home moves children had endured. Therefore some placements had not been as effectively matched upon entry into care. It was observed that 9 of the group of 38 children had been successfully placed for adoption, 4 of whom had previously been placed as a first placement in a parent and child foster placement.

The Panel expressed concern that children were having to be moved around foster homes and received reassurance that much thought goes into placing children with the most suitable foster families available and there was inevitably going to be some changes as some children did not settle in foster families and were much more suited to residential care. The Panel expressed concern at what support was offered to the child and it was noted that this was very much tailored to the individual needs of a particular child.

(f) Adoptions of Looked After Children

It was reported that the performance of the above target had exceeded expectations. This was due to the effective management of timescales, links and timely adoption orders being granted.

(g) Looked After Children per 10,000 population aged under 18

It was confirmed that 587 children were in the care of the Local Authority at the end of last year.

The Panel referred to missing data in the report and it was agreed that this data would be presented to a future meeting.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

58. COMPLIMENTS, COMMENTS AND COMPLAINTS RECEIVED FOR LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN

The Panel received a report outlining two complaints which had been received between 1 July 2013 and 31 December 2013.

The Panel noted a complaint had been received from a 16 year old girl who had complained that her Social Worker would not allow her to sleep over at her 23 year old boyfriend's house. It was noted that the Social Worker felt this inappropriate as the boyfriend did not have his own bedroom and was sleeping on a settee in the communal area of the house.

A second complaint had been received from a 15 year old boy who was unhappy he was not able to go on holiday with his foster carers as he did not have a passport and his father would not agree to this being issued to him to allow him to go on holiday. The National Youth Advocacy Service (NYAS) supported the boy with regard to making representation to the boy's Social Worker to try and resolve this situation. Unfortunately a solution was unforthcoming and NYAS gave him the necessary support to enable him to make a complaint to Lincolnshire County Council. Although Lincolnshire County Council liaised with the Legal Section the problem remained unresolved. It was noted that NYAS Legal Section supported the boy with assistance to apply for a specific issue resolution from the Court. The Panel was informed that the Legal Section of Lincolnshire County Council would be contacted with regard to the advice originally submitted.

An update was given to the Panel with regard to a complaint received prior to this quarter. A complaint was received from a young person who had been looked after by Lincolnshire County Council for the last eight years and was made on behalf of herself and her brother. It was noted that the children were removed from the family home due to serious concerns for their safety. The children felt that Lincolnshire County Council had failed on occasions to protect them from violence in the home and Lincolnshire County Council had failed to act in the best interests of the children concerned. The children were also unhappy that Lincolnshire County Council had failed to submit claims on their behalf to the Criminal Injuries Board despite having raised the complaint a number of times. It was observed that the complaint was investigated at Stage 2 and was found to be partly substantiated.

Concern was expressed that children had the opportunity to make a complaint and were aware of the process involved. It was confirmed that NYAS offered support and tried to find a remedy to complaints received and it was felt that if it was not for this service more formal complaints would be received by Lincolnshire County Council. It was noted that complaints were normally resolved at a local level initially although it was acknowledged that improved information for children with regard to making complaints should be progressed. It was, however, noted that children were given the opportunity to make complaints if it was felt necessary and complaint forms were available for use.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

59. LINCOLNSHIRE LEAVING CARE UPDATE

The Panel was informed that to date, Lincolnshire's Leaving Care Service was supporting 320 young people across the County.

It was noted that Barnardo's Leaving Care Service had been a key partner in developing the Youth Homelessness Strategy. They had a clear plan in place for helping young people in unsuitable accommodation although it was emphasised that some young people may be happy staying in unsuitable accommodation but the aim of the Care Service was to give support to the individual. Barnardo's Supported Lodgings Scheme currently offered accommodation and support to care leavers across the County. They currently had 22 providers which offered 32 placements. It was noted that from April 2013 to the present date 44 care leavers had been supported in their lodgings. It was indicated that there were 19 young people currently in supported lodgings and during the next six months plans to extend this provision by recruiting, training and supporting more accommodation providers were to be progressed.

