

County Offices
Newland
Lincoln
LN1 1YL

1 September 2016

Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee

A meeting of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee will be held on **Friday, 9 September 2016 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
(17 Members of the Council and 4 Added Members)

Councillors J D Hough (Chairman), R Wootten (Vice-Chairman), B Adams, W J Aron, Mrs J Brockway, S R Dodds, A G Hagues, B W Keimach, Ms T Keywood-Wainwright, C R Oxby, Mrs H N J Powell, Mrs S Ransome, Mrs L A Rollings, Mrs N J Smith, S M Tweedale, L Wootten and Mrs S M Wray

Added Members

Church Representatives: Mr S C Rudman and Mr P Thompson

Parent Governor Representatives: Mrs P J Barnett and Dr E van der Zee

**CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE AGENDA
FRIDAY, 9 SEPTEMBER 2016**

Item	Title	Pages
1	Apologies for Absence / Replacement Members	
2	Declarations of Members' Interest	
3	Minutes of the meeting held on 15 July 2016	5 - 18
4	Update on Savings Proposals in the Children's Services Budget 2016/17 <i>(To receive a report from Debbie Barnes, Executive Director for Children's Services which provides the Committee with an update on the savings proposals in the Children's Services budget for 2016/17 and anticipated cost pressures for 2016/17 and beyond)</i>	19 - 38
5	Partners in Practice <i>(To receive a report from Debbie Barnes, Executive Director for Children's Services which invites the Committee to consider the proposed partnership agreement between the Department of Education and Lincolnshire County Council Children's Services as part of the Government's Partner in Practice Programme. The proposals are intended to improve practice in Lincolnshire and other Children's Services by transforming the quality of children's social care services and early help arrangements)</i>	39 - 48
6	Post 16 Area Based Review <i>(To receive a report by Maggie Freeman, 14-19 Commissioner, which invites the Committee to consider a report on the current situation in relation to post 16 education and training in Lincolnshire)</i>	49 - 78
7	Centre for Public Scrutiny's Guide to Scrutinising Children's Safeguarding Arrangements <i>(To receive a report from Janice Spencer, Assistant Director Children's Services, which sets out the work undertaken across Children's Services in response to questions 5, 6 and 7 of the CfPS 21 questions guide for Councillors on Safeguarding Children)</i>	79 - 84
8	Performance - Quarter 1 2016/17 <i>(To receive a report from Sally Savage, Chief Commissioning Officer, which provides key performance information for Quarter 1 2016/17 that is relevant to the work of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee. Please note that Appendix D to this report contains exempt information under paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, and discussion of this information could result in the exclusion of the press and public)</i>	85 - 132

9 Lincolnshire Safeguarding Boards Scrutiny Sub-Group
(To receive a verbal update from Councillor C R Oxby, Chairman of the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Boards Scrutiny Sub-Group)

Verbal
Report

10 Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee Work Programme
(To receive a report from Tracy Johnson, Senior Scrutiny Officer, which enables the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee to consider its own work programme for the coming year)

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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



**CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
15 JULY 2016**

PRESENT: COUNCILLOR J D HOUGH (CHAIRMAN)

Councillors R Wootten (Vice-Chairman), W J Aron, S R Dodds, A G Hagues, B W Keimach, Ms T Keywood-Wainwright, C R Oxby, Mrs H N J Powell, Mrs S Ransome, Mrs N J Smith, S M Tweedale, L Wootten, Mrs S M Wray and P J O'Connor

Added Members

Church Representatives: Mr S C Rudman and Mr P Thompson

Councillors: Mrs P A Bradwell and D Brailsford were also in attendance.

Officers in attendance:-

Miriam Binsztok (Senior Commissioning Officer) Stuart Carlton (Assistant Director Children's Lead Early Help), Charlotte Gray (Team Manager Children's Commissioning), Tracy Johnson (Senior Scrutiny Officer), Andrew McLean (Service Manager Commissioning), Heather Sandy (Chief Commissioning Officer for Learning), Sally Savage (Chief Commissioning Officer), James Sharples (Senior Project Officer), Yvonne Shearwood (Quality and Standards Manager), Janice Spencer (Assistant Director Safeguarding) and Rachel Wilson (Democratic Services Officer)

11 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE / REPLACEMENT MEMBERS

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs J Brockway and Mrs L Rollings.

Apologies for absence were also received from added members Mrs P J Barnett and Dr E van der Zee, Parent Governor Representatives.

The Chief Executive reported that, under Local Government (Committee and Political Groups) Regulations 1990, Councillor P J O'Connor had been appointed to the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee to replace Councillor Mrs J Brockway for this meeting only.

12 DECLARATION OF MEMBERS INTERESTS

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

13 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 27 MAY 2016

It was reported that both Mr S Rudman and Mrs P J Barnett were in attendance at the meeting but had not been shown on the minutes.

Apologies from Councillor Mrs H N J Powell for this meeting were also noted.

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting held on 27 May 2016 be signed by the Chairman as a correct record subject to the above being noted.

14 NATIONAL DISPERSAL OF UNACCOMPANIED ASYLUM SEEKING CHILDREN

Consideration was given to a report which invited the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee to consider the Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children – National UASC Transfer Protocol 2016/17 which was due to be considered by the Executive on 6 September 2016.

It was reported that there had been a significant increase in the number of people seeking asylum within the United Kingdom, and within this cohort there had been increases in the number of children who were unaccompanied and seeking safety.

Members were advised that the large number of unaccompanied asylum seeking children had resulted in the government requesting all local authorities to sign up for a voluntary agreement whereby unaccompanied asylum seeking children were dispersed around the country with all local authorities contributing to the welfare and maintenance of the children. This had been particularly important given the high numbers of children who had presented as unaccompanied asylum seeking children in Kent.

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:

- Lincolnshire had always taken its responsibilities towards unaccompanied asylum seeking children seriously.
- It was queried how the extra money would be allocated, and if foster carers and schools would receive some of this extra money. In terms of the UASC already in the care of the authority, this would continue to be funded by grants from government which paid the foster carers. The local authority must submit accounts to government to receive this funding. It was reported that there were also grants available if the children required additional resources, such as CAMHS.
- In Lincolnshire, the approach was taken that a child which had gone through trauma to get here, and who required additional resources, it was the authority's legal and moral responsibility to provide that service to the child.

- It was queried whether the people allocating the young people take into account the fact that Lincolnshire already had 65 unaccompanied asylum seeking children and ensure that there was an even distribution of children between authorities. Members were advised that the government was aware of how many children each local authority had in its care, and a list containing these numbers was produced, and authorities were requested to notify government if the figure was wrong. On a regional level, there was a Strategic Migration Board which also kept a record of how many children were in the region.
- It was commented that very careful supervision would be needed for those young people where it was difficult to prove their age.
- Members were advised that as soon as a young person presented as an unaccompanied asylum seeking child (UASC) the police would be notified, who would then notify Children's Services. The appointed social worker must be trained to age assess. In cases where there were disparities between the age the child claimed to be and the age that authorities believed the child to be, there would be tribunals, and recent case law now compelled young people to take part in any other assessments which were required to determine their age. Members were advised that within Lincolnshire, there was a very good record of appropriately age assessing UASC.
- Concerns were raised regarding adult family members who may accompany children (as referred to on page 7 of the report), and whether sufficient checks would take place. Members were advised that local authorities had not had an opportunity to carry out any inspections of family members, and would not have the opportunity to do so. It would be government who would make the assessment of who would be the most appropriate people to offer these resources to. The government had indicated a commitment to take the most vulnerable people from the refugee camps.
- Members were informed that the proposal in this report was not about the resettlement of families at this point. Resettling families was a very different situation to that of UASC.
- Members were advised that there was not yet a protocol to work to, and councils would not be forced to accept UASC. However, when young people or families came into the East Midlands they would be assessed at this point.
- It was noted that this was a very complex situation, and the East Midlands had made it very clear that there were some areas of the country which had no asylum seekers or UASC.
- Kent County Council had over 900 unaccompanied asylum seeking children, of which 300 have been placed in other authorities.
- Lincolnshire had just received its first request to accept two young people who had recently arrived in Kent. It was noted that Lincolnshire had the second highest number of UASC in the region, however, the county did remain as an entry point for young people coming into this country.
- Lincolnshire had had a statutory duty and responsibility for UASC for a long time.
- One member suggested that all councillors should attend training on all the different programmes which were in existence which could assist asylum seeking children and adults, so that members had all the facts.

- Security vetting was being carried out by the UN in the camps, including biometric testing. It was noted that those young people and adults that were selected to enter the UK would arrive with a national insurance number.
- It was commented that there was a huge commitment to these young people in local communities, but it was acknowledged that there was more that could be done to engage with local communities.
- The vast majority of young people coming in were around 16/17 years old, and the authority had a responsibility to place them in accommodation which suited their cultural and educational needs. Most of these young people ended up around the borders of the county as they wanted to be able to access more culturally diverse areas.
- Concerns were raised regarding the foster carers, as the authority was currently trying to recruit foster carers for its own needs, so how would it manage to recruit the extra carers. It was also queried whether there would be additional training put in place for foster carers who took in UASC as they were likely to have additional needs.
- Members were assured that Lincolnshire had been taking in UASC for years, and they were encouraged to reach their full potential. Children younger than 16 would be placed with foster families, and from 16 onwards would be placed in semi-independent accommodation. It did not feel like there would be a need for additional resources, as the authority had always ensured that a child's needs were met and would continue to do so. It was also noted that the county would not be receiving a large number of children at one time, it would be a 'trickle' of children over a longer time period.
- In relation to foster carers, it was noted that they were all trained to be able to provide care to children who were traumatised, as all children that entered care would have experienced some level of trauma. Additional support would continue to be provided to foster carers as and when it was required.
- Concerns were raised regarding accepting more children into the county when the authority was placing children out of the county. However, members were advised that it did not cost particularly more to place a child out of county, but was mainly about how far staff had to travel to make their visits. It was reported that there were currently only 23 children placed out of county and of those 8 were UASC (funds for care were fully recovered), of the remaining number, those children were placed out of county as they were living with family members.
- Lincolnshire was very good at recovering funds where it could.
- One member commented that they believed the authority had a national duty to play its part, and had a lot of respect for Children's Services teams nationally and believed that they were fully equipped to deal with this.
- It was queried what would happen if a young person was age assessed as being over 18, and members were advised that if a child was age assessed as being under 18, every authority had a responsibility to provide care. If they were age assessed as over 18 then the authority would work with the Border Agency, but in the most sensitive way possible.
- Members were advised that if a parent of an UASC identified themselves, then the authority would be obligated to return the child back to the parent.

However, there was no transfer of any rights for the parent to be able to come here to join the child.

- It was noted that some children who arrived had relatives in other parts of the country, and in those situations the authority would contact the relative. The relative would then be assessed, in the same way as any other potential foster carer, and if it was appropriate the child would always be placed with the relative.
- Members were advised that local authorities had a statutory duty around the Prevent agenda to recognise the radicalisation of any child of any race and to work closely with the Police to put appropriate measures in place.
- It was reported that the majority of young people coming in were 16/17 years old and were predominantly male. It was commented that there should be just as many females who wanted to come here.

RESOLVED

1. That the Committee supported the recommendations to the Executive as set out in the report.
2. That the last paragraph on page 7 of the report be rewritten to clarify that the decision to be taken only refers to unaccompanied asylum seeking children, and not the resettlement of family groups.

15 DEVELOPING A MODEL FOR THE CHARGING OF LCC SERVICES TO SCHOOLS

Consideration was given to a report which informed the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee of the development of a common approach to the recovery of costs, academies and other education organisations in Lincolnshire access services delivered by Lincolnshire County Council (LCC).

It was reported that this approach would also involve exploring opportunities to provide a single comprehensive source of information and access for schools, academies and other organisations to receive all of the services they need. The LCC services in scope of cost recovery would be reviewed periodically to ensure each offer was comprehensive, with clear benefits and an agreed cost structure for each support package. To support the process by which schools, academies and other education organisations were able to learn about and access the support available it was aimed to translate the services offered into a digital form similar to an 'e-commerce' environment.

The Committee was advised that at its meeting on 5 July 2016, the Executive approved the recommendations as detailed in the report. As the proposals related to a range of council services, the Executive report was considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee at its meeting on 30 June 2016, where it supported the recommendations in principle but requested a further report on the charges for individual services.

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

- This proposal was an opportunity to review the terms and conditions and the way in which departments costed their services. It was reported that some departments charged a fixed amount as that was what they had always charged; some recovered the costs of the officer dealing with the request, and some included back office costs. The proposal was for a cost recovery model, which would look at the full costs to the authority, and the true cost of what it took to deliver that service. A lot of the services provided were classed as discretionary.
- Comments submitted by Mr Anthony Partington, Head Teacher of Stamford Welland Academy were circulated to the Committee as he had been unable to attend as scheduled.
- The Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee was in attendance at this meeting as a replacement member, and advised the Committee that he had attended the meeting of the Executive where this had been approved. The Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee came to the view that it was difficult to fully support this when the exact costs were not known. It was felt that a business plan was needed and the Committee wanted more detailed information in relation to the charges, and requested detailed figures at a later date.
- One of the concerns was that most schools had very tight budgets and some of the services which were currently provided for free were going to be charged for, but it was felt that some of these were very important e.g. the anti-bullying training for staff and anti-bullying workshops for pupils.
- The Committee received clarification in relation to the charges to schools for free school meals. It was reported that the 50p charge previously reported was a historic cost, and this was charged per pupil on roll at the school to determine which children were eligible for free school meals. The school would then receive £900 back for every eligible child via the pupil premium.
- The proposal was that the increased charge would only be charged per eligible child, and the school would still receive the £900. It was believed that this could result in a net saving for some schools.
- Concerns were raised regarding the proposal to charge for road safety awareness lessons to secondary schools, as it was believed that as children got older, this would become more important.
- It was reported that a lot of consultation had been carried out, and it was believed that the only way to protect certain services was to issue a small charge. The offer to schools would be looked at as a whole, and it was hoped that this would provide options for schools.
- Members were advised that it was difficult to provide costs for these services as it would be a cost recovery rather than a flat rate charge, and would depend on the level of delivery.
- Lincolnshire was a high delegator of funds out to schools, and £497m was given to schools to allow them to buy in the services that they needed. With the new model there would be no element of surplus, the authority would just

recover the cost of delivering that service. The volume of services being taken up and their costs would be reviewed.

- A tool kit had been designed through corporate finance.
- Officers would gain a better understanding of the types of need of schools as the years progressed, and packages of services could also be put together.
- In terms of schools' affordability of services, schools were being encouraged to work more collaboratively and to purchase joint services. The charging model would allow the authority to continue to offer this service.
- There were concerns that schools would not access these services unless they knew how much they would cost. It was commented that it was difficult to scrutinise without the business model. Members were advised that when the brochure went out to schools detailing the services available, it would include costs.
- It was queried whether officers had been in contact with schools and academies to find out what they wanted the authority to provide. It was reported that this model had been discussed at head teacher briefings. It was confirmed that there were schools who were asking for particular services, and it was thought it would be helpful to have a website available which listed all the available services. The diocese would support the new model and would sign post schools to the website.
- There were concerns that if the authority started to charge for some services that the schools would decide not to buy them from the county council but from other accredited training providers. It was noted that these were discretionary services and the take up of them would be assessed throughout the coming year for viability. If schools were going to buy services elsewhere, the authority may need to consider whether it would continue to provide that service. There would be monitoring and reports provided on the demand and take up of these services.
- There would be a need to run the services through the cost recovery model before the costs could be determined. Service area leads were already using the toolkit to start to identify costs.
- Concerns were raised regarding how the small rural schools would cope with buying in the additional services, as larger schools would be able to offer more services. Members were advised that smaller schools would be encouraged to come together and share the costs, in order to make the services affordable. It was also possible that some charges could be waived in rural areas depending on the situation.
- It was considered important that there was investment in the education system, as Lincolnshire did not get the benefit of the scarcity funding for rural schools. It was important that the costs were sustainable.
- This model was a way of moving to a better way of interacting with schools, so they could have the services which were relevant to them. It was also about protecting some of the services.
- It was queried whether counselling services for staff would still be on offer as this was considered to be a valuable service. It was clarified that this was not classed as a service to schools, but a service for employees and should be detailed in the schools policies and procedures. It was noted that this was a

service which would be commissioned by the authority, and so would only be available in local authority schools, but academies could be signposted to it.

- It was commented that the report did not give a view on what the authority, as an education authority, wanted to provide to support schools. It was noted that this model was regarding the discretionary services which were provided and it would give the head teachers the opportunity to choose the most relevant services for their schools and their communities.
- In relation to the domestic abuse and anti-bullying workshops, it was noted that free online training and support was provided as part of safeguarding practices. It would be up to schools to determine how they delivered these services.
- It was suggested that PE and life skills lessons needed to be mandatory.
- It was queried how this would affect home schooled children, and it was noted that there were policies and procedures in place regarding what to expect from this provision.
- It was hoped that expertise would be retained to enable the authority to be responsive in the future.
- It was commented that this model was the pragmatic compromise to keep expertise within the authority.
- There were a lot of unanswered questions with this model, such as what the take up would be, what the costs would be etc. It was requested whether some additional information on these areas could be reported back to the Committee when appropriate.
- The Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee thanked the Committee for some interesting and quality scrutiny of this item.

RESOLVED

1. That the Committee note the support services currently provided by LCC to maintained schools and academies as set out in Part 4 of Appendix A of the report for which LCC charges and would continue to charge.
2. That the Committee note the support services currently provided by LCC to maintained schools and academies set out in Part 3 of Appendix A to the report for which LCC does not charge and does not propose to charge.
3. That the Committee note the principle of charging schools, academies and other education organisations for discretionary services provided by LCC on a cost recovery basis.
4. That the Committee note the new and existing support services set out in part 1 and 2 of Appendix A of the report, that from September 2016, LCC recover the cost of the provision of such services from schools, academies and other education organisations through appropriate charging mechanisms to be developed for each such service.

5. That the Committee note that in relation to all support services to schools the development of a single source of information and access to services including by way of digital access similar to an e-commerce environment.
6. That the Committee note that authority be delegated to the relevant Chief officer, in consultation with the relevant Executive Councillor, for each service area to the amount and recovery mechanism appropriate to each service set out in Parts 1 and 2 of Appendix A of the report and the offering of further discretionary services to schools, academies and other education organisations and the amount and cost recovery mechanism appropriate to each such service.
7. That the Committee note that authority be delegated to the Executive Director of Children's Services in consultation with the executive Councillor responsible for Children's Services to approve the final form of the proposed single source of information and access to LCC support services.
8. That the Committee note the making of a flat rate charge of £6500 for standard conversions to schools that chose to convert to academy status to cover officer time and legal charges incurred by LCC.
9. That the comments made by the Committee be noted.

(NOTE: Mr P Thompson left the meeting at 11.50am)

16 CORPORATE PARENTING PANEL UPDATE

Members were advised that the Corporate Parenting Panel had last met on the 9 June 2016 and received a report from Legal Services which provided an update on care proceedings issued in 2014/15. It was highlighted that cases were now taking longer to process due to changes to the judges and also due to a large number of cases, about 40%, having an international element. The Panel had requested training on the legal processes for care proceedings to help them understand the procedure better.

The Panel had also received a report on the performance indicators relating to looked after children. The Panel had specific concerns in relation to key stage 4 attainment of looked after children (LAC) and the stability of placements for looked after children and suggested that this Committee should consider establishing two working groups to look into this issue.

However, following, discussions with officers after the meeting, it was now planned to incorporate the key stage 4 attainment of LAC into the ongoing School Performance Working Group. In relation to the Stability of Placements, a meeting had been arranged with relevant officers and Councillors D Brailsford, J D Hough and Mrs P A Bradwell on 5 October 2016 to discuss what could be done to improve placement stability and a report on this would be brought back to the December meeting of the Panel.

It was reported that the next meeting was scheduled for 8 September 2016 where the Panel would receive the annual leaving care report from Barnardo's, and the annual reports on fostering, adoption and private fostering.

RESOLVED

That the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee note the work of the Corporate Parenting Panel.

17 EARLY YEARS SERVICES MODEL AND COMMISSIONING PLAN AND CONTRACTUAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR CHILDREN'S HEALTH SERVICES

Consideration was given to a report which outlined the early years' service model and commissioning plan and contractual arrangements for Children's Health Services. It was reported that the Children's Strategic Commissioning Service was reviewing early years and children's health services which were currently outsourced. The findings of the report to date, and options for future service models had been presented to a variety of Boards and Groups, and a preferred model for new services was provisionally agreed.

Members were advised that further public engagement, via an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) questionnaire was taking place to understand any positive or negative impacts the preferred model may have and following this, due consideration would be given to any further changes that may be needed. As well as the final service model, the commissioning route for new services would also need to be agreed.

It was reported that early years and children's health services were currently commissioned separately and the preferred model would continue to uphold this. Changes to the preferred early years' service model were not significant but the existing contractual arrangements were due to cease on 31 March 2017, with few options to extend. In order to establish the new early years' service by 1 April 2017 and consequently meet the savings target in 2017/18, a decision was sought from the Executive Councillor responsible for Children's Services to agree the final service model and preferred commissioning route.

Members were advised that four Early Years Locality Leads were in attendance at the meeting, in order to represent parents. It was noted that they had recently completed peer reviews across the county and worked with parents in their locality so they would be able to give some up to date parent feedback on early years services. Some of the comments made to the Committee included the following:

- The paper had been shared with the locality leads fairly recently, and the model fitted with what parents were saying.
- There was a need for a very strong team ethos, and this model would help to bring this back.

- There were 28 different contracts for children's centres, and it was suspected that services users would not notice any change.
- A peer review was recently carried out at the Grantham centre, and some of the comments from parents included – staff were very supportive; there was an opportunity to talk to other parents; children were growing in confidence.
- It was commented that parents seemed to be very happy with the services being provided, but they valued consistency in terms of members of staff. This was particularly important with the most vulnerable families.

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:

- Clarification was sought regarding the relationship with the health side of these arrangements, and members were advised that the health aspects of these arrangements would be due for decision in November 2016. The report presented at this meeting was just looking at the early years services.
- It was queried whether the breastfeeding service, which had been cut in children's centre the previous year would be reinstated. Members were advised that this fell under Children's Health and was separate to early years. Members were assured that there would be a robust pathway around supporting infant feeding and breastfeeding. It was reported that there would be an enhanced offer, alongside midwifery and health visiting, where there would be more focus on breastfeeding initiation and support, particularly in the early weeks. The introduction of an ante-natal offer would also be of benefit, to help develop peer networks and relationships before the baby was born.
- It was queried whether there were alternative models and how the external provider market had been tested. It was highlighted that an open questionnaire had been carried out along with an event held for existing and new providers. A working group was also held with a range of representatives from the county council, public health and commissioning, to devise a number of options for the new model. The model options were then taken through Departmental Management Team (DMT), Corporate Management Board, the Women and Children's Board (commissioner group) and Executive DMT who came up with the preferred model. This preferred model then went out to further public engagement. Members were advised that all teams had been engaged in shaping the model, which was within the funding available, as was the best attempt at what the staff and public thought the model should include.
- It was queried whether there would be any flexibility in the commissioning of PEEP sessions as some vulnerable families may not initially see the benefit of engaging in these sessions but would be in need of that service. It was reported that if a children's centre was serving a high number of deprived wards, there would be a need for more sessions. Informal taster sessions would be offered to families to start them on the journey. It was noted that there was good engagement at children's centres with vulnerable families with clear targets set.
- It was queried whether there would be sufficient capacity in the health visiting system to cope with any increases in demand. It was highlighted that the model had been reviewed across early years and health and there was a

strong service in place. It was noted that the health visiting role had good access to families in their homes, but it was felt that there was capacity to deliver more work in children's centres as well.

- Members were encouraged to visit their local children's centre.
- One member commented that in their work with the Adoption Panel, in the past, where there was a match, potential adopters were encouraged to engage with their local children's centre, and it was queried whether this practice could be reinstated. Members were advised that this still took place, and it was suggested that social workers should reflect this in their reports as well.
- Concerns were raised regarding the low registration of children with disabled parents, pregnant teenagers and teenage parents at children's centres and if the accuracy of these figures was correct. Members were advised that the figures were a snapshot from June 2015 and would have been correct at that time. However, officers did not have the current figures and so could not confirm whether they had improved since. It was highlighted that generally registrations and attendance figures were very good, but there were still some groups that the centres needed to target further.
- It was requested whether the Committee could be provided with the current figures for children with disabled parents, pregnant teenagers and teenage parents registered at children's centres.
- It was queried whether the 'Bounty packs' were still given out free to new parents as they contained a lot of useful information as well as free products. Members were advised that these packs were still available through the midwifery service and were given out when the baby was born. However, there was currently no universal ante-natal offer and it was hoped that when this was put in place it would help to target vulnerable groups of parents.
- Members queried where the survey had been carried out and how much had been received so far. It was reported that it was an online survey, and it was being promoted through Facebook and Twitter to target families and young people. Letters had also been sent out to the Clinical Commissioning Groups and providers for cascading. Members were informed that 324 responses had been received so far. It was also noted that 1200 responses had been received to the earlier questionnaire. Members were advised that an analysis of the responses would be undertaken and an overview of the responses and themes would be published on the Council's website. It was agreed that the responses would be shared with the Committee.
- It was noted that the big change would be the way that the services would be commissioned rather than a change in the services provided and it was suggested that the impact on service users would be minimal.

RESOLVED

1. That the Committee supports the recommendations to the Executive Councillor responsible for Children's Services as set out in the report.
2. That the comments made in response to the report, as detailed above, be passed to the Executive Councillor responsible for Children's Services.

18 LINCOLNSHIRE SAFEGUARDING BOARDS SCRUTINY SUB-GROUP -
UPDATE

It was reported that at the meeting on 6 April 2016, the Scrutiny Sub-Group received an update on the new Ofsted Inspection Framework which would introduce joint targeted area inspections of frontline practice and multi-agency arrangements. The Sub Group raised concerns about information sharing between the different agencies, but was reassured that this was being addressed.

The Sub Group also received an update on Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) and the successful launch of the STOP CSE Campaign in March. A dedicated website had been set up (www.couldbeanyone.org.uk) which had further information on CSE and links to resources.

Members were advised that the Scrutiny Sub-Group had since met on 6 July but unfortunately had to be held informally due to being inquorate. The Sub Group had asked officers to look into the possibility of finding new police and health representatives for the Sub Group to fill the vacancies that existed. There had been previous attempts to fill these vacancies but without any success. However, there were no new people in post so officers would try again to see if they could be filled.

The minutes from the July meeting were due to be presented to the next meeting of this Committee on 9 September, but this item would now need to be a verbal update as there would be no formal minutes from that meeting to report back to the Committee.

Members expressed their disappointment that the meeting was not quorate, particularly as at that meeting, the Sub Group was due to consider a serious case review. It was suggested that it was important that the notes were informally reported at this meeting.

It was suggested that as this was a joint sub-group, also looking at adult safeguarding issues, the chief whip should be formally asked to follow up the attendance issues. It was also suggested, that if it was not likely that a full attendance would be achieved, could the membership be re-examined and the numbers reduced accordingly which would then reduce the quorum.

RESOLVED

1. That the minutes of the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Boards Scrutiny Sub-Group held on 6 April 2016 be noted.
2. That the comments raised be noted.

14

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

15 JULY 2016

19 CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME

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.

Members were advised that there were two amendments to the work programme, the report on Open Select List for Placements would be deferred from the September meeting to the October meeting to allow for further work. The Scrutiny Sub Group update on the September agenda would also be a verbal update as there would be no formal minutes from the last meeting on 6 July to report back to the Committee.

The Committee was also reminded about the Safeguarding Focus Group on 18 October at 2.00pm and whether they could attend. It was reported that so far 5 members had confirmed their availability. The Post 16 Priorities and Area Based Review Working Group would now be held on Monday 25 July 2016, with Councillors J D Hough, Mrs J Brockway and Mrs L A Rollings.

It was also commented that the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee had requested a Budget Briefing for all councillors which was due to be held at the end of July, and it was requested whether this Committee could receive a report in September on the Children's Services budgets, to enable the Committee to have early involvement in the budget setting process.

Concerns were raised regarding the increased numbers of young people who were accessing foodbanks and it was queried whether this was something which this Committee should look into. Members were advised that this could fall under the Child Poverty Strategy, which now sat with Public Health. Officers advised that they would ask Public Health colleagues to look further into this issue.

RESOLVED

1. That the content of the work programme, as set out in Appendix A to the report, and the amendments highlighted above be noted.
2. That the content of the Children's Services Forward Plan, as set out in Appendix B to the report, be noted.

The meeting closed at 12.40 pm

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:	09 September 2016
Subject:	Update on Saving Proposals in the Children's Services Budget 2016/17

Summary:

This report provides an update for the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee on the saving proposals in the Children's Services budget for 2016/17 and anticipated cost pressures for 2016/17 and beyond.

Actions Required:

The Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee is invited to note and comment on the current position in relation to the 2016/17 saving proposals for Children's Services and anticipated cost pressures for 2016/17 and beyond.

1. Background

Overall Budget Position 2016/17

For the last two years (2015/16 and 2016/17), only one year budgets have been set due to short term Government grant settlements; significant and sustained reduction in grant funding; and increasing cost pressures.

A four year settlement is now available which will cover this year and the next three. It will be for the Council to decide in September 2016 whether to accept this settlement. This would allow the potential for a three year budget.

The use of reserves is not a sustainable strategy and further savings for 2017/18 and beyond are essential. Modelling is looking at the next three years (i.e. until end of 2019/20).

The current position in relation to the Council's Revenue Budget for 2016/17 is set out in the table below.

Revenue Budget for 2016/17

	£m
Current year base budget	476.3
Cost Pressures	31.2
Savings	<u>(41.6)</u>
	<u>465.9</u>
Funding:	
Business rates	103.5
Revenue support grant	70.4
Other grants	17.2
Council tax	<u>253.8</u>
	<u>444.9</u>
Shortfall to be funded by reserves	21.0

The projected budget deficit relative to the 2016/17 base is:

2017/18	£59.3m
2018/19	£70.0m
2019/20	£78.1m

Children's Services Budget Position 2016/17

The Executive Director for Children's Services will provide a presentation to the Committee at the meeting on the current position in relation to the 2016/17 saving proposals for Children's Services and anticipated cost pressures for 2016/17 and beyond.

2. Conclusion

This report updates the Committee on the current position regarding the saving proposals for Children's Services in 2016/17 and anticipated cost pressures for 2016/17 and beyond.

With regards to the 2017/18 budget and beyond, there will be an internal budget workshop for each scrutiny committee in October or November 2016 to consider the detailed options. This will then be followed by the actual budget proposals being considered by the Executive on 4 January 2017 which will then be considered at each of the scrutiny committee meetings in January 2017.

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	Children's Services Presentation on Budget Saving Proposals
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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 Debbie Barnes, who can be contacted on 01522 553200 or Debbie.barnes@lincolnshire.gov.uk.

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Update on Saving Proposals for Children Services 2016/17



Commissioning Outcomes for Children Services

- Readiness for School
- Learn and Achieve
- Readiness for Adult Life
- Safe and Healthy

Children's Services

Readiness for School

	Readiness for Schools	Revised budget 2015/16 £000	Savings 2016/17 £000	Cost Pressures 2016/17 £000	Other Movements 2016/17 £000	Original Budget 2016/17 £000	% Change
1	Children's Centres - Centre Costs	4,798	-52	107	0	4,853	1.15%
2	Children's Centres - Commissioned Services	1,801	-609	2	0	1,194	-33.70%
3	Early Education	1,770	-235	0	0	1,535	-13.28%
	Total	8,369	-896	109	0	7,582	-9%

Children's Services

Readiness for School

£0.896m (10.71%) savings / budget reductions in 2016/17.

- £0.661m of the savings relate to the legacy 2015/16 decisions through a reduction in commissioned activities being delivered (namely, counselling support, debt advice, speech & language therapists, Homestart).
- The remainder (£0.235m) has been achieved following the outcome of the early help offer review and Birth to Five service delivery model. The new delivery model provides for even greater joined up working arrangements across early help teams.
- Impact includes: reduced commissioned activities provided to families from children centre sites, however signposting to support networks will be provided.

Children's Services

Learn and Achieve

	Learn and Achieve	Revised budget 2015/16 £000	Savings 2016/17 £000	Cost Pressures 2016/17 £000	Other Movements 2016/17 £000	Original Budget 2016/17 £000	% Change
1	School Support Services	926	-204	85	0	807	-12.85%
2	Parent Partnership	187	0	4	0	191	2.14%
3	School Improvement	2,331	-1,083	0	0	1,248	-46.46%
4	Statement Process and Intervention	3,006	0	80	54	3,140	4.46%
5	Home to School / College Transport	25,168	-1,631	1	0	23,538	-6.48%
6	School Admissions and other Education Costs	272	0	7	0	279	2.57%
7	Children with Disabilities	3,804	-188	40	0	3,656	-3.89%
8	Supported Employment	379	-204	10	0	185	-51.19%
	Total	36,073	-3,310	227	54	33,044	-8%

Children's Services

Learn and Achieve

£3.310m (9.18%) savings / budget reductions in 2016/17.

Music Service

- The Council has removed the residual funding (£0.204m) to support the music service and for the service to be a self-sustaining trading model.
- Impact includes: changing its commercial offering to enable it to be a self-sustaining business model.

School Improvement

- Implementing a sector-led approach to school improvement releasing £1.5m (64%) over two years (2016/17: £1.083m and 2017/18: £0.417m), and the remaining funding available will support the infrastructure of a school improvement strategy.
- Impact includes: a lack of capacity within the sector to implement a sector-led approach, but this will be mitigated through school to school collaborations, and a lack of oversight of its schools, but this is partially mitigated through the retention of some Education Advisors and the appointment of a Head of Service for school standards.

Children's Services

Learn and Achieve

Home to School / College Transport

- £1.631m (6.48%) savings for 2016/17.
- Efficiency savings through procurement of home to school transport for special schools and a post-16 transport ticket price increase. The ticket price increase (which still leaves the cost over 50% subsidised on average) is to ensure the medium-term sustainability of the policy.

Children with Disability

- The proposal was to decommission the non-statutory element relating to the supported employment team (2016/17: £0.204m and 2017/18: £0.146m). This team provides support to young people with learning disability to support transition from education into alternative pathways into adulthood.
- The risk has been mitigated as an external government funding source has been secured to continue operating this service.

Children's Services

Readiness for Adult Life

	Readiness for Adult Life	Revised budget 2015/16 £000	Savings 2016/17 £000	Cost Pressures 2016/17 £000	Other Movements 2016/17 £000	Original Budget 2016/17 £000	% Change
1	14-19 Education Training and Apprenticeships	99	0	4	0	103	3.79%
2	Career Guidance	1,308	-847	27	0	487	-62.73%
3	Positive Activities for Young People	1,840	-110	31	0	1,762	-4.27%
4	Teenage Pregnancy	192	-192	0	0	0	-100.00%
5	Supported Accommodation / Lodgings	1,336	-316	0	0	1,020	-23.65%
6	Lincs Secure Unit	-412	0	72	0	-340	-17.44%
7	Leaving Care	1,883	0	4	0	1,887	0.22%
	Total	6,246	-1,465	138	0	4,919	-21%

Children's Services

Readiness for Adult Life

£1.465m (23.45%) savings / budget reductions in 2016/17.

14-19 Education, Education Welfare Officers (trading offer only) and Careers Guidance

- £0.847m savings for 2016/17 (part year effect) – budget retained only for the Local Authority's duty to track 16-17 year olds (c.£0.045m). The schools traded services of supporting attendance and careers guidance has ended.
- The risk has been reduced through signposting to a website for advice and guidance.
- Vulnerable young people will be supported through other systems e.g. early help, team around the child, looked after children, children in need.

Activities for Young People

- £0.110m (5.97%) saving for the removal of the Duke of Edinburgh scheme.
- The national scheme offers a service directly to schools, therefore this will mitigate the risk when schools buy into the scheme.

Children's Services

Readiness for Adult Life

Supported Accommodation

- £0.316m (23.65%) savings for 2016/17 following the recommissioning exercise of the contract for housing 16-17 year olds and care leavers in 2015/16.
- The contract only provides statutory housing options.

Teenage Pregnancy

- £0.192m (100%) saving on the decision to decommission the service that aimed to deliver a strategy of reducing teenage parents and providing support. Full year savings have been realised in 2016/17.

Children's Services

Children are Safe and Healthy

	Children are Safe and Healthy	Revised budget 2015/16 £000	Savings 2016/17 £000	Cost Pressures 2016/17 £000	Other Movements 2016/17 £000	Original Budget 2016/17 £000	% Change
1	School Nursing	2,629	0	0	0	2,629	0.00%
2	Healthy Schools and Healthy Child	4,331	0	2	4,151	8,484	95.89%
3	Child Protection (Contact < Ref and Assessment)	14,727	0	359	0	15,086	2.44%
4	Targeted Support - Young People	1,707	-186	42	0	1,563	-8.44%
5	Looked after Children	3,389	0	65	0	3,454	1.92%
6	Fostering and Adoption	11,947	0	77	0	12,024	0.64%
7	Residential Homes	6,042	0	103	0	6,145	1.70%
8	Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (Section 75)	835	-50	0	0	785	-5.99%
9	Unaccompanied Children	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
10	Family Support	5,513	-218	78	0	5,373	-2.54%
11	Commissioning Support for all Children's Strategies	3,448	-135	88	15	3,416	-0.93%
	Total	54,568	-589	814	4,166	58,959	8%

Children's Services

Children are Safe and Healthy

£0.589m (1.08%) savings / budget reductions in 2016/17.