The Panel was informed that two work preparation courses had been completed within the last six months with 27 young people in attendance. It was noted that 11 young people had attended the Care Leavers Apprenticeship Scheme on the 1 June 2013. Five of the young people who attended were now in employment with a host employer and 1 person dropped out of the scheme. It was noted that the other young people remained on the Care Leavers Apprenticeship Scheme.

It was reported that three care leavers had been involved in a Countywide participation forum working on anti-bullying strategies with young people.

The Panel was also informed that 20 young people had attended a residential in Derbyshire in order to experience outdoor activities with the aim to increase confidence and self-esteem. Reference was made to a visit of three young people who had met the Queen at the Barnardo's Head Office opening in London recently as well as meeting Girls Aloud. It was noted that many of the young people who travelled had never visited London previously.

The Panel was informed that Barnardos were recruiting two additional workers to work in conjunction with nurses for young people with specific needs. It was also noted that Lincolnshire was providing a good support service to young people in comparison with other areas of the country. The Panel noted that work was currently being undertaken with asylum seekers who were under the age of 21 and employers were being encouraged to employ them.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

60. FOSTERING REPORT QUARTER 3

The Panel was informed that for 2013/2014 fostering within Children's Service had an annual budget of £7,635,000 an increase which had enabled a 1.75% uplift for all registered foster carers. It was noted that the fostering service continued to be largely self-sufficient with the majority of children requiring foster placements being placed within the County. It was noted that there were limited placements for sibling groups available. The Panel was informed that Lincolnshire's self-sufficiency differed considerably from other local authorities where up to 50% of children were placed with Independent Fostering Agencies and in Doncaster where all recruitment for children over the age of eight were delegated to an Independent Fostering Agency.

It was reported that 62 enquiries had been received in the last quarter from members of the public interested in becoming foster carers. This was a diminishing figure and had resulted in the service reviewing its approach to the recruitment of foster carers. At the same time the recruitment project with the DfE had continued and a successful event was held in Horncastle to promote carer lead local recruitment. In addition, the Panel was informed that a Foster Carer Forum had been held in Horncastle last November and 70 people attended the event. Foster Care Forums would become regular events in the future to improve communication with foster carers.

It was acknowledged that the Private Fostering – Statement of Purpose 2012/2013 had been circulated to the Panel for information.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

61. REGULATION 33 SUMMARY REPORT – SEPTEMBER 2013 TO JANUARY 2014

The Panel was informed that in keeping with Regulation 33 of the Children's Homes Regulations 2001, the County Council arranged monthly visits to be undertaken by the Regulation 33 Officer to children's homes. The nominated officer then had an opportunity to meet and talk to children and a range of the staff at the home to ascertain their views, comments and any complaints relating to the running of the home.

It was noted that there were currently staffing vacancies at the following Residential Care establishments – Albion Street, The Beacon, Eastgate, Strutt House and the Haven which were currently being filled by using existing temporary and relief workers. It was also noted that some relief panel staff were on a zero hours contract which meant they only worked as and when required. It was felt that advertising vacancies would give temporary and relief workers an opportunity to apply for vacant positions whilst being familiar with the demands of the role. The Panel felt it important that when advertising vacant posts as much information as possible be provided from the outset as possible in order that prospective applicants were aware of the demands of the post. The Panel was informed that some staff working in children's disability homes may have left positions due to the young people's challenging behaviour. Some staff were involved in working in different homes as part of their professional and team building development.

It was observed that the views of young people were actively sought concerning their care arrangements and they were encouraged to be involved in their future. It was noted that all the young people had key workers whom they worked closely with and all the young people were in education, undertaking work experience or involved in apprenticeships.

The Panel thanked the staff for all their hard work, patience and commitment into striving for the best outcomes for the young people in their care.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

62. NATIONAL YOUTH ADVOCACY SERVICE (NYAS) - LINCOLNSHIRE CHILDREN'S RIGHTS SERVICE – SIX MONTHLY UPDATE – APRIL 2013 - DECEMBER 2013

It was reported that NYAS provided a Children's Rights Service to all children and young people aged 0 - 18 living in Lincolnshire, which included children looked after in out of County placements. Their main aim was to support children and young people to achieve the vision that every child should achieve their potential and to enable children and young people to participate in decisions which affected them.