Family Support Services

- £0.218m (3.95%) savings for 2016/17 following the integration of family support capacity (early help offer). The insourced family action contract and integration of the troubled families programme has created greater synergies within the service. A further £0.218m savings is planned for 2017/18.

Targeted Support – Young People

- £0.186m (10.88%) savings for 2016/17 for decommissioning targeted support services.
- Based on the review outcomes, it is not expected to have an impact to service users from decommissioning this service due to the universal layer of health visiting.
- £0.050m (5.98%) savings option in 2016/17 for decommissioning the Grief and Loss service has been reviewed and alternative government funding sources has been identified to support the continuation of this service.

Children's Services

Children are Safe and Healthy

Commissioning Support

- £0.135m (3.92%) saving for 2016/17 that relate to Commissioning and Performance Management staffing to reflect the changing landscape of services.

Children's Services

Cost Pressures

Out Of County Placements

- £1.028m cost pressure in 2016/17 due to increased numbers from the Summer 2014 baseline and the complexity of children. The costs are expected to grow in 2017/18 leading to an accumulated cost pressure of £1.311m.

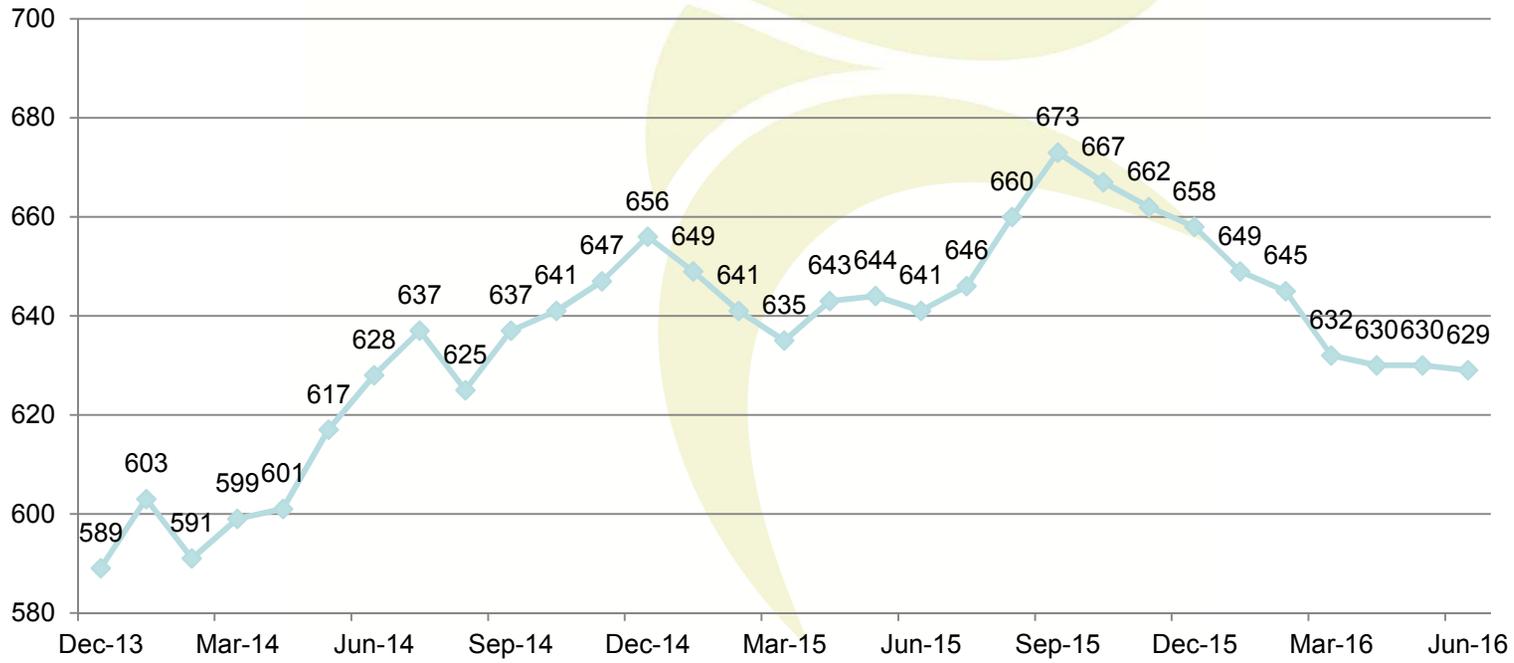
Special Guardianship Orders

- £0.516m cost pressure in 2016/17 due to increased numbers from the Summer 2014 baseline. Future predicted growth in 2017/18 would mean an accumulated cost pressure of £0.571m.

Children's Services

Cost Pressures

Looked After Children Numbers



Children's Services

Cost Pressures

	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
Out of County Residential Placements	12	12	13	20	19
Out of County Fostering Placements	4	12	18	28	37
Foster Placements	360	387	376	380	373
Regulation 24 Placements	38	28	71	93	104
Special Guardianship Order Placements	62	92	139	175	275

Open Report on behalf of Debbie Barnes, Executive Director of Children's Services
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Report to:	Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee
Date:	09 September 2016
Subject:	Partners in Practice

Summary:

This report invites the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee to consider the proposed partnership agreement between the Department of Education and Lincolnshire County Council Children's Services as part of the Government's Partner in Practice Programme. The proposals are intended to improve practice in Lincolnshire and other Children's Services by transforming the quality of children's social care services and early help arrangements putting practice excellence and achieving more for the children we serve at its heart.

Our proposals to transform Children's Social are structured around three work-streams with ten separate aspirations for what we wish to achieve over the next 4 years. We passionately believe that these three work-streams will enable Lincolnshire to innovate which will improve our practices and be more child focused, building on our approach for relationship based practice. We also believe that our proposals will support children to thrive in other Local Authority areas as we support improvement elsewhere, whilst using government investment to ensure that we maintain capacity and expertise to drive Lincolnshire's continued improvement.

The three work-streams are aligned to the DfE's reform programme:

- i. **Practice and systems** – creating the right environment for excellent practice and innovation to flourish, reducing bureaucracy, whilst creating a culture which prioritises excellent practice, based around the principles of innovation and excellence.
- ii. **Governance and accountability** – developing innovative new organisational models with the potential to radically improve services.
- iii. **People and leadership** – bringing the best people into the profession, and giving them the right knowledge and skills for the incredibly challenging but hugely rewarding work we expect them to do, and developing leaders equipped to nurture practice excellence.

Actions Required:

The Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee is invited to consider the proposed partnership agreement between the Department of Education and Lincolnshire County Council Children's Services as one of the Government's Partner in Practice and to determine whether the Committee supports the ten aspirations.

1. Background

Creating a culture of innovation is at the heart of the Government's vision for children's social care, and crucial to the delivery of national reforms for children's social care through the three work streams of: People and Leadership, Practice and Systems, and Governance and Accountability. Partners in Practice is at the centre of this vision, representing a genuine partnership between national and local government to help deliver the Government's vision for children's social care reform, which was set out in January 2016 by the Secretary of State. A copy of this vision document is referenced as a background paper.

Lincolnshire was delighted to be confirmed as a Partner in Practice by Government who consider that Partners in Practice (PiP) are high-performing Local Authorities (LAs) who will model excellence and innovation in the delivery of children's social care services. The Partners in Practice programme is intended to evidence about new structural models and practice innovations; support the wider sector; trial the new social work workforce reforms; explore greater freedoms in how they design and deliver their services; and support work looking at how best to measure performance and outcomes. The proposals outlined confirm how Lincolnshire Children's Services would seek to contribute to the Government's aspirations to achieve these objectives.

Children's social care is about changing lives whether by keeping children safe from harm, finding the best possible care when children cannot live at home, or creating the conditions that enable children to thrive and achieve. To make that happen, it is essential that everybody working within children's social care and early help arrangements have the knowledge and skills to do their jobs well, and the organisational leadership and culture to support and challenge them to keep improving.

Lincolnshire is a strong Children's Services and has a proven track record of continuous improvement and good performance. However, the foundation of good Children's Social Care is exceptional early help arrangements and the link between this and safeguarding must never be underestimated. Effective safeguarding occurs within a system of commitment by all agencies that have a role and/or responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people.

Our proposals are structured around three work-streams with 10 separate aspirations for what we wish to achieve over the next 4 years. We passionately believe that these three work-streams will enable Lincolnshire to innovate to

improve our practices and be more child focused, and will support children to thrive in other Local Authority areas as we support improvement elsewhere.

2. Proposals

The proposals for reform are categorised under the three work-streams of Government reform. Under each work-stream, Lincolnshire has a number of aspirations for the programme and these are outlined. Whilst this paper outlines our proposed partnership agreement and therefore sets out how we would wish to further develop Children's Services, each aspiration will be subject to Secretary of State approval.

Work-stream 1

Practice and systems: We will further improve our safeguarding and early help practices through system innovation, working in partnership with the Department of Education

Aspiration 1

Proposal: Signs of Safety is well embedded in Lincolnshire but the constraints of Working Together and Ofsted means that it currently has to be used in addition to other existing policy and practice requirements, which leads to extensive duplication and repeated questioning of families. We will redesign social work policy, procedure and practice to place Signs of Safety at the heart of all that we do and remove this duplication.

Why do we want to do this?

Working Together requires Children's Services to interpret the legislation very precisely. For example, we undertake a single assessment which is heavily prescribed to be undertaken for all referrals. We have been on a journey of implementing Signs of Safety as our methodology for identifying, assessing and mitigating risk, as part of the Innovation Programme. The research and our own evidence confirms that this improves practice and operates in a way which places the child at the centre and more effectively hears the child's voice. To comply with Working Together and the Ofsted framework, we must duplicate practice by undertaking both assessment methodologies.

We welcome an opportunity to fully embrace Signs of safety and for this to replace the existing assessment processes.

Aspiration 2

Proposal: The interface between early help and social care is not fluid enough and does not lend itself to relationship based practice and continuity of relationships and trust for children and families. Section 17 of the Children Act requires that the key worker and the assessment for children open to social care must be a qualified social worker. When a case is open to early help, this generally means the closure of that team and a start again under section 17, or section 47 (child protection enquiry) for a significant event.

We will pilot maintaining the same key worker for each child, supporting children and young people through early help arrangements and through child in need intervention into the lives of families. We will retain qualified social worker as key worker when the criteria for section 17 is met due to higher complexity of need and risk, but will seek to introduce a system of twin tracking across early help and child in need to enable a relationship based practice model to thrive. This will create more flexibility across early help and section 17 (child in need cases) and enable the most appropriate person who can affect change within a family to be the family's lead worker, leading to greater consistency of professional interventions.

Why do we want to do this?

We know that relationship based practice is key to effective intervention; the research shows this as does our local evidence. The right methodology is important, but a consistent individual who has a positive and trusting relationship with the child, family and or young person is what changes lives. Too often, children build a trusting relationship with an individual only to see a handover to another professional. This does not enact a stable system which, we know, children need.

We believe that the person with the most productive trusting relationship with the child should continue to be the key worker unless the risks are so high that statutory intervention is needed. It is clear that when risks escalate to need statutory intervention, the skills and expertise of a qualified Social Worker are needed. However the threshold between early help and section 17 continue to be subject to considerable local debate and this debate deflects the real issue: that of safeguarding the child and promoting their welfare.

We believe that the person with the most effective relationship with the child should be the key worker of the child across early help and section 17. The same level of management oversight and supervision and quality assurance processes regarding timescales MUST continue to be in place. This will enable risks to be mitigated.

Aspiration 3

Proposal: We will explore how we can best intervene and support young people who are engaging in risky behaviours to more effectively enact change, outside of child protection arrangements. This will build on the "Research in Practice" findings and would include introducing risk taking panels. We will develop practice based on this research and create a local system which effectively safeguards a young person, but recognises adolescent development and is based on relationship based practice.

Why do we want to do this?

The research from Research in Practice challenges the current system for safeguarding young people who are engaging in risky behaviours. The research argues that using an alternative approach to managing risk in young people is more effective than traditional child protection systems. It further demonstrates that a restorative, relationship based approach, rather than one which "blames" parents would more effectively enact positive change.

This would signal a move away from managing these cases where there is family engagement in child protection, and to manage risk through risk panels. The sector recognises that managing young people engaging in risk taking behaviours is challenging. More and more young people over the age of 13 years are coming into the care of the Local Authority. Families tell us that our current approaches are not empowering and we can learn a great deal from the experiences of survivors of child sexual exploitation and their families. There is an urgent need for an alternative methodology and system for these circumstances, and due to our early help arrangements, we are in a strong position to trial an alternative approach.

Aspiration 4

Proposal: We will implement a proportionate system for the care planning of looked after children. Too many looked after children tell us that they do not enjoy attending their statutory reviews and that they find the process intimidating, with too few engaged. We want to implement an alternative system, which builds on the positive relationship between the child's social worker and the young person and which empowers a young person's engagement. We recognise that the majority of looked after children are in stable placements, that their outcomes are being met and their life chances improved. For these looked after children, we want a proportionate system which reduces unnecessary bureaucracy and which enables flexibility so the most appropriate professional mechanism is used to enable a statutory review to be completed. Independent Reviewing Officers would focus their capacity on those children and young people whose needs are more complex and greater oversight and scrutiny is needed. The principal request is for a flexible, proportionate system towards care planning based on a child's needs.

Why do we want to do this?

Too many looked after children tell us that they do not enjoy attending their statutory reviews and that they find the process intimidating, with too few engaged. We want to implement an alternative system, which builds on the positive relationship between the child's social worker and the young person and which empowers a young person's engagement. The principal request is for a flexible, proportionate system towards care planning based on a child's needs.

Aspiration 5

Proposal: This proposal focuses on improving life chances for looked after children. We recognise that education is the pathway out of poverty, so looked after children MUST have access to high quality educational placement to enable them to have access to good life chances. This work, although not directly related to child protection, will introduce a holistic approach to promoting educational outcomes for looked after children, not trialled anywhere in the UK to date. It will bring carers and professionals together to understand how to all be educational champions whilst supporting schools to be able to understand how best to manage the behaviours and attachment needs of looked after children.

We will create an innovative and sustainable multi-disciplinary approach to improving academic outcomes, progress, life choices and opportunities for all

Lincolnshire children in care. We will do this through the development and implementation of a clearly defined strategy (Learning Placements and Caring Schools – Improving Education Outcomes for Children in Care) that will support schools to be able to nurture and promote attachment and support foster carers to give children a thirst for learning so that education is cherished and encouraged. We want all Lincolnshire **schools to be Caring Schools** and we want all **social care placements to be Learning Placements**.

Why do we want to do this?

"For children to thrive and flourish, and realise their potential, and particularly where they have had very difficult early childhoods, they need to be cared for in school and educated at home" *Claire Cameron, (2015) Educating Children and Young People in Care*

The underperformance of children in care measured against their peers who have not been in care is a national/regional/local priority. Performance indicators nationally and locally have not improved markedly over these past three years and a new approach is required that focuses upon faster rates of academic progress and a recognition that once our children are safe a greater emphasis upon the development of key skills is needed to increase opportunity.

Lincolnshire has a desire for all of our young people to fulfil their potential regardless of where placed and to make better than expected progress whilst in care. Strong inter agency working is already a major aspect of our work but more needs to be done. Performance of a child in care is not just an educational matter. A new dynamic is required whereby the language of academic progress is shared across disciplines and foster carers and which recognises that schools need an alternative nurturing methodology which is located on encouraging attachments and where foster carers recognise their responsibility to promote education and a thirst for life - long learning.

Aspiration 6

Proposal: We will explore greater integration in how we support young people who are involved in criminal behaviour: bringing together education, support and enforcement. Young offenders are children and young people first and there needs to be a more holistic assessment and care planning approach to better meet their needs. We want to create a system where the worker with the best relationship with the young person, the professional who can create a relationship to change behaviour, should be the young person's key worker. The current approach which requires young people in some circumstances to have two allocated social workers does not support relationship based practice. In addition, we want a single approach to the identification and management of risk. We want to explore streamlining risk management methodologies, building on our methodology of Signs of Safety.

Why do we want to do this?

One of our core principles in our operating model is to adopt a relationship based approach to working with young people. We know that Signs of Safety offers a robust methodology to our work and that relationships are the foundations for

effective safeguarding work. To create the culture for relationship based practice to thrive, it is important to minimise the number of changes of workers, who have a relationship with a young person. The right person supporting a vulnerable young person is what is important. It is, therefore, not always considered to be in the best interest of a young person to introduce a new worker if the young person is involved in the criminal justice system or who needs to be open to Children Services. Where the case is open to Children's Services or Youth Offending, there should be a single worker with the required skills to work with the young person to enact change and a single approach to the assessment and management of risk. We would seek to adopt Signs of Safety as the single agreed methodology for the identification and management of risk rather than using the ASSET model.

Work-stream 2

Governance and accountability: Working with the DfE, we will explore alternative delivery models so that our structural form is sustainable and responsive to the changing needs of public sector organisations

Aspiration 7

Proposal: We will develop a business plan to explore the benefits of establishing an alternative delivery mechanism for Children Services which recognises the changing nature of public sector organisations and which explores opportunities for more collaborative working. This will inform national and local policy as it will explore potential future collaboration opportunities and associated structures to facilitate this.

Why do we want to do this?

Lincolnshire County Council has a track record of introducing new models through commissioning and has stated its aspirations to be a commissioning council. We wish to explore if alternative models open up opportunities for greater collaboration to drive efficiencies and improvement.

Work-stream 3

Working with the DfE, we will nurture talent across the system so the workforce is skilled to enact changes in the lives of families so children and young people can thrive.

Aspiration 8

Proposal: We will implement the assessment and accreditation programme for Social Workers which will provide a national, practice focused, career pathway based on the highest levels of skill and knowledge.

Why do we want to do this?

Lincolnshire is proud of its workforce and strives to continually support its Social Workers to thrive and deliver outstanding practice. The Government is committed to developing a national, practice focused, career pathway based on the highest

levels of skill and knowledge and we are committed to offering this to our workforce.

Aspiration 9

Proposal: We would like to explore the adoption of a national leaders programme in social work to drive improvement across the sector. Accreditation of Practice Leaders is modelled on the National Leaders in Education (NLE's). We believe the concept is applicable to social work.

Why do we want to do this?

The DfE encourages Headteachers of outstanding schools to apply to be a national leader of education (NLE). In this role, National Leaders support schools in challenging circumstances, in addition to leading their own school and driving practice improvement. The aim of the national leaders of education programme is to increase the leadership capacity of other schools to help raise standards. This is one part of the government's plan to give schools a central role in developing a self-improving and sustainable school system.

We will look to develop this model to improve Children Services. It will provide development opportunities for experienced practitioners to innovate, and support improvement in other Local Authorities whilst offering career development opportunities for staff. We have a strong leadership team, but some will wish to explore career development through leaving Lincolnshire which is something that they would rather not do. This type of programme enables staff to flourish and enhance their career whilst clearly identifying leaders in the system to work in services which need improving. Through their drive and ambition, Lincolnshire Children's Services would continue to benefit from their skills and expertise.

Aspiration 10

Proposal: We welcome collaboration being a key part of improvement where good Children's Services work with other Children's Services to provide high-quality diagnosis of what is needed for improvement, with advice, guidance and monitoring as well as training and development to the workforce to drive effectiveness.

Why do we want to do this?

We are fortunate that our Children's Services safeguarding system across England has many, very important strengths. Inspection and research advises that effective safeguarding is based on strong multi-agency work, focused on the needs of the child and effective, well-led local partnerships/alliances at both strategic and operational levels.

The system must ensure that all children are safe, regardless of where they live which is why we need to strengthen our commitment to confronting its weaknesses and providing a more collaborative system where strong services can support others.

We would like to trial the introduction of an improvement system which is aligned to the Teaching School model which has been introduced into the school system.

3. Conclusion

The Partners in Practice proposals outline our 10 aspirations for what we wish to achieve over the next 4 years. We passionately believe that the three work-streams will enable Lincolnshire to innovate to improve our practices and be more child focused, and will support children to thrive in other Local Authority areas as we support improvement elsewhere.

Our proposals are aligned to the DfE's reform programme and seek to create the right environment for excellent practice and innovation to flourish, whilst reducing bureaucracy. They will explore innovative new organisational models with the potential to radically improve services and build capacity, giving our staff the right knowledge, skills and opportunities to nurture practice excellence in our own and other areas.

Following consideration of the proposals, the Committee is requested to consider whether it supports the proposed partnership agreement between the Department of Education and Lincolnshire County Council Children's Services as one of the Government's Partner in Practice.

4. Consultation

a) Policy Proofing Actions Required

Not applicable

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
Children's social care reform: A vision for change - January 2016 - Department for Education	https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/childrens-social-care-reform-a-vision-for-change

This report was written by Debbie Barnes, who can be contacted on 01522 553200 or Debbie.barnes@lincolnshire.gov.uk.

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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:	09 September 2016
Subject:	Post 16 Area Based Review

Summary:

This report invites the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee to consider a report on the Post 16 Area Based Review which is due to be considered by the Executive Councillor responsible for Children's Services on 27 September 2016. The views of the Scrutiny Committee will be reported to the Executive Councillor as part of her consideration of this item.

Actions Required:

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

1. Background

The Executive Councillor responsible for Children's Services is due to consider a report on the Post 16 Area Based Review. 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(s) in the report and whether it wishes to make any additional comments to the Executive Councillor. 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 responsible for Children's Services on Post 16 Area Based Review
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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 Maggie Freeman, who can be contacted on 07826 873167 or maggie.freeman@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 responsible for Children's Services
Date:	27 September 2016
Subject:	Post 16 Area Based Review
Decision Reference:	I011945
Key decision?	Yes

Summary:

The report summarises the current situation in relation to post 16 (up to 25 for young people with Education, Health and Care Plans) education and training in Lincolnshire and seeks approval for the Council's position in relation to the forthcoming area based review of post 16 education and training institutions in Greater Lincolnshire.

Recommendation(s):

That the Executive Councillor approves the position set out in Appendix C to this Report as the outcomes to be required by Lincolnshire County Council from the Area Review of post 16 education in Greater Lincolnshire.

Alternatives Considered:

That the Council adopts different outcomes for the Area Review.

The outcomes proposed in Appendix C are considered to be the most appropriate for addressing the Council's statutory responsibilities in the context of the significant and increasing challenges within Lincolnshire arising out of a declining cohort; increasing competition; reducing funding in real terms; and a funding mechanism that encourages competition rather than collaboration.

Reasons for Recommendation:

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 aged 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:

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 of 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. Lincolnshire County Council therefore has a significant interest in the outcome of the area review in terms of ensuring that the review delivers an infrastructure for post 16 education that enables the Council to meet its statutory duties. The Council will be represented on the area review steering group, and will be expected to outline its position in relation to the local area and the needs and challenges that can be addressed through the review. It will also be expected to have a role in providing challenge on emerging options to ensure that the needs of all learners and employers will be met by any potential changes.

Failure to establish the required outcomes will mean there is a risk that the review will result in a structure that is not able to provide the education opportunities young people require to enable them to meet their duty to participate in education to the age of 18. There is also a risk of additional cost to the council if young people, in particular young people with high needs (those with special education needs and disabilities and who have Education Health and Care Plans) are required to travel further or go out of county to access education.

1. Background

In 2015 the Government launched a programme of reviews of post 16 education and training institutions. The first wave of these is currently reaching the conclusion stage. The purpose of the reviews is to ensure that there are strong education and training institutions which have high status and are genuine centres of expertise, and that there is the right balance of provision to meet the Government's objectives in relation to raising productivity. Although the latest spending review provided some protection to colleges, and many are performing well, there are a number that are treading a tight financial line and in some cases requiring exceptional support.

The purpose of the review is to ensure these providers are in a strong position for the future. Support, including financial support for restructuring as well as consultancy, analysis and advice and support will be available for those institutions implementing the recommendations following the review. However, the Government has made it clear that this support is time limited and that once the process and any restructuring is complete there will be no further financial support (colleges will be allowed to go bankrupt). In addition the Government expects that the funding agencies and local areas with devolution powers to 'only fund

institutions that are taking action to ensure they can provide a good quality offer to learners and employers, which is financially sustainable for the long term’.

Reviews should deliver:

- Institutions which are financially viable, sustainable, resilient and efficient and deliver maximum value for public investment
- An offer that meets each area’s educational and economic needs
- Providers with strong reputations and greater specialisation
- Sufficient access to high quality and relevant education and training for all
- Colleges that will be well equipped to respond to the reform and expansion of the apprenticeship programme

Emerging recommendations and outcomes from earlier reviews include:

- Mergers/Federations/Alternative structures
- Agreements as to affordable levels of service
- Greater degrees of specialisation
- New Institutes of Technology
- Shared back office functions
- Common marketing
- Local outcome agreements
- Jointly owned apprenticeship companies

The review will cover the Greater Lincolnshire area as that is conterminous with the area covered by the Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership (GLLEP) and the proposed combined authority resulting from the devolution deal.

The first meeting of the steering group will take place on 3 October 2016.

Scope of institutions to be covered:

The institutions that are in the core scope of the area reviews are General Further Education (GFE) colleges and Sixth Form colleges (SFCs). Other providers can seek to opt in to the review process if they wish and the local steering group agrees.

Information on all post 16 providers, including schools and academies, will be included in the initial analysis phase and arrangements will be put in place to communicate with all providers and give them the opportunity to engage.

The core institutions that will be in scope for the Lincolnshire review are:

- Boston College
- Franklin College
- Grantham College
- Grimsby Institute for Further and Higher Education
- John Leggott Sixth Form College
- Lincoln College
- New College Stamford
- North Lindsey College

The analysis will look at how young people progress through the system, the effectiveness of progression routes, and how the provision and its quality aligns with local educational and economic need.

Role of the local authority

Lincolnshire County Council will have representation on the steering group and will be expected to present a position statement at the first steering group meeting. As a member of the steering group the Council will be able to make and contribute to recommendations. The statement will need to cover the Council's position in relation to education and training for 16 - 18 year olds as well as for adults. Meetings will take place in September 2016 with colleagues in North and North East Lincolnshire to agree how we do this including identifying where our position is common and where there are differences.

Context and current situation: 16 – 18 education and training

- Participation of 16 – 18 year olds overall in Lincolnshire is good, and is above the national average.
- Participation is around 5% lower at age 17 than age 16.
- Vulnerable young people are more likely to not be in education, employment or training (NEET) than their peers.
- Participation of young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) is slightly below that of the overall cohort.
- Some young people age 19 – 25 with SEND but who are not eligible for an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) experience difficulty accessing further education as they are not eligible to participate in Education Funding Agency (EFA) funded study programmes.
- A relatively high number of young people (currently 44) with SEND access Independent Non Maintained Special and Independent Special Schools outside Lincolnshire, often on a residential basis. This is in part as result of continuation of pre 16 placements continuing into post 16, and a lack of local provision for young people with more complex needs in relation to Autism, behavioural difficulties and mental health issues.
- 18% of young people commencing A-level courses in school sixth forms do not continue into the second year of the course and complete full A-levels.
- Overall attainment at age 19 is above the national average.
- The gap in attainment between young people who are or have been eligible for free school meals (i.e. experiencing poverty), and those who have not is large and growing and is among the highest in the country.
- The size of the 16 – 18 cohort will continue to decline (there are currently 8,233 children in the Year 11 age group falling to 6,834 in Year 7) until 2020 when it will plateau before starting to rise again in 2022.
- The Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership (GLLEP) has identified a requirement for 200,000 new employees by 2022 to meet replacement and growth requirements. There will be insufficient school leavers to meet this requirement even if all achieve the required skills and qualifications that match local economic requirements. Furthermore, anticipated increase in 16 – 18 year olds as a result of housing development will be insufficient to fill the gap.

- There has been little change in the total curriculum offer for 16 – 18 year olds over the last 5 years or any significant increase in programmes that reflect the priorities identified in the Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership (GLLEP) skills strategy.
- There is over sufficiency of school sixth form A-level provision, with many small sixth forms and an increasing proportion of small classes giving cause for concern about the viability of some sixth form provision.
- The reducing size of the cohort means that there is increasing competition for students.
- In Lincolnshire young people aged 16 – 24 make up over 25% of the total unemployed. The older demographic of the population suggest that this is even more significant for Lincolnshire, and as there is good participation of 16 and 17 year olds (and only a very small number of 16 and 17 year olds are eligible to claim benefits) means the issue relates specifically to 18 – 24 year olds. One hypothesis could be that although young people are participating in education and training up to the age of 18, they are not undertaking the right courses (including in higher education) to prepare them adequately to meet the skills requirements locally, regionally or nationally).
- There has been little growth in the number of 16 – 18 year olds undertaking apprenticeships, and those that do predominantly study at level 2. There are few opportunities to progress to level 4 and beyond.
- As is the case nationally, young people with disabilities and/or learning difficulties are under-represented on apprenticeships.

Current situation: General Further Education (GFE) Colleges in Lincolnshire

- The key driver for establishing the area review process was the fact that many GFE colleges nationally are experiencing financial challenges, with several requiring the intervention of the FE commissioner. Nationally there are several planned mergers of colleges as a result of the area reviews, either following recommendations resulting from an options appraisal as part of the review, or in some cases pre-empting the review. There was a prevailing view that larger institutions would be able to weather the financial challenges more effectively.
- Despite the fact that the 4 main GFE colleges in Lincolnshire are comparatively very small, they have proved themselves to be fairly resilient and adaptable to changes in funding, as well as changes to programme and curriculum requirements over a number of years.
- All but Lincoln College had an operating surplus (albeit small) in 2014/15. All 4 have staffing costs below 65% of their total expenditure which is one of the government's key benchmarks for the area review. Given the rural nature of Lincolnshire it would not be practicable to close any campuses thereby releasing premises, and therefore the benefits of full mergers are likely to be outweighed by the costs.
- There is however, potential for more formal collaboration and shared services. New College Stamford, with Boston and Grantham Colleges have already undertaken a due diligence exercise and identified 7 activities where they can benefit from working together more formally. These include apprenticeships (with development of a shared apprenticeship company initially specialising in logistics, higher education and procurement.

- The 4 colleges had income of around £81.3million between them in 2014/15 (accounts for 2015/16 are not yet published) Of the total £14.5 (almost 18%) million was income from the Adult Skills Budget, now known as the Adult Education Budget (AEB) and contributed between 11.5% and 23% of each individual college budget. There was a significant reduction in AEB allocation in 2015/16, and recently published data suggests that there was a reduction of over £4million (29%) in AEB spend by the 4 colleges between them (unlike Education Funding Agency funding for 16 – 18 year olds unspent allocation is clawed back).
- The 'data flat pack' will provide information regarding the courses that 16 – 18 year old students are enrolled on. However, analysis in previous years showed that there has been little change in the vocational mix of courses and insufficient growth in courses required to meet the skills priorities identified in the GLLEP (Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership) strategic plan, for example in engineering, construction, leisure and tourism.
- The high proportion of unemployed 18 – 24 year olds within the total unemployed population suggests that young people are not undertaking the most appropriate courses (including in higher education) to prepare them for employment. Given the relatively small size (compared to the budget for 16 – 18 education) of the AEB available for retraining, it is important that young people are encouraged to undertake training and education that will enable them to access good quality employment, not only to improve their outcomes and future prosperity, but to ensure there is sufficient funding to retrain adults to meet changing workforce requirements.
- The quality and availability of careers information advice and guidance within schools is inconsistent across Lincolnshire schools and this continues to give cause for concern. There have been a number of initiatives from central government including recently £5m allocated nationally by the Careers Enterprise Fund. This funds 30 projects nationally including 4 in Lincolnshire. Many young people do not get the opportunity to 'test' their decisions in relation to their study and careers choices and therefore have a full understanding of the opportunities (or lack of) resulting from their career choices.
- There is a range of specialist provision already available in Lincolnshire which supports the GLEP strategic priorities. Much of this provision is outside of the scope of the review and includes:
 - Food manufacturing, Technology and Engineering – Lincoln University Holbeach Campus
 - Science, Technology and Engineering – Lincoln University Technical College
 - Health and Social Care – Career College – Lincoln college
 - Armed Forces – Career College – Lincoln College
 - Construction – Career College – Lincoln College
 - Agriculture and Horticulture – Bishop Burton College – Riseholme Campus
 - Logistics – developing jointly owned apprenticeship company (Grantham, Boston and New College Stamford Colleges)
- Any further specialisation would need to be considered carefully in the context of a large sparsely populated county with poor transport infrastructure.
- The government recently published a Post 16 Skills Plan based on the work of Lord Sainsbury's independent panel which was set up to review **Technical and**

Professional Education (TPE). The plan identifies 15 TPE routes, delivered full-time over 2 years (possibly 3 years for those students who need a preparatory year) or through an apprenticeship. This means that effectively 16 year olds will need to choose either the academic or TPE route and will not be able to combine both. It is expected that this will mean schools will concentrate on the academic A level offer, and GFE colleges the vocational offer. This will have a significant impact on school sixth forms and colleges, with the changes taking effect from September 2019. There is a need to ensure that the area review results in a post 16 infrastructure that is able to deliver these programmes.

The Council needs to make sure that it complies with the public sector equality duty set out in S149 Equality Act 2010 when coming to a decision on the proposals. In doing so, the Executive Councillor as decision-maker must have due regard to the needs to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the [Equality Act 2010](#);
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it: [Equality Act 2010 section 149\(1\)](#). The relevant protected characteristics are age; disability; gender reassignment; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; sexual orientation: section 149(7).

Having due regard to the need to advance equality of opportunity involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to:

- Remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are connected to that characteristic;
- Take steps to meet the needs of persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of persons who do not share it;
- Encourage persons who share a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.

The steps involved in meeting the needs of disabled persons that are different from the needs of persons who are not disabled include, in particular, steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities.

Having due regard to the need to foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to tackle prejudice, and promote understanding.

Compliance with the duties in this section may involve treating some persons more favourably than others.

A reference to conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act includes a reference to:

- (a) A breach of an equality clause or rule
- (b) A breach of a non-discrimination rule

It is important that the Executive Councillor is aware of the special duties the Council owes to persons who have a protected characteristic as the duty cannot be delegated and must be discharged by the Executive. The duty applies to all decisions taken by public bodies including policy decisions and decisions on individual cases and includes this decision.

To discharge the statutory duty the Executive Councillor must analyse all the relevant material with the specific statutory obligations in mind. If a risk of adverse impact is identified consideration must be given to measures to avoid that impact as part of the decision making process.

The outcomes set out in Appendix C take full account of ensuring that opportunities are available for all regardless of protected characteristics. In particular the outcomes address the potential for young people with disabilities and children experiencing poverty to do less well in relation to education.

Child Poverty Strategy

Although the Council is no longer under a statutory duty to have regard to its Child Poverty Strategy, the Strategy has been taken into account. Child poverty is one of the key risk factors that can negatively influence a child's life chances. Children that live in poverty are at greater risk of social exclusion which, in turn, can lead to poor outcomes for the individual and for society as a whole.

In Lincolnshire we consider that poverty is not only a matter of having limited financial resources but that it is also about the ability of families to access the means of lifting themselves out of poverty and of having the aspiration to do so. The following four key strategic themes form the basis of Lincolnshire's Child Poverty strategy: Economic Poverty, Poverty of Access, Poverty of Aspiration and Best Use of Resources.

The outcomes specifically address gaps in attainment among young people who are experiencing poverty as well as being aimed at improving educational opportunity for all which addresses poverty of aspiration and poverty of opportunity.

Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) and Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (JHWS)

The Council in exercising its functions must have regard to both the JSNA and the JHWS.

The outcomes are aimed at improving educational provision for all young people but with particular for those with a special educational needs and disabilities and those with mental health issues. They therefore are aimed at improving the wellbeing of these groups.

Crime and Disorder

Under section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, the Council must exercise its various functions with due regard to the likely effect of the exercise of those functions on, and the need to do all that it reasonably can to prevent crime and disorder in its area (including anti-social and other behaviour adversely affecting the local environment), the misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances in its area and re-offending in its area.

The outcomes are aimed at reducing the number of young people not in employment, education or training which can help to tackle one of the determinants for crime and anti-social behaviour

2. Conclusion

The challenges to the entire post 16 education and training sector arising from: a declining cohort; increasing competition; reducing funding in real terms; and a funding mechanism that encourages competition rather than collaboration; are significant and increasing.

The area review is limited in its scope to address these issues given that its main focus will be on General Further Education and Sixth Form colleges. Lincolnshire County Council will want to ensure, through its membership of the area review steering group, that outcomes for all young people are maintained and improved where appropriate, and that there is a viable appropriate and comprehensive curriculum offer that is accessible to all young people across this large rural county. This will include ensuring that any emerging recommendations do not have a detrimental impact on providers outside the scope of the review, where this is likely to have a negative impact on learner outcomes.

3. Legal Comments:

The Council owes statutory duties in relation to post 16 education which are referred to in the body of the Report. The Report seeks approval for proposed outcomes to be sought from an Area Review into post 16 education in the Council's area.

The proposals are lawful. They are consistent with the Policy Framework and within the remit of the Executive Councillor. The matters that the Executive Councillor must take into account in considering the decision are set out in the body of the Report.

4. Resource Comments:

There are no financial implications as a result of the recommendation of this report. The outcome of the area review of post 16 education may have financial implications but these will be addressed following completion of the review.