The Panel was informed that at the end of the last financial year Lincolnshire County Council and NYAS agreed to implement an "opt out" service for supporting children and young people from the age of 10 years in Child Protection Conferences with effect from 1 April 2013. In previous years this support had been available on an "opt in" basis which resulted in comparatively low numbers of referrals. During the year of 2012 – 2013 NYAS supported 17 young people who had been subject to Child Protection proceedings. It was noted that 77 referrals had been received for Child Protection Conferences between April 2013 and December 2013. The Panel was informed that in addition there had been a marked increase in referrals related to other issues, due primarily to the increased profile of the service which resulted from the increased child protection cases. Such an increase had impacted on the current resources available. It was explained that one additional sessional advocate had been recruited and trained and another candidate had completed training and would be available for advocacy work shortly. The Panel noted that NYAS staff made contact very quickly with young people after they were referred to them for support and often made contact the same day.

It was noted that 34 non child protection referrals had been received by NYAS over the last six months and their target was 20. NYAS had received 27 child protection referrals and again their target was set at 20.

It was observed that NYAS had received no complaints with regard to their service but a number of compliments had been received from parents, professionals and young people.

The Chairman thanked NYAS for all their hard work and commitment to young people and it was evident that the staff at NYAS were very professional, hard-working and dedicated into improving the lives of young people.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

63. CORPORATE PARENTING PANEL WORK PROGRAMME 2014

The Scrutiny Officer introduced this item and it was agreed that the Corporate Parenting Strategy scheduled to be discussed in June be circulated prior to the next meeting so that other Panel members would be able to input into the Strategy. It was noted that this would be a working document and may be subject to some change.

It was reported that young people from leaving care would like to come to a future meeting of the Panel to show members their new website. It was agreed that this would be raised at the next pre-meeting for the Panel.

RESOLVED

That the Work Programme presented be amended accordingly.

The meeting finished at 12.50 pm.

Open Report on behalf of Richard Wills, the Director responsible for Democratic Services

Report to:	Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee
Date:	25 July 2014
Subject:	Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2014/15

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 comment and agree on the content of the work programme, as set out in Appendix A to this report.
- (2) To note the content of the Children's Services Forward Plan, as set out in Appendix B to this report.

1. Background

Current Work Programme

At every meeting of the Committee, Members are invited to consider their future Work Programme and to agree on items to be included in the Work Programme. The current work programme for the Committee is attached at Appendix A to this report.

Forward Plan

Also attached at Appendix B for the Committee's consideration is a list of the intended 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 Work Programme
Appendix B	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.

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

25 July 2014		
Item	Contributor	Purpose
Strategic Priorities for 16 – 19 (25) Education and Training for 2015/16	Stuart Carlton Assistant Director	Policy Development
Universal Infant Free School Meals	Tony McGinty Assistant Director – Healthy Communities	Status Report
Proposal to expand the capacity at Lincoln The Sir Francis Hill Community Primary School (Final Decision)	Michelle Andrews Head of Property and Technology Management	Pre-Decision Scrutiny (Executive Councillor decision on 8 August 2014)
Proposal to expand the capacity at Lincoln St Faith's CofE Infant & St Faith and St Martin CofE Junior schools (Final Decision)	Michelle Andrews	Pre-Decision Scrutiny (Executive Councillor decision on 8 August 2014)
Proposal to amend the age range at Ash Villa School	Michelle Andrews Paul Copping Head of Service for Special Schools	Pre-Decision Scrutiny (Executive Councillor decision on 8 August 2014)
Corporate Parenting Panel Update	Cllr David Brailsford Chairman of the Panel	Member Report
Domiciliary Care Commissioning Review (EXEMPT)	Lynn Brammer Interim Commissioning Team Manager	Pre-Decision Scrutiny (Executive decision on 2 September 2014)
Supported Accommodation (EXEMPT)	Mark Rainey Interim Team Manager - Children's Commissioning	Pre-Decision Scrutiny (Executive decision on 2 September 2014)

12 September 2014		
Item	Contributor	Purpose
Children's Services Commissioning Overview	Andrew McLean Head of Children's Commissioning	Status Report
Selection of an operator for a new primary academy in North Hykeham (Final Decision)	Michelle Andrews	Pre-Decision Scrutiny (Executive Councillor decision on 26 September 2014)