5. Consultation

a) Has Local Member Been Consulted?

Yes

b) Has Executive Councillor Been Consulted?

Yes

c) Scrutiny Comments

The Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee will consider this report at its meeting on 9 September 2016. Comments from this meeting will be presented to the Executive Councillor on 27 September 2016.

d) Policy Proofing Actions Required

Not applicable

6. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Local Authority Engagement in Area Reviews
Appendix B	Background information and data.
Appendix C	Proposed Lincolnshire County Council Position

7. Background Papers

Area review guidance: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/post-16-education-and-training-institutions-area-based-reviews>

Post-16 skills plan and independent report on technical education: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/post-16-skills-plan-and-independent-report-on-technical-education>

This report was written by Maggie Freeman, who can be contacted on 07826 873167 or maggie.freeman@lincolnshire.gov.uk.

Appendix A

Local Authority Engagement in Area Reviews

We will ask local authorities to make an input at the first steering group meeting on the local area, its needs and the challenges that can be addressed through the review. This should include:

- **Demographics and deprivation:** Do you have information, data and intelligence that would be helpful in showing the local demographic picture for the age 16-19 cohort: declines, rises, and deprivation? For example:
 - What is the picture of decline and recovery?
 - Are there housing or transport developments that will impact?
 - Are there variations in the pattern across the area and when does the primary surge start to move through into post-16?
 - To what degree and what assumptions are there about forecasting?
- **Participation:** Data available for the area review is based on the Statistical First Release data, which is not always a true reflection of local movement.
 - Do you have further data and information that would update this profile, beyond that submitted? (and what assumptions are there about forecasting?)
 - Do you have any information, based on year 11 participation and Basic Need data, to indicate likely demand on post-16 institutions and are there housing or transport developments that will impact on these projections?
 - Are there specific aspects that you would like to see identified through the review?
- **Local learner outcomes:** Again data used by the area review will be based on published data.
 - Do you have any concerns that you wish to raise about local learner outcomes? This should include any specific concerns about outcomes for young people with characteristics protected by the Equality Act 2010.
 - Where LAs have conducted their own recent analysis of learner outcomes, such as A level performance, sharing with area review will be a helpful contribution
- **High needs post-16 provision:** Local authorities have a statutory duty around ensuring that there is sufficient suitable provision for their residents aged 16-19 and a particular duty and commission role in relation to learners with additional needs. It is therefore important that LAs come to the meetings with a view on any gaps in provision for these learners and any issues regarding quality. The data available to the area review team comprises numbers of

funded places only at the initial stage and does not reflect actual delivery or the totality of the SEND offer.

- Are there any available forecasts of SEN levels/specialisms required locally for the future?
 - Are there current gaps in provision that colleges might be able to fill – e.g. by increasing capacity in order to reduce the number of young people attending residential provision?
 - Are there any particular issues around either the supply of suitable provision for SEN learners or the outcomes that you wish to mention?
 - Are there further specific points about SEND and High Needs you would like to see articulated in the review?
- **Gaps in provision:** Are there any particular gaps in provision for young people in general or in specific geographical areas?
 - What are the gaps (sector or type of provision/geography/numbers)?
 - What action have you taken so far to fill those?
 - This should include any specific concerns about outcomes for young people with characteristics protected by the Equality Act 2010.
 - **Configuration of provision:** Does the LA have any views on the current configuration of post-16 provision and any recommendations to improve access to learners, specialist accommodation, building condition or travel arrangements?
 - **Skills:** Both the LAs and the LEP(s) involved in the review will have a role to play in specifying the skills needs and the skills gaps for the future.

There is an expectation that the LA will come to the first Steering Group with some input on the aspects detailed above – either in the form of a position statement or a slide presentation. The skills template provided should result in some information to respond to the following questions:

- What are areas of employment growth for the area and why?
- Where are the gaps between the current skills available and what will be needed for the future?
- What are the key areas of development / change that need to be considered in the review?
- What part do you expect the colleges to play in this?

Input at the meetings

Challenge role: local authorities have a role in providing challenge on emerging options to ensure that the needs of all learners and employers will be met by any potential changes.

Schools engagement in the area review process: While the area review team will supply the base post-16 schools data, LAs and RSCs will be able to provide input on issues around schools or applications in the pipeline for new post-16 provision. It will be important to agree early who writes to the schools/academies, whether there is potential/need to run any schools engagement sessions with representative leads and how the feedback is collected. A suggested standard letter templates will be provided when a review starts and this can be sent from LAs with responses coming into the area reviews mailbox.

Facilitating employer/council engagement: LAs and LEPs will also be able to provide some input on the employer voice and may be able to facilitate engagement of employer groups, district councils etc. where this will be helpful to providing insight into local needs.

Contact: area.reviews@education.gsi.gov.uk. Once an area review is announced, the lead for the area review team will be in touch with local authorities about the expectations and requirements for the review

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Background information and data

College accounts 2014/15 – Income and expenditure

Institution	Income £000	Expenditure £000	Surplus/(Deficit) £000
Boston	17,349	16,633	+716
Franklin	8,210	8,575	(365)
Grantham	12,687	12,363	324
Grimsby Institute	49,374	47,451	1,923
John Leggott	9,195	9,482	(287)
Lincoln	36,642	42,167	(5,524)
New College Stamford	14,630	14,382	248
North Lindsey College	20,374	17,729	2,645
Total	168,461	168,782	(320)

Data source : <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sfainancial-management-college-accounts> Data as at 06/05/16

Proportion of income from Adult Education Budget (formerly adult skills excluding apprenticeships)

Institution	Total income £000	AEB 2014/15 £000	%	EFA excl Apprenticeships £000	%	16 – 18 Apprenticeships £000	%
Boston	17,349	3,929	22.6	7,437	42	910	5
Franklin	8,210	458	5.5	6,439	78	30	.3
Grantham	12,687	1,566	12.3	5,426	43	749	6
Grimsby Institute	49,374	7,799	15.7	17,847	36	1,907	4
John Leggott	9,195	95	1	7,431	81	7	0
Lincoln	36,642	7,409	20	15,696	44	1,903	5
New College Stamford	14,630	1,676	11.4	9,211	63	393	3
North Lindsey College	20,374	1,935	9.4	9,002	44	1,116	5
Total	168461	24867	14.7	78469	46.5	7015	4

Data source : <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sfainancial-management-college-accounts> Data as at 06/05/16

Staffing costs as % of total expenditure

College	Expenditure £000	Staff Costs £000	Staff Cost as % of total expenditure*	Contract tuition services £000	Contract tuition % of staff costs	Principal Salary £
Boston	16,633	9,558	59%	48	0.5	103,000
Franklin	8,575	6,051	70%	0	0	97,000
Grantham	12,363	7,615	62%	129	1.7	101,000
Grimsby Institute	47,451	27,927	59%	869	3	151,000
John Leggott	9,482	6,706	70%	47	0.7	110,000
Lincoln	42,167	24,483	58%	1416	5.7	160,000
New College Stamford	14,382	8,625	60%	929	10	136,000
North Lindsey College	17,729	11,858	67%	122	1	112,000
Total	168,782	102,823	61%	3,560	3.5%	970,000

*Government area review benchmark for proportion of expenditure allocated to staffing costs is 65% Data source :

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sfainancial-management-college-accounts> Data as at 06/05/16

Education Funding Agency (EFA) Funding and 16 – 18 student numbers 2014/15 and 2015/16

Institution	2014/15			2015/16			Diff stud no.	Diff funding
	16-18 students	Of which HN	Total EFA funding	16-18 students	Of which HN	Total EFA funding		
Boston	1,678	51	£7,736,377	1,581	51	7,609,988	-97	-£126,389
Franklin	1,483	21	£6,634,961	1,497	21	6,690,600	14	£55,639
Grantham	1,206	58	£5,608,346	1,044	58	4,903,828	-162	-£704,518
Grimsby Institute	3,769	117	£18,548,720	3,526	117	18,330,765	-243	-£217,955
John Leggott	1,742	23	£7,621,932	1,846	23	8,077,099	104	£455,167
Lincoln	3,510	95	£16,280,986	3,216	95	15,128,201	-294	£1,152,785
New College Stamford	1,944	33	£9,484,224	1,897	33	9,261,437	-47	-£222,787
North Lindsey College	1,864	55	£9,304,785	1,728	55	8,584,019	-136	-£720,766
Total	17,196	453	£81,220,331	16,335	453	78,585,937	-861	£2,634,394

Data sources: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/16-to-19-allocation-data-2014-to-2015-academic-year>
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/16-to-19-allocation-data-2015-to-2016-academic-year>

Total Skills Funding Agency (SFA) Adult Skills Budget Allocations 2014/15 and 2015/16

Institution	2014/15	2015/16	Diff +/-
BOSTON COLLEGE	5,764,468	5,335,024	-429,444
FRANKLIN COLLEGE	426,402	533,023	106,621
GRANTHAM COLLEGE	3,760,220	3,538,250	-221,970
GRIMSBY INSTITUTE OF FURTHER AND HIGHER EDUCATION	12,128,095	10,620,167	-1,507,928
JOHN LEGGOTT SIXTH FORM COLLEGE	221,007	314,759	93,752
LINCOLN COLLEGE	12,752,840	12,135,605	-617,235
NEW COLLEGE STAMFORD	3,211,523	2,381,558	-829,965
NORTH LINDSEY COLLEGE	2,775,076	4,849,145	2,074,069
Total	41,039,631	39,707,531	-1,332,100

Data sources: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sfa-funding-allocations-totraining-providers-2015-to-2016>
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sfa-funding-allocations-totraining-providers-2014-to-2015>

Apprenticeships completed with success rates (all ages) 2011/12 to 2014/15

College	2011/12		2012/13		2013/14		2014/15	
	No.	Success %						
Boston	330	60.2	350	64.6	400	73.4	250	70.1
Franklin	0	N/A	30	63.3	0	N/A	0	N/A
Grantham	210	76.2	230	83.8	340	67	520	55.3
Grimsby Institute	460	68	830	74.1	870	60.4	840	70.6
John Leggott	0	N/A	0	N/A	0	N/A	0	N/A
Lincoln	750	75.4	920	68.9	1050	63.9	2370	52.9
New College Stamford	310	48.5	300	37.4	170	45.8	100	69%
North Lindsey College	160	61.3	130	66.2	120	69.8	220	76.9
Total	2200		2790		2950		4300	

Apprenticeships completed and success rates (16-18) 2011/12 to 2014/15

College	2011/12		2012/13		2013/14		2014/15	
	No.	Success %	No.	Success %	No.	Success %	No.	Success %
Boston	150	64.2	130	64.9	110	55.1	120	68.4
Franklin	0	N/A	0	N/A	0	N/A	0	N/A
Grantham	110	71.2	100	82.7	100	72.3	110	81.1
Grimsby Institute	210	74.4	160	79.9	210	78.7	200	75
John Leggott	0	N/A	0	N/A	0	N/A	0	N/A
Lincoln	350	74.9	280	71.7	300	57.4	320	66.7
New College Stamford	100	51.5	30	66.7	60	57.6	60	61.3
North Lindsey College	90	60.9	80	65.1	60	75.4	80	84.3
Total	1010		780		840		890	

Data sources: <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/sfa-national-success-rates-tables-2013-to-2014>
<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/sfa-national-achievement-rates-tables-2014-to-2015>

Ofsted Inspection Outcomes

Institution	Date of inspection	Grade	Previous grade
Boston	2 June 2014	2: Good	3: Requires Improvement
Franklin	23 April 2013	2: Good	4: Inadequate
Grantham	15 Dec 2015	3: Requires Improvement	2: Good
Grimsby Institute	18 Nov 2013	2: Good	2: Good
John Leggott	25 March 2014	2: Good	3: Requires Improvement
Lincoln	17 May 2016	3: Requires Improvement	1: Outstanding
New College Stamford	24 March 2015	3: Requires Improvement	2: Good
North Lindsey College	12 May 2014	2: Good	1: Outstanding

Data source: <http://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/>

Pupil Numbers by Year Group and District - May 2016

District (See Note 1)	NC Year																Total	
	N1	N2	R	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13		14
Boston	58	255	829	799	838	807	761	714	727	680	667	611	665	667	312	309	14	9713
Countywide	-	-	3	3	9	12	6	12	6	24	37	60	111	147	-	-	-	430
East Lindsey	81	321	1360	1439	1342	1479	1255	1339	1331	1309	1324	1239	1312	1333	626	605	31	17726
Lincoln	195	670	1046	1039	1038	972	924	919	877	1019	1008	901	1011	994	781	686	32	14112
North Kesteven	82	190	1330	1250	1269	1287	1169	1214	1199	1282	1328	1233	1261	1358	850	663	-	16965
South Holland	39	90	979	984	948	999	939	918	859	911	926	940	973	984	538	392	26	12445
South Kesteven	116	329	1610	1614	1551	1632	1585	1481	1432	1704	1580	1556	1524	1542	891	745	14	20906
West Lindsey	63	286	1044	1020	1007	1043	1041	994	993	945	960	940	941	964	484	447	10	13182
Total:	634	2141	8201	8148	8002	8231	7680	7591	7424	7874	7830	7480	7798	7989	4482	3847	127	105479

Note 1: The Districts are derived from the postcode of the school that the pupil attends and not on the pupils home location.

Data source: Lincolnshire Research Observatory <http://www.research-lincs.org.uk/Home.aspx>

Projected increase in post 16 students resulting from new housing development planned over the next 20 years

Area	Dwellings	Estimated additional Post 16 students (assuming 100% participation)
Central Lincs (Lincoln, North Kesteven, West Lindsey)	29,382	2,232
South East Lincs	10,912	828
East Lindsey District Council	3,724	282
South Kesteven District Council	Data not yet available	
Total	44,018	3,342

Excl. existing commitments/completions

Area	Dwellings	Estimated additional Post 16 students (assuming 100% participation)
Central Lincs (Lincoln, North Kesteven, West Lindsey) (2012-2036)	36,960	2,808
South East Lincs (2011 - 2036)	18,480	1,404
East Lindsey District Council (2016 – 2031)	7,815	592
South Kesteven District Council	Data not yet available	
Total	63,255	4,804

Incl. existing commitments/completions

*In 2015/16 around 47% of post 16 students were in school sixth form (including special schools), 43% attended Further Education Colleges and the remaining 10% were either attending independent training providers or on apprenticeships. The government expects the numbers of young people undertaking apprenticeships to increase significantly up to 2020.

Data source: Draft local plans collated by Lincolnshire County Council Property Service

Lincolnshire Participation Report as at 01/08/2016

Academic Age Cohort

Age	Situation	Lincolnshire																							
		All		Male		Female		No Quals or Below Level 2		Level 2 Qual		LLDD		FSM		LAC/ Care Leaver		YOS		Teenage Mother		Ethnic Minority			
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%		
16	Employment No Training	46	0.5	27	0.6	18	0.4	32	0.9	14	0.3	1	1.0	7	0.5			1	2.9	1	2.0				
	NEET	113	1.4	50	1.2	62	1.5	97	2.8	16	0.3	1	1.0	53	3.8	4	6.2	12	35.3	22	44.9	5	0.8		
	Participation in Learning	7,963	95.1	3,993	95.4	3,897	95.3	3,358	91.0	4,605	98.4	99	94.3	1,274	90.7	58	89.2	19	55.9	21	42.9	616	96.4		
	Unknown or Expired	248	3.0	117	2.8	113	2.8	202	5.5	46	1.0	4	3.8	71	5.1	3	4.6	2	5.9	5	10.2	18	2.8		
	Total:	8,370		4,187		4,090		3,689		4,681		105		1,405		65		34		49		639			
17	Employment No Training	290	3.4	165	3.9	125	3.1	190	5.7	100	2.0	2	1.3	70	4.9	3	4.6	2	12.5	4	4.9	19	3.4		
	NEET	213	2.5	90	2.1	121	3.0	159	4.8	54	1.1	1	0.7	93	6.4	12	18.5	6	37.5	49	60.5	6	1.1		
	Participation in Learning	7,466	88.4	3,758	87.9	3,631	88.9	2,660	79.6	4,792	94.1	144	95.4	1,153	79.9	50	76.9	5	31.3	24	29.6	512	90.5		
	Unknown or Expired	478	5.7	261	6.1	209	5.1	332	9.9	146	2.9	4	2.6	127	8.8			3	18.8	4	4.9	29	5.1		
	Total:	8,447		4,274		4,086		3,341		5,092		151		1,443		65		16		81		566			
18	Employment No Training	359	4.2	204	4.7	153	3.8	84	3.9	272	7.1	2	2.2	57	4.3	5	12.2			4	2.7	15	2.4		
	NEET	385	4.5	188	4.3	191	4.7	199	9.4	183	4.8	7	7.7	132	10.0	6	14.6			87	58.0	26	4.1		
	Participation in Learning	5,638	66.2	2,784	63.9	2,774	68.7	1,058	49.7	2,017	52.9	74	81.3	709	53.7	29	70.7			29	19.3	454	71.9		
	Unknown or Expired	2,134	25.1	1,182	27.1	920	22.8	787	37.0	1,344	35.2	8	8.8	422	32.0	1	2.4			30	20.0	136	21.6		
	Total:	8,516		4,358		4,038		2,128		3,816		91		1,320		41				150		631			
	Total:	25,333		12,819		12,214		9,158		13,589		347		4,168		171			50		280		1,836		

Data source: Lincolnshire County Council Children's Services Performance Team 01/08/16

Skills Strategy 2015 for the Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership (Draft)

Greater Lincolnshire Jobs and Skills forecasts

Please note that figures may not sum due to rounding

Industry	Current Jobs (2012)	Change 2012-2022	Replacement Demand	Total Requirement 2012-2022
Agri-Food	37,000	-4,000	14,000	10,000
Manufacturing/Engineering	39,000	-3,000	13,000	10,000
Visitor Economy	41,000	2,000	17,000	19,000
Ports & Logistics	27,000	3,000	11,000	14,000
Health & Care	60,000	5,000	25,000	30,000
Energy & Water	6,000	1,000	2,000	3,000
Construction	35,000	5,000	13,000	18,000
Retail and Wholesale	83,000	4,000	32,000	36,000
Information & Communications	7,000	1,000	2,000	3,000
Financial & Business Services	64,000	6,000	25,000	31,000
Public Admin. Defence & Education	60,000	-2,000	24,000	22,000
Other Services	10,000	1,000	4,000	5,000
Total	468,000	18,000	182,000	200,000

Due to the way forecasting models work, larger numbers have greater accuracy. Smaller numbers are less reliable.