12 September 2014		
Item	Contributor	Purpose
Strategic Priorities for 16 – 19 (25) Education and Training for 2015/16	Stuart Carlton	Pre-Decision Scrutiny (Executive decision on 7 October 2014)
Theme Performance: Quarter 1	Sally Savage Assistant Director	Performance Scrutiny
Lincolnshire Safeguarding Boards Scrutiny Sub-Group Update	Cllr Ron Oxby Chairman of the Scrutiny Sub Group	Member Report
Education Support Services (CfBT) including Governance Arrangements and School Performance	Andrew McLean Keith Batty Assistant Director of CfBT Education Services	Status Report
The meeting will be followed by a Commissioning Workshop for Committee Members.		

24 October 2014		
Item	Contributor	Purpose
Commissioning Review of Short Break Services for Children with Disabilities (EXEMPT)	Lynn Brammer	Pre-Decision Scrutiny (Executive decision on 4 November 2014)
Frontline Social Workers and Safeguarding Scrutiny Review – Executive Response	Cllr Mrs Patricia Bradwell Executive Councillor for Adult Care, Health Services, and Children's Services	Scrutiny Review Activity
School Admissions and Exclusions Scrutiny Review – Monitoring Update	John O'Connor Head of Service School Support	Scrutiny Review Activity
Corporate Parenting Panel Update	Cllr David Brailsford	Member Report
Proposal for a Scrutiny Review on School Improvement	Tracy Johnson Scrutiny Officer	Scrutiny Activity
Additional Item		

28 November 2014		
Item	Contributor	Purpose
School PE, Sport and Physical Activity (including Lincolnshire Sports Partnership, Legacy Challenge and Community Access to School Sport Facilities)	Keith Batty Philip Garner Specialist Programme Manager Public Health	Update Report

28 November 2014		
Item	Contributor	Purpose
Theme Performance: Quarter 2	Sally Savage	Performance Scrutiny
Lincolnshire Safeguarding Boards Scrutiny Sub-Group Update	Cllr Ron Oxby	Member Report
Additional Item		
Additional Item		
Additional Item		

16 January 2015		
Item	Contributor	Purpose
Children's Services Budget Proposals 2015/16 – 2018/19	Debbie Barnes Executive Director of Children's Services	Budget Scrutiny
Corporate Parenting Panel Update	Cllr David Brailsford	Member Report
Additional Item		

6 March 2015		
Item	Contributor	Purpose
Theme Performance: Quarter 3	Sally Savage	Performance Scrutiny
Lincolnshire Safeguarding Boards Scrutiny Sub-Group Update	Cllr Ron Oxby	Member Report
Additional Item		

24 April 2015		
Item	Contributor	Purpose
Corporate Parenting Panel Update	Cllr David Brailsford	Member Report
Additional Item		

Items to be Scheduled

Lincolnshire Health and Care – Proposal and Business Case for Change	David O'Connor Programme Director Lincolnshire Health and Care	Pre-Decision Scrutiny
Support and Aspiration for Children with Special Educational Needs	Sheridan Dodsworth Head of Service SEND John O'Connor	Status Report
Overview of Education	Debbie Barnes	Status Report
Inclusion Review	Keith Batty	Status Report
Strengthening partnerships between Diocesan church school providers and LA providers for education	TBC	Status Report
Stamford Endowed Schools Scholarship Tapering- Interim (4th Year) Review	Keith Batty	Update Report
Closing the Gap - an update from the Programme Board (including updates on closing the gap for pupils eligible for FSM)	Tim Culpin Head of School Improvement Maggie Freeman Head of Service 11-19	Update Report
Regional Commissioners	TBC	Status Report
Child Poverty Action Plan Themes - Poverty of Access, Economic Poverty, Poverty of Aspiration	Andrew McLean	Update Report
Anti Bullying	TBC	Status Report
Opportunities for Post-16 Learning	Maggie Freeman	Update Report
Schools in Special Measures – Annual Report	TBC	Status Report