Qualification	Current Jobs (2012)	Change 2012-2022	Replacement Demand	Total Requirement 2012-2022
QCF8	4,000	2,000	2,000	4,000
QCF7	27,000	13,000	13,000	26,000
QCF6	74,000	30,000	33,000	63,000
QCF5	29,000	3,000	12,000	15,000
QCF4	26,000	7,000	11,000	18,000
QCF3	102,000	-6,000	38,000	32,000
QCF2	106,000	-3,000	41,000	38,000
QCF1	70,000	-16,000	25,000	8,000
No Qualifications	30,000	-13,000	8,000	-5,000
Total	468,000	18,000	182,000	200,000

- Source: Working Futures, Warwick Institute for Employment Research / Cambridge Econometrics, 2014.

QCF = the Qualifications and Credit Framework: the national credit transfer system for education qualification that recognises qualifications and units by awarding credits. When we refer to Level 1, Level 2, Level 3 etc. we are referring to the QCF Level.

QCF2 is equivalent to 5 GCSE including English and Maths; QCF3 is equivalent to 2 A Levels or an Advanced Apprenticeship; QCF4 to QCF6 range from Diplomas, Higher Apprenticeships, Professional Certificates and Degrees.

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Proposed Lincolnshire County Council position in relation to required outcomes from the area review of post 16 education in Greater Lincolnshire (16 – 18 year olds)

Individuals:

Lincolnshire County Council supports the aims of the review, i.e. that it will deliver sector that is strong, resilient and well placed to meet changing and potentially challenging requirements in the future. Any proposed changes to General Further Education and Sixth Form College structures should result in provision that secures improved outcomes for all young people and particularly those who underperform in comparison to the overall cohort i.e. care leavers; those who are or who have previously been eligible for free school meals; those with Special Education Needs and Disabilities (SEND); teenage parents etc. The review should therefore deliver:

- A broad curriculum offer that is accessible to all young people within a reasonable travel to learn distance from where they live
- Provision that is able to meet the specific needs of all young people with Special Educational Needs, including young people with Autism, behavioural difficulties and mental health issues, and that is accessible within reasonable travel time as set out in Department for Education Statutory Guidance i.e. 45 minutes each way for primary school age and 75 minutes each way for secondary age pupils. Therefore all GFE colleges should deliver the full SEND offer.
- Education provision for young people with Special Education Needs and Disability (SEND) that prepares them for a good and timely transition to adult life. This includes preparation for independence and a range of programmes leading to employment that includes supported internships, vocational study programmes, traineeships and apprenticeships.
- Skills funding agency funded programmes including traineeships that are available and accessible to young people age 19 – 24 who have SEND but who are not eligible for an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP)
- Curriculum that better matches the skills and economic growth requirements for Greater Lincolnshire recognising that young people require effective careers guidance to enable them to make appropriate career decisions
- Study programmes that effectively prepare young people for employment. These should include high quality external work experience to address the 'lack of employability skills' that employers complain young people do not have
- Improved technical and professional education routes that enable young people to progress to higher and degree level qualifications, particularly through apprenticeships
- Programmes that reduce the gap in attainment between FSM students and their peers
- Apprenticeship offer that is responsive to local employers' requirements, including a wider range of occupations and levels and which provides progression routes for individuals through from level 2 to degree level and beyond

Education providers

- Lincolnshire County Council's preference (and a model it has sought to encourage) would be collaboration between all providers (including school sixth forms and independent and specialist providers) in an area to provide a single coherent and comprehensive curriculum offer that builds on institutions' strengths and reduces competition. It is recognised that it is unlikely that such collaboration will be achieved through structural change particularly given that school sixth forms and other providers are not included in the review. However, there is scope for providers i.e. schools, academies and colleges to work together in partnership to: reduce or eliminate duplication of curriculum; reduce the number of small class sizes; make more efficient use of funding; permit staff savings; and reduce the pressure for partiality in careers guidance (therefore reducing the drop out at the end of year 12). As school sixth forms and other post 16 providers are not fully included, it is unlikely that the review will address the issues of oversupply of education provision for 16 – 18 year olds.
- A presumption that there will be no increase in the overall volume of provision for 16 – 18 year olds in the short and medium term (until there is demographic growth in the size of the cohort c.2022), as this will increase competition for learners even further, creating additional viability challenges for some schools and colleges. If and where a need for new or specialist provision is identified, consideration should be given to reconfiguring existing provision.
- A coherent Apprenticeship offer for Lincolnshire which could be in the form of a shared company jointly owned by some or all of the GFE colleges. Boston and Grantham Colleges together with New College Stamford have already taken steps to establish a joint company concentrating initially on apprenticeships in the logistics sector. There may be scope for this to be extended further. Economies of scale would mean that frameworks and standards could be made available in occupations previously not offered due to lack of a viable cohort of apprentices. It would also enable apprenticeships at higher and degree level to be delivered, therefore providing a real alternative to the traditional university higher education route and the associated costs in terms of student debt. This would broaden and extend the offer to young people, adults requiring retraining and make apprenticeship programmes more responsive to employers' requirements.
- Any proposals for specialist provision, for example Institutes of Technology, need to take into account the rural nature of Lincolnshire to ensure they are accessible to all young and adults in the county. These would need to take into account specialist provision already in place but that is outside the scope of the review
- Explore the potential to develop technological solutions which could :
 - Improve accessibility in a rural area, e.g. through distance and blended learning facilitated through the use of technology and perhaps supported by alternative face to face delivery patterns, for example block release and/or 'summer schools'
 - Improve provision for SEND (in particular the use of assistive technology to increase independence and employability) and reduce reliance on one to one support unlikely to be available to individuals once they leave education

- Increase collaboration e.g. where there are small numbers of students in different institutions undertaking specialist programmes
- Support the emerging partnership proposals and collaborative plans between Boston, Grantham and New College Stamford.

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

Report to:	Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee
Date:	09 September 2016
Subject:	Centre for Public Scrutiny's Guide to Scrutinising Children's Safeguarding Arrangements

Summary:

On 9 October 2015 the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee was asked to consider and comment on the CfPS 21 questions guide for Councillors on Safeguarding Children.

It was agreed following this that Officers would be requested to furnish the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee with assurance in respect of the questions set out in the CfPS Guide 2015.

This report sets out the work undertaken across Children's Services in response to questions 5, 6, and 7.

Actions Required:

Members of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee are asked to note the contents of the response and give consideration to participating in the focus group with staff on 18 October 2016. This will enable triangulation of evidence presented, thus supporting further challenge and assurance.

1. Background

Elected Members need to feel confident that Safeguarding Services in Lincolnshire are effective and sufficiently robust in identifying, responding to and meeting needs, where children are deemed to be at risk of significant harm, or Children in Need.

Previous assurance has been sought through a Frontline Social Worker and Safeguarding Scrutiny review undertaken 2013/14 which supported improvements in practice and monitored progress until all recommendations were implemented.

Recent National scandals around Child Sexual Exploitation have called for a renewed and reinvigorated approach to scrutinising the work of Children's Services Safeguarding practices.

The Centre for Public Scrutiny has developed 21 key scrutiny questions for Safeguarding. This focused approach enables members to adopt a critical check and challenge of the performance and quality of services provided to children and families within their Council.

It equally provides a mechanism for debate and discussion and seeks to identify areas of good practice and areas of challenge.

In Lincolnshire the improvement and safeguarding outcomes for all children is an explicit objective, which is evidence led, efficient and with resources fit for purpose.

This is evidenced through:

Question 5: How are local commissioners considering safeguarding issues in their work across a full range of local services?

Undertaking Procurement Activity (Tenders)- As part of all procurement activities undertaken by the Children's Services Strategic Commissioning Team, knowledge and understanding of safeguarding responsibilities is assessed as part of the first stage of all tender evaluations; the 'Business Information Assessment Criteria' stage. This includes potential bidders confirming that they understand their safeguarding responsibilities under Section 11 of the Children's Act 2004, including safer recruitment, that appropriate DBS checks are undertaken and that all policies are in place and regularly updated in line with legislative changes. Safeguarding questions are then often included in the later stages of tender evaluation as part of the quality questions. This is an example of a question used in a recent tender evaluation for an Early Support and Learning Provision service for Children with disabilities and/or complex needs: *"Please outline your organisations Safeguarding policies and procedures and detail how you will ensure that children, young people and vulnerable adults are safeguarded throughout the duration of the contract and in particular how you will escalate and manage particular concerns disclosed to you during service delivery?"*

Service Implementation- With every newly commissioned service in Children's Services, an Implementation period is built into the tender process to ensure that all services are supported seamlessly into service delivery from day one of any new contract. As part of the implementation process, safeguarding arrangements are discussed with relevant service areas and contract managers to ensure a seamless approach to safeguarding. If the Supplier is new to the Council, the lead from the service area and lead commissioning officer will ensure that there is a clear understanding of reporting pathways and ensure that the new Supplier has all the relevant contact details.

Contract Management- As part of the Children's Services Strategic Commissioning Team's contract management process, the Joint Evaluation Toolkit contains a section on compliance with Safeguarding Legislation, which will require the Contract Manager to ensure that either an assessment has been completed by the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) (where the Providers are delivering a statutory function) or to collect the completed Safe Network Self-

Assessment document and action plan. Any contracts where this information has not been provided will immediately be rated as an amber risk rating and will therefore be flagged up to the management team. This section is then reviewed on a quarterly basis at contract management meetings. Specific safeguarding arrangements are also discussed for each contract individually as part of the contract management process to ensure that the right procedures are in place for each specific contract. For example, with the Youth Housing contract, the contract manager has worked with the service area and provider to produce a serious incident reporting form, which sets out the actions that need to take place in the event of a serious incident to ensure that it is reported correctly (i.e. to the Customer Service Centre (CSC)) and that it is received into the Youth Housing inbox to ensure that the caseworker is also aware and kept up to date.

In the majority of contract management meetings, a service area representative attends and this allows discussion around any operational safeguarding concerns and gives the service area and provider the opportunity to discuss these and any specific cases that need resolution.

Another part of the contract management process is the contract assurance toolkit which is completed annually and also includes checks that the Provider has the following policies/processes in place and that they are updated on a regular basis to include any legislative changes:

- Safer recruitment policy
- Safeguarding policy
- DBS checks undertaken
- Whistle blowing policy
- Complaints policy
- Anti-bullying policy

For our residential homes and schools placements, we also check all Ofsted ratings on a monthly basis to ensure that no placements are made with inadequate Providers. The monthly Ofsted checking process also allows us to identify Providers that we currently have placements with that have since been deemed inadequate. In these instances, we are able to quickly flag this up to the relevant case worker/ social worker so that the appropriate checks can be made to ensure the safety and the quality of care of our child is in place. We also undertake annual site contract management visits to all residential homes and schools and during these contract visits all aspects of the Providers safeguarding arrangements are discussed including arrangements for the safer recruitment and induction, supervision, appraisal and training of staff.

Question 6: How effective are ‘early help’ strategies in identifying children in need and addressing factors that may lead to concerns about safeguarding?

Multi-agency Early Help in Lincolnshire, Team Around the Child (TAC), is recognised as some of the most successful Early Help in the country. This is evidenced by Ofsted comments from the last inspection (November 2014) and the Local Safeguarding Children Board Report, June 2015.

“Early Help Services for children and families are well targeted and co-ordinated.”

“Practitioners working in universal services receive good advice and support from Early Help Consultants and Early Support Care Co-Ordination. They see supporting families as a shared responsibility and they understand and apply thresholds appropriately.”

“The low rate of repeat referrals shows that support provided through the TAC process is working well. Partners report significant improvement, particularly over the last few months, and access to Early Help Services is simple and straightforward.”

“Early Help Assessments are of good quality. Services and actions are clearly focused on improving and monitoring outcomes for children. The appointment of Early Help Consultants has been a significant development.”

Since this time, the numbers of children and families supported through TAC have continued to increase: 1131 TACs were in place at the end of March 2014; 2704 were in place at the end of June 2016.

Lincolnshire's Early Help strategies are based upon the principle that practitioners who know children well are best placed to identify children and families who need help and play a key role in addressing the needs identified through relationship-based practice. This is particularly evident within schools and academies where we have seen a significant increase in the support offered. Two years ago the schools were leading approximately 600 TACs (50%); at present they are leading approximately 1750 TACs (65%).

Moreover, the schools report more confidence in addressing the concerns with families to prevent escalation to safeguarding concerns:

“we have so much support in Lincolnshire: Early Help Advisers, Early Help Consultants, case supervision. It helps to check things out and know you are doing the right thing.” School-based Professional

In addition to the quantity of children benefitting from Early Help, we have also seen an increase in the quality of the early interventions.

In the last 12 months, in quality audits of TAC, outstanding cases have increased from 8% to 10%; and inadequate cases have reduced from 18% to 2%. This is evidence of quality improvement in the journeys of children and young people through TAC.

For the year 2015-16, 1338 TAC cases were closed during the year. Of these, 76% (compared to 67% last year) had the needs of the child either fully met or reduced so that a single service only could support. This is good evidence of the effectiveness of TAC.

Only 97 cases closed because the family did not fully engage in the process.

In 2015-2016, 901 cases transferred from Social Care into TAC; only 113 cases moved into Social Care from TAC, which is also an illustration of effective early help.

Question 7: What has been learnt from early intervention approaches in the local area? What is effective and what are the resource implications?

The engagement of children and families with Early Help and support is dependent upon how it is explained, and the relationship with the Lead Professional.

Early Help is most effective when the emphasis is on outcomes, not the tasks to get there. Signs of Safety Practice is pivotal.

Early Intervention is not a short term 'fix'. Sustainability in families' everyday lives is key. Help does not need to be service based, but needs to build in ways of coping and responding to life's events.

Resource implications:

- Need to target resources on families who are most in need, and invest in relationship-based practice; which may mean our own staff working with smaller numbers for a longer time.
- Need to continue to invest in work with partners so that they continue to:
 - Identify children earlier before crisis occurs
 - Feel confident to support children and families
 - Are clear about referring the families who need us most
 - Are adept at building resilience, family and community capacity, and achieving sustainable outcomes for children and families.

2. Conclusion

Strategic Partners demonstrate mature relationships which facilitate effective, constructive challenge to ensure a shared local vision is translated and embedded in operational practice. This creates a culture in which all staff work to ensure every child in every part of the County achieves their potential.

3. Consultation

a) Policy Proofing Actions Required

N/A

4. 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 Janice Spencer, Assistant Director Children's Services, who can be contacted on 01522 554476 or janice.spencer@lincolnshire.gov.uk.

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Open Report on behalf of Debbie Barnes, Executive Director of Children's Services
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Report to:	Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee
Date:	09 September 2016
Subject:	Performance - Quarter 1 2016/17

Summary:

The accompanying appendices to this report provide key performance information for Quarter 1 2016/17 that is relevant to the work of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee.

Actions Required:

The Committee is invited to consider and comment on the performance information contained in the appendices to this report.

1. Background

Performance Indicators

Appendix A provides a full and detailed report that covers only the Council Business Plan indicators used by Children's Service. This is available for questions.

Complaints and compliments

Appendix B covers complaints and compliments.

Status of schools

Appendix C gives an overview of the Ofsted status of schools in Lincolnshire, including specific details of schools judged to be inadequate.

Performance Monitoring of Contracts

Appendix D (exempt) gives an overview of the performance management of contracts.

2. Conclusion

This report summarises the Quarter 1 performance for Children and Young People, and the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee is asked to raise any questions on the content of the report.

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	Council Business Plan Measures
Appendix B	Complaint and compliments report
Appendix C	Ofsted school status report
Appendix D	Performance Monitoring of Contracts – Contains exempt information under paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972

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 Sally Savage, who can be contacted on 01522 553204 or sally.savage@lincolnshire.gov.uk.



Communities are safe and protected

Children are safe and healthy

Looked after children

Looked after children per 10,000 population aged under 18. There are a number of reasons why a child may be 'looked after' by the local authority. Most often it is because the child's parents or the people who have parental responsibilities and rights to look after the child are unable to care for the child, have been neglecting the child or the child has committed an offence. The local authority has specific responsibilities and duties towards a child who is being looked after or who has been looked after.



Achieved

44.2

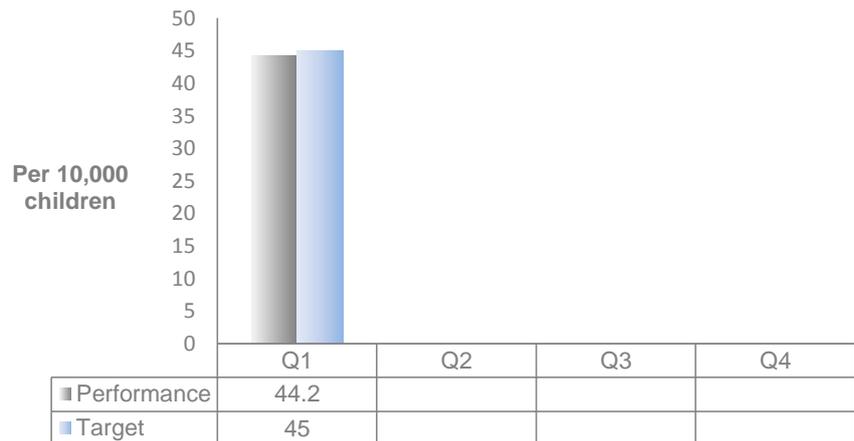
Per 10,000 children
Quarter 1 June 2016



45

Per 10,000 children
Target for June 2016

Looked after children

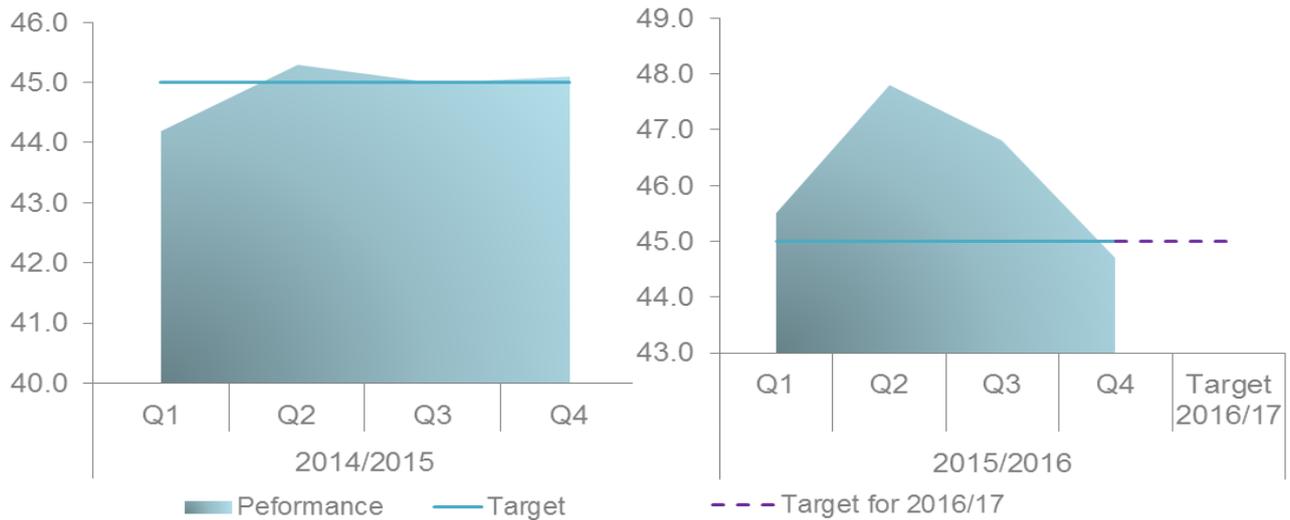


About the latest performance

The number of children who are looked after per 10,000 of the population have remained relatively stable around 45 for the last two years and remains on target. Currently this equates to 630 children. Our figure is still well below both national and similar authority averages (60 and 52.7) which evidences both the positive impact of early intervention strategies and social care interventions.

Further details

Number of children in local authority care (per 100,000 population aged under 18)



	2014/2015				2015/2016				
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Target 2016/17
Performance	44.2	45.3	45.0	45.1	45.5	47.8	46.8	44.7	
Target	45.0	45.0	45.0	45.0	45.0	45.0	45.0	45.0	45.0
Target for 2016/17	45.0	45.0	45.0	45.0	45.0	45.0	45.0	45.0	45.0

About the target

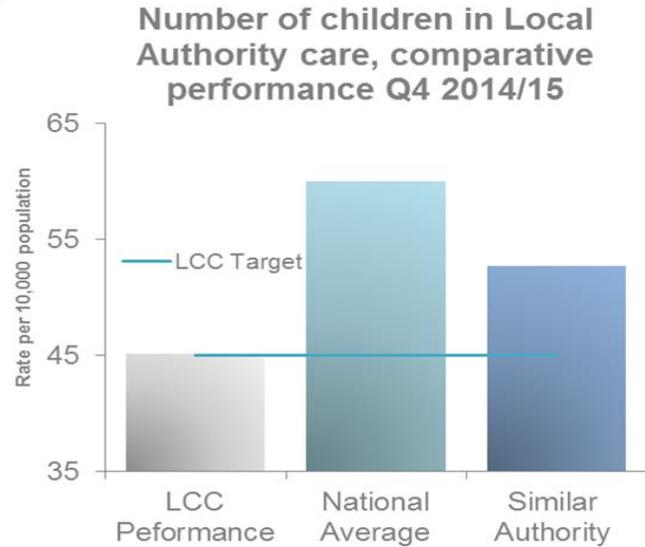
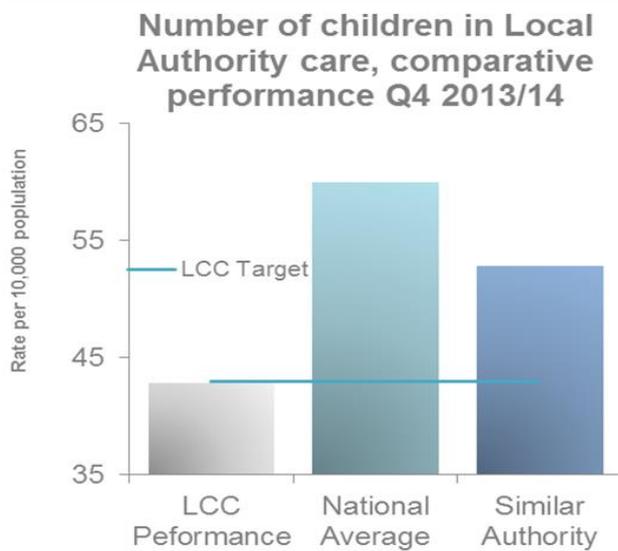
The target remains the same as the previous year. Lincolnshire is still below the national and similar authority average.

About the target range

The target range allows for the rate of Looked After Children to vary between 47 and 43 (approximately 600 and 660 children).

About benchmarking

We benchmark nationally and with similar Local Authorities. Benchmarking data is sourced from the national LAIT (Local Authority Interactive Tool).



	LCC Performance	National Average	Similar Authority	LCC Target
2013/14 Q4	42.87	60	52.8	43
2014/15 Q4	45.1	60	52.7	45



Communities are safe and protected

Children are safe and healthy

Children who are subject to a child protection plan

A child protection plan is a plan drawn up by the local authority. It sets out how the child can be kept safe, how things can be made better for the family and what support they will need.



Achieved

355

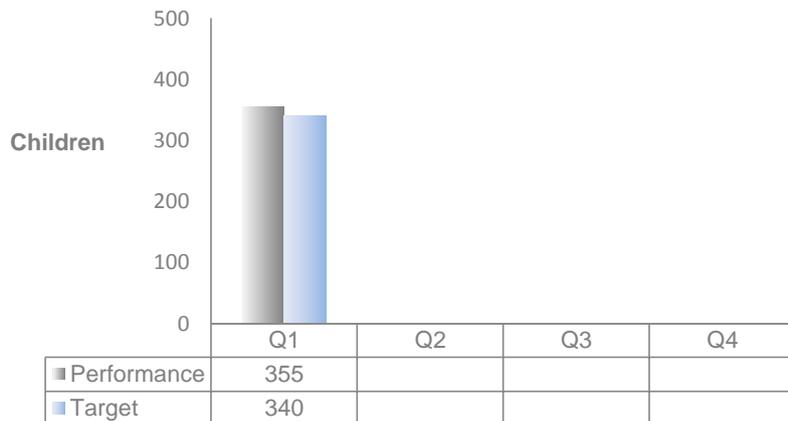
Children
Quarter 1 June 2016



340

Children
Target for June 2016

Children who are subject to a child protection plan

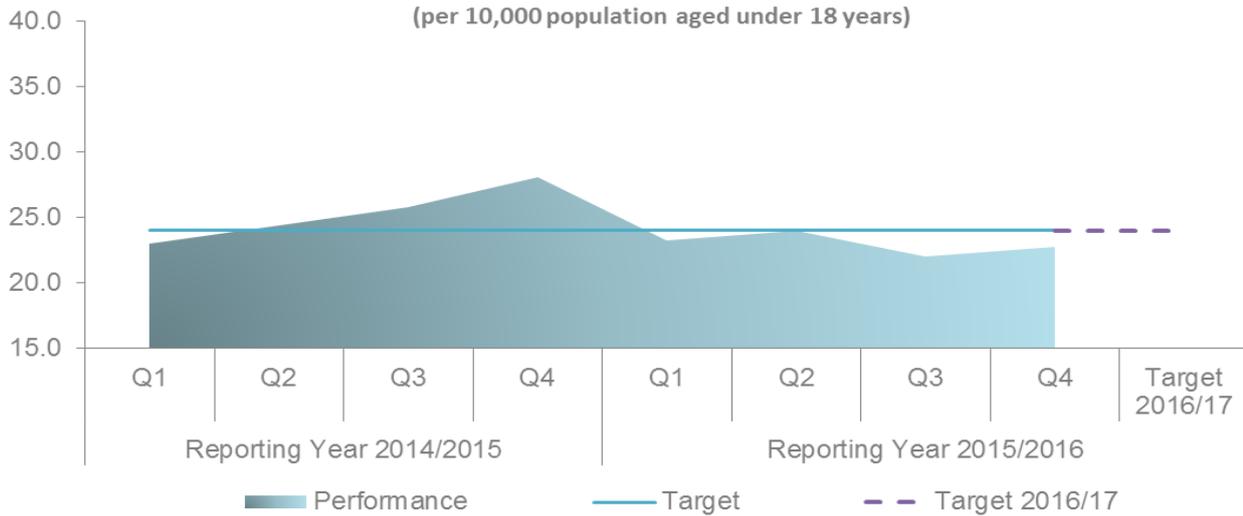


About the latest performance

The number of children on a child protection plan is at the higher end of the target at 25 per 10,000, which equates to 355 children. This is significantly lower than statistical neighbours (37.5) and the national average (42.9). This evidences the positive impact of early help and social care intervention.

Further details

**Number of children subject to a Child Protection Plan
(per 10,000 population aged under 18 years)**



	Reporting Year 2014/2015				Reporting Year 2015/2016				Target 2016/17
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	
Performance	23.0	24.4	25.8	28.1	23.3	24.0	22.0	22.8	
Target	24.0	24.0	24.0	24.0	24.0	24.0	24.0	24.0	24.0

About the target

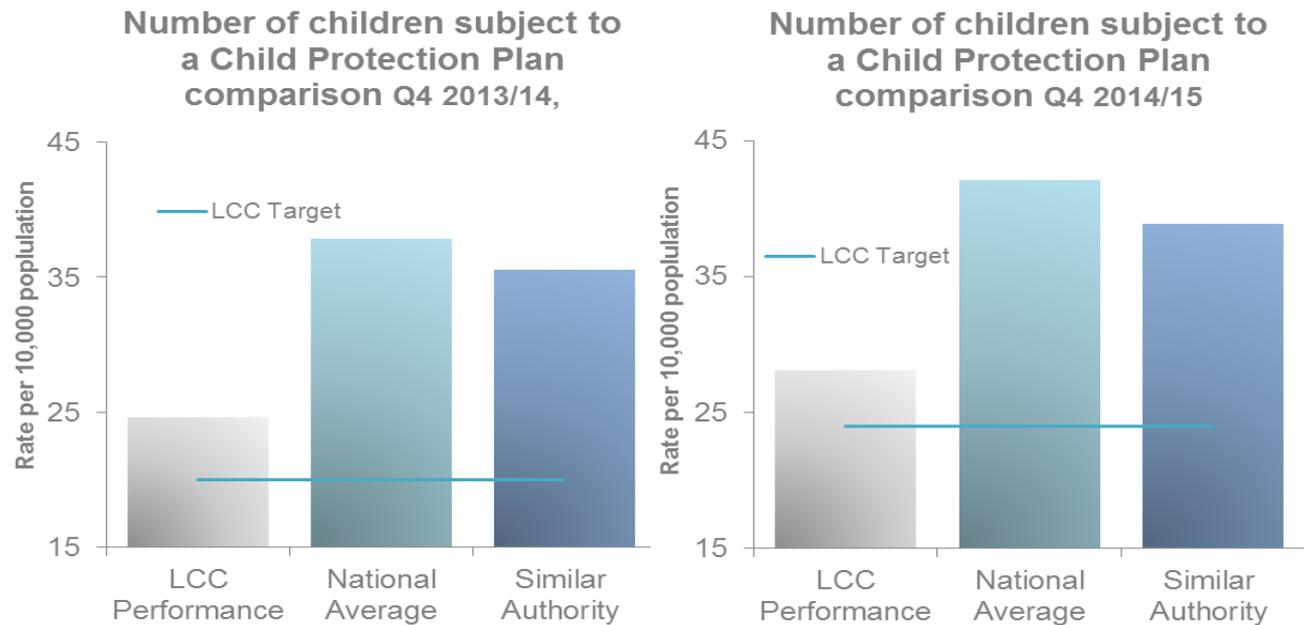
The target remains the same as the previous year reflecting work around early help, which is the intervention and support put in place to help children and their family before a child enters local authority care.

About the target range

The target range is set to vary between 21 and 25. This equates to a range of 320 to 380 children

About benchmarking

We benchmark nationally and with similar local authorities. Benchmarking data is sourced from the national LAIT (Local Authority Interactive Tool).



	LCC Performance	National Average	Similar Authority	LCC Target
2013/14 Q4	24.62	37.9	35.6	20
2014/15 Q4	28.1	42.1	38.84	24



Communities are safe and protected

Children are safe and healthy

Average time taken to move a child from care to an adoptive family

Average number of days between the child entering care and moving in with their adoptive family.



Achieved

381

Days

Quarter 1 June 2016

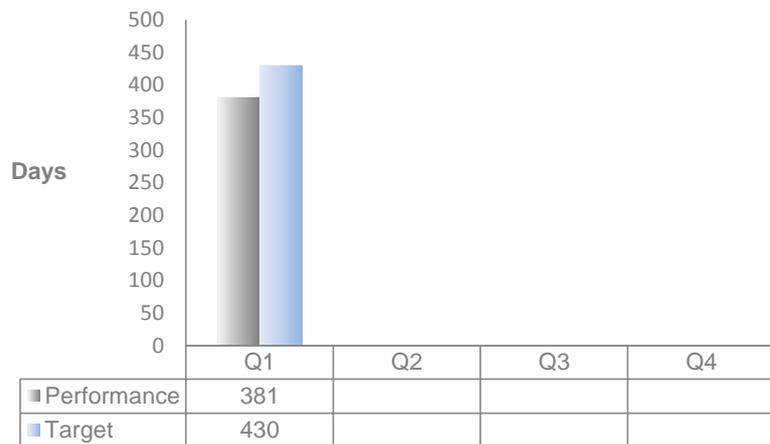


430

Days

Target for June 2016

Average time taken to move a child from care to an adoptive family

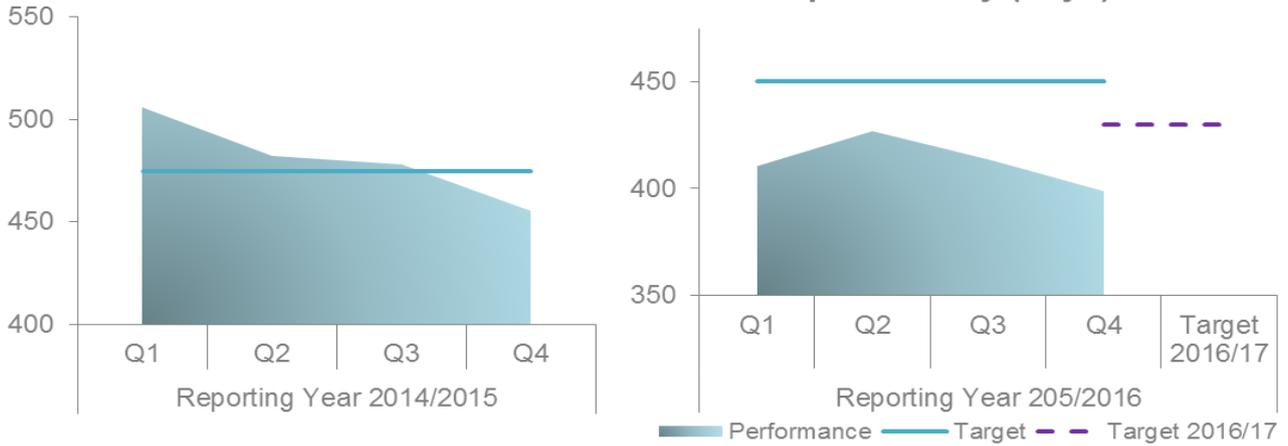


About the latest performance

This first quarter demonstrates even further improvement in relation to the timeliness of adoption and continues to be in line with the Adoption Reform Agenda. Lincolnshire's twin tracking and rigorous family finding processes ensures that children are placed with their adoptive families at the earliest opportunity. These figures continue to compare strongly to both statistical neighbours and national performance. This measure will continue to reduce and will therefore present a greater challenge for Lincolnshire, particularly where we are seeking to maintain adoption plans for harder to place children.

Further details

Time taken to move from care to adoptive family (days)



	Reporting Year 2014/2015				Reporting Year 2015/2016				
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Target 2016/17
Performance	506	482	478	455	411	427	414	399	
Target	475	475	475	475	450	450	450	450	430

About the target

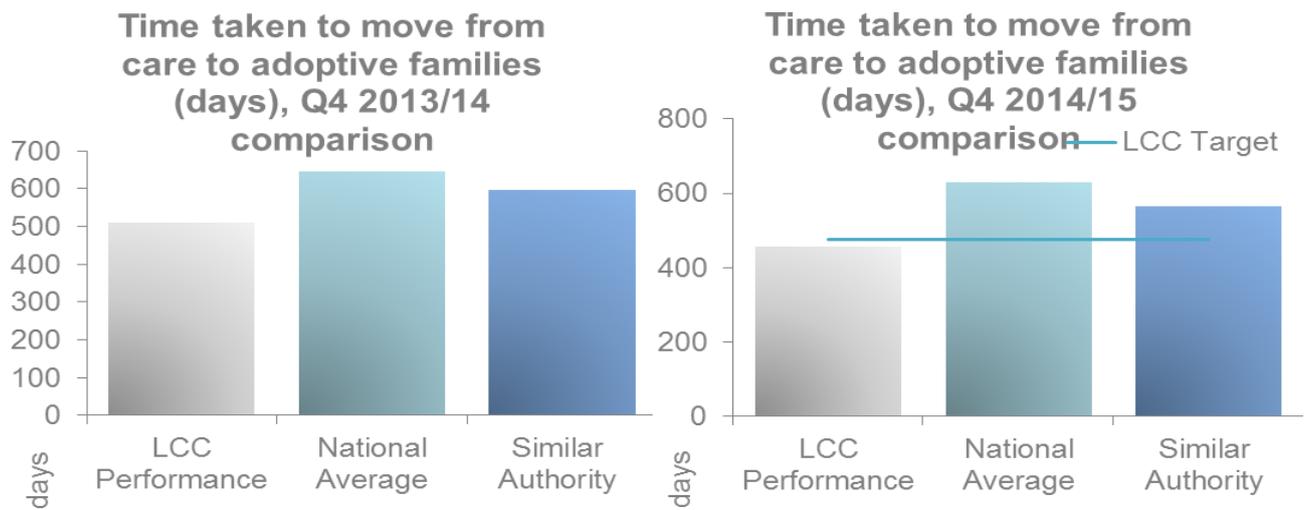
Target has been set to 430 days, this is a reduction of 20 days from the previous years target. If we aspire to this, we should be in top quartile.

About the target range

The value has been set to an upper level of 520 days and a lower level of 430 days which should still retain our position in the top quartile.

About benchmarking

We benchmark nationally and with similar local authorities. Benchmarking data is sourced from the national LAIT (Local Authority Interactive Tool).