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

FORWARD PLAN OF DECISIONS RELATING TO CHILDREN’S SERVICES FROM 1 AUGUST 2014

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
I006623	Proposal to amend the age range at Ash Villa School (Final Decision)	Friday, 8 August 2014	Executive Councillor: Adult Care and Health Services, Children's Services	Interested parties as DfE guidance including parents, school staff, neighbouring schools, County and District Councils, MPs, Trade Unions and Diocese	Report	Head of Service - Vulnerable Children (CFBT) Tel: 01522 553342 Email: pcopping@cfbt.com	Executive Councillor: Adult Care and Health Services, Children's Services and Executive Director of Children's Services	Yes	Ruskington and Cranwell; Sleaford; Sleaford Rural South; Sleaford West and Leasingham
I006621	Proposal to expand the capacity at Lincoln The Sir Francis Hill Community Primary School (Final Decision)	Friday, 8 August 2014	Executive Councillor: Adult Care and Health Services, Children's Services	Interested parties as DfE guidance including parents, school staff, neighbouring schools, County and District Councils, MPs, Trade Unions and Diocese	Report	Head of Property and Technology Management Tel: 01522 553269 Email: michelle.andrews@lincolnshire.gov.uk	Executive Councillor: Adult Care and Health Services, Children's Services and Executive Director of Children's Services	Yes	Bassingham Rural; Lincoln Birchwood; Lincoln Boutham; Lincoln Bracebridge; Lincoln East; Lincoln Glebe; Lincoln Hartsholme; Lincoln Moorland; Lincoln North; Lincoln Park; Lincoln West; Skellingthorpe and Hykeham South

I006626	Proposal to expand the capacity at Lincoln St Faith's CofE Infant and St Faith and St Martin CofE Junior Schools (Final Decision)	Friday, 8 August 2014	Executive Councillor: Adult Care and Health Services, Children's Services	Interested parties as DfE guidance including parents, school staff, neighbouring schools, County and District Councils, MPs, Trade Unions and Diocese	Report	Head of Property and Technology Management Tel: 01522 553269 Email: michelle.andrews@lincolnshire.gov.uk	Executive Councillor: Adult Care and Health Services, Children's Services and Executive Director of Children's Services	Yes	Bassingham Rural; Hykeham Forum; Lincoln Birchwood; Lincoln Boutham; Lincoln Bracebridge; Lincoln East; Lincoln Glebe; Lincoln Hartsholme; Lincoln Moorland; Lincoln North; Lincoln Park; Lincoln West; Skellingthorpe and Hykeham South
I006948	Commissioning of Youth Housing Service	Tuesday, 2 September 2014	Executive	Young people; current service users; current service providers; Homeless Strategy Group; and Youth Housing Strategy Delivery Board	Exempt Report	Lincolnshire Youth Housing Coordinator Tel: 07775026264 Email: phil.taylor@lincolnshire.gov.uk	Executive Councillor: Adult Care and Health Services, Children's Services and Executive Director of Children's Services	Yes	
I007065 New!	Domiciliary Care Commissioning Review	2 September 2014	Executive	Care leavers and looked after children	Exempt Report	Interim Commissioning Team Manager Tel: 01522 554076 Email: lynn.brammer@lincolnshire.gov.uk	Executive Councillor: Adult Care and Health Services, Children's Services and Executive Director of Children's Services	Yes	
I006812	Selection of an operator for a new primary academy in North Hykeham (Final Decision)	Friday, 26 September 2014	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, MPs, Trade Unions and Diocese	Report	Head of Service - Property and Technology Management Tel: 01522 553269 Email: michelle.andrews@lincolnshire.gov.uk	Executive Councillor: Adult Care and Health Services, Children's Services and Executive Director of Children's Services	Yes	Hykeham Forum; Skellingthorpe and Hykeham South
I006945	Strategic Priorities for 16 - 19 (25) education and training for 2015/16	Tuesday, 7 October 2014	Executive	Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee	Report	Head of Service 14 - 19 Email: maggie.freeman@lincolnshire.gov.uk Tel: 01522 552753	Executive Councillor: Adult Care and Health Services, Children's Services and Executive Director of Children's Services	Yes	All Divisions

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Agenda Item 12

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Agenda Item 13

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