	LCC Performance	National Average	Similar Authority	LCC Target
2013/14 Q4	511	647	597	
2014/15 Q4	455	628	565	475



Communities are safe and protected

Children are safe and healthy

Average time taken to match a child to an adoptive family

Average number of days between the local authority receiving the court order to place a child and the local authority deciding on a match to an adoptive family



Achieved

178

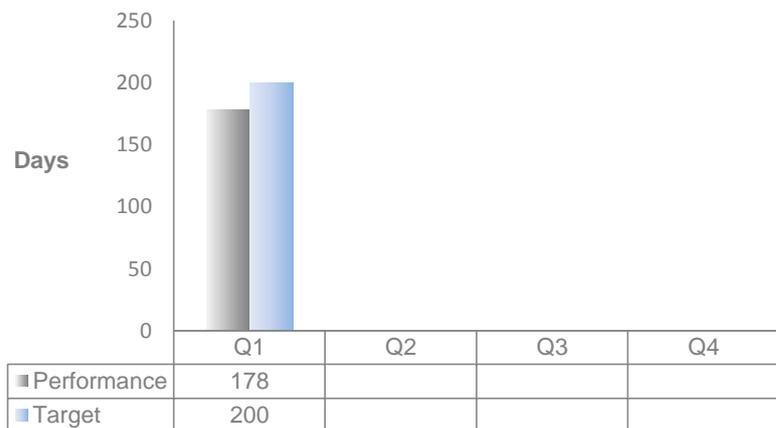
Days
Quarter 1 June 2016



200

Days
Target for June 2016

Average time taken to match a child to an adoptive family

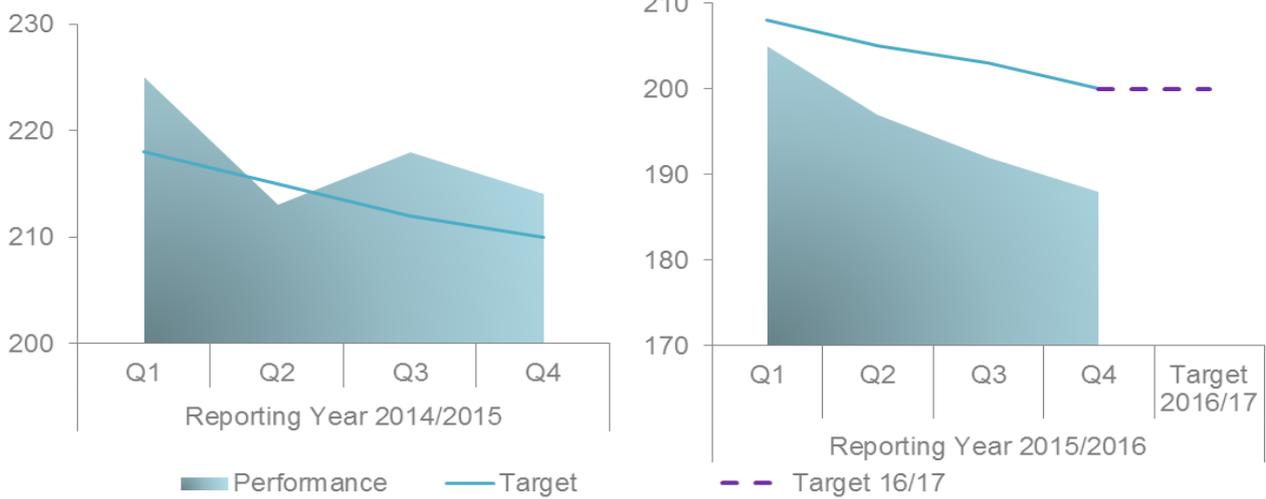


About the latest performance

This first quarter shows a further decrease in the days between receiving court authority to place and the Local Authority deciding on a match to an adoptive placement. This is due to the robust Family Finding processes within the adoption service. It is however to be noted that performance in this measure may not be sustainable this year due to a number of cases whereby parents have appealed against the courts decision and therefore the Local Authority cannot make a placement until the court has resolved matters. As the cohort of children with a Placement Order is also reducing, court appeals will affect performance against this target.

Further details

Time taken to match a child to adoptive family following court order (days)



	Reporting Year 2014/2015				Reporting Year 2015/2016				
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Target 2016/17
Performance	225	213	218	214	205	197	192	188	
Target	218	215	212	210	208	205	203	200	200

About the target

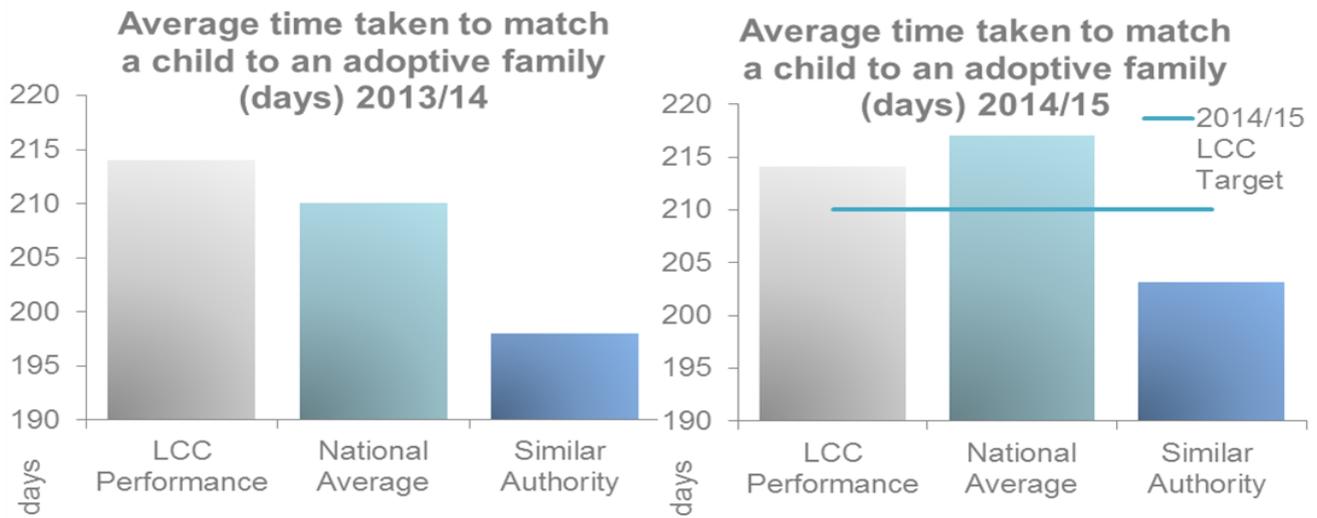
The target remains the same as the previous year, there are potential cases coming through with notable higher timescales.

About the target range

Both upper and lower target ranges have been set to 10 days. Achievement of the upper target range would almost match the position the Council achieved for 2012-2014 and maintain the performance, stopping a downward trend indicated by the national data. Achievement of the lower target range would be a significant improvement and change in direction and should be enough to move us up into the second quartile.

About benchmarking

We can compare ourselves to our statistical neighbours through the Adoption Leadership Board Return which is available on a quarterly basis.



	LCC Performance	National Average	Similar Authority	LCC Target
2013/14 Q4	214	210	198	
2014/15 Q4	214	217	203.1	210



Health and Wellbeing is improved

Young people are supported to reach their potential

Young People Not in Education, Employment or Training

Young people no longer in the education system, who are not working or being trained for work.
 Numerator: Number of young people no longer in the education system and not working or being trained for work.
 Denominator: Number of young people in the education system, working or being trained for work.
 The percentage is calculated as follows: Numerator divided by the denominator multiplied by 100.

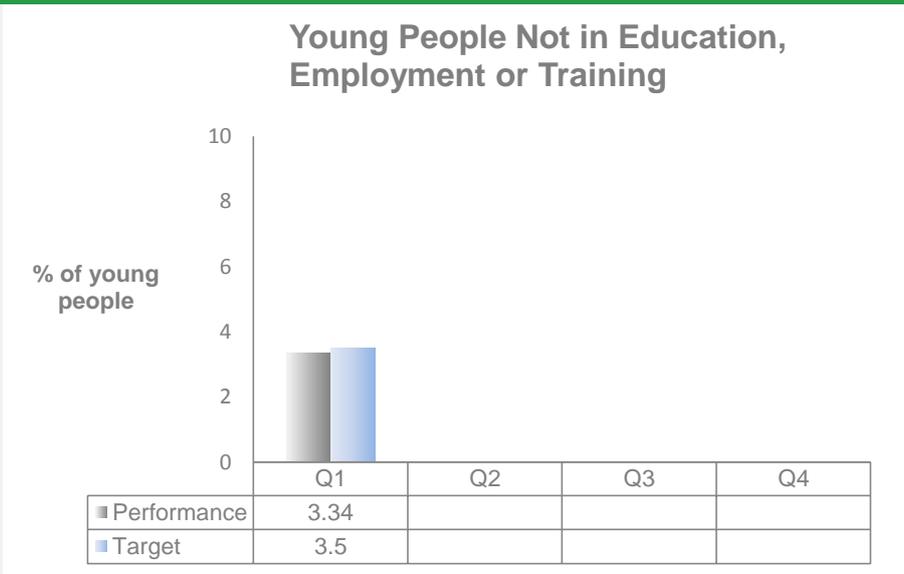
Achieved

3.3

% of young people
Quarter 1 June 2016

3.5

% of young people
Target for June 2016

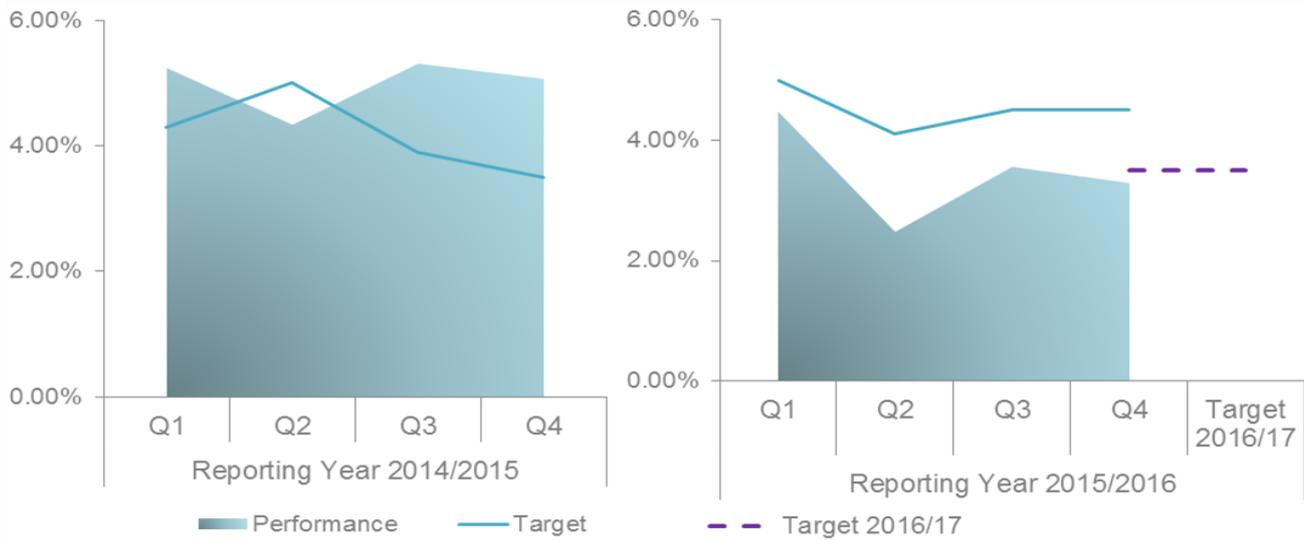


About the latest performance

Performance is on target and is over 1% better than for the same period last year and almost 2% better than the year before showing the overall trend is improving. This figure will include young people who are 'between jobs' or who are changing their plans regarding education programmes. The smaller the NEET percentage, i.e. the fewer young people who are NEET, the more difficult it is to make further improvement as the remainder will include the young people who are the very hardest to engage.

Further details

Percentage of 16-18 year olds not in education, employment or training



	Reporting Year 2014/2015				Reporting Year 2015/2016				Target 2016/17
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	
Performance	5.23%	4.33%	5.30%	5.06%	4.47%	2.47%	3.54%	3.28%	
Target	4.30%	5.00%	3.90%	3.50%	5.00%	4.10%	4.50%	4.50%	3.50%

About the target

Following a significant reduction of young people not in Education, Employment or Training an aspirational target has been set to be to maintain this improvement and for it not to slip back in to the 4% margin.

Our current NEET figure is better than all our comparators and we should aim to keep it this way

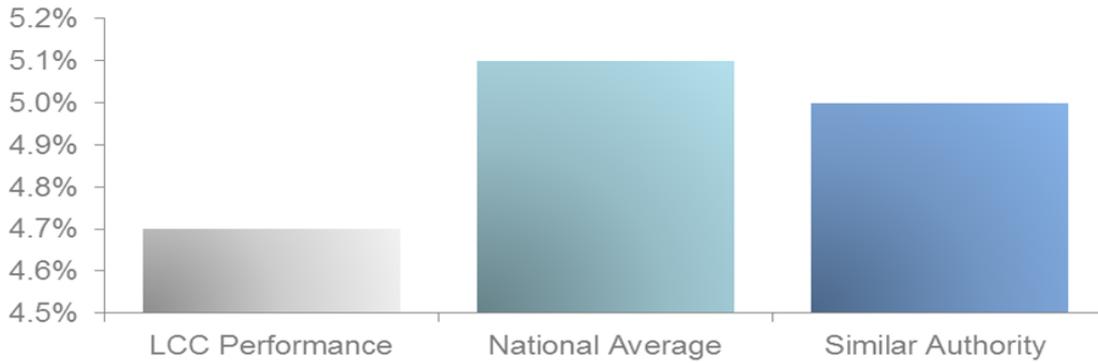
About the target range

The target range is greater than previous years due to the low number in the cohort last year. The target range is set to keep an aspirational target, with an expectation that we will be no worse that the previous year.

About benchmarking

We benchmark nationally and with similar local authorities. Benchmarking data is sourced from the national LAIT (Local Authority Interactive Tool).

Percentage of young people not in education, employment or training comparison 2013/14.



	LCC Performance	National Average	Similar Authority	LCC Target
2013/14 Q4	4.7%	5.1%	5.0%	
2014/15 Q4				



Health and Wellbeing is improved

Young people are supported to reach their potential

Achievement gap between disadvantaged pupils and their peers at key Stage 4

Disadvantaged pupils that achieve at least 5+ A* - C GCSEs including English and Maths compared to all the other pupils.

Disadvantaged pupils are defined as Looked After Children and children eligible for free school meals.

The achievement gap is calculated as follows:

Number of disadvantaged children achieving at least 5+ A* - C GCSEs including English and Maths divided by the number of disadvantaged children who were assessed at Key Stage 4, multiplied by 100.

Number of all the other children achieving at least 5+ A* - C GCSEs including English and Maths divided by the number of all the other children who were assessed at Key Stage 4, multiplied by 100.

The achievement gap is the difference between the two percentages.



Not achieved

32.6

% gap

March 2016



27

% gap

Target for March 2016

Achievement gap between disadvantaged pupils and their peers at key Stage 4



About the latest performance

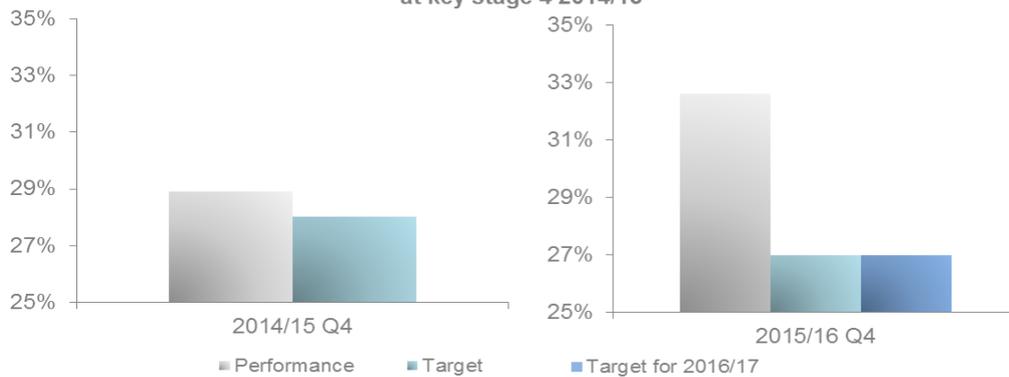
The achievement gap between disadvantaged pupils and their peers has increased this year, we have provided an offer of two days training each term to include the following topics:

- Follow up impact with attending schools including method of delivery / timetabling / number of students having intervention and evaluation of success
- Developing research links with Lincoln University.
- Literacy and numeracy intervention analysis and evaluation primary and secondary
- GCSE conference (raising participation) In partnership with Lincoln University

However, we have found that the amount of schools taking up the offer of training and the participation in networks and events has been poor over the last year. We are finding the more secondary schools that are converting to academies the less interaction we are having with them.

Further details

Achievement gap between disadvantaged pupils and their peers at key stage 4 2014/15



	Performance	Target	Target for 2016/17
2014/15 Q4	28.90%	28.00%	
2015/16 Q4	32.60%	27.00%	27.00%

About the target

Nationally the achievement gap for 2014 was 27.6% and our aspiration is to move towards this benchmark. Our best performing statistical neighbour is currently at 24.9% and therefore it is possible to move towards this position. The cohorts in the Fischer Family Trust show that it is possible to achieve a closing of the gap by making a 2 percentage point improvement year on year.

About the target range

The upper target range would maintain our performance.

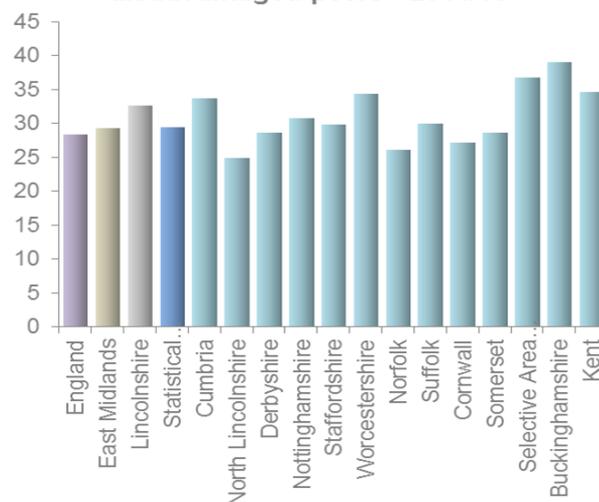
The lower target range would be in line with our current best performing Statistical Neighbour.

About benchmarking

We benchmark nationally and with similar Local Authorities. Benchmarking data is sourced from the national LAIT (Local Authority Interactive Tool).

GCSE and equivalent entries and achievements of pupils at the end of key stage 4 by disadvantage	Percentage point gap between Disadvantaged pupils and their non-disadvantaged peers
England	28
East Midlands	29
Lincolnshire	33
Statistical Neighbour Ave	29
Cumbria	34
North Lincolnshire	25
Derbyshire	29
Nottinghamshire	31
Staffordshire	30
Worcestershire	34
Norfolk	26
Suffolk	30
Cornwall	27
Somerset	29
Selective Area Average	37
Buckinghamshire	39
Kent	35

Percentage point gap between Disadvantaged pupils and their non-disadvantaged peers - 2014/15





Health and Wellbeing is improved

Young people are supported to reach their potential

Pupils aged 16 – 18 participating in learning

This measures young people aged 16, 17 and 18 who are in:-

Full time education or training;

Apprenticeship;

Employment combined with training.

Numerator: Number of young people aged 16, 17 and 18 who are participating in learning.

Denominator: Number of young people aged 16, 17 and 18.

The percentage is calculated as follows: Numerator divided by the denominator multiplied by 100.



Achieved

83.2

% of pupils

Quarter 1 June 2016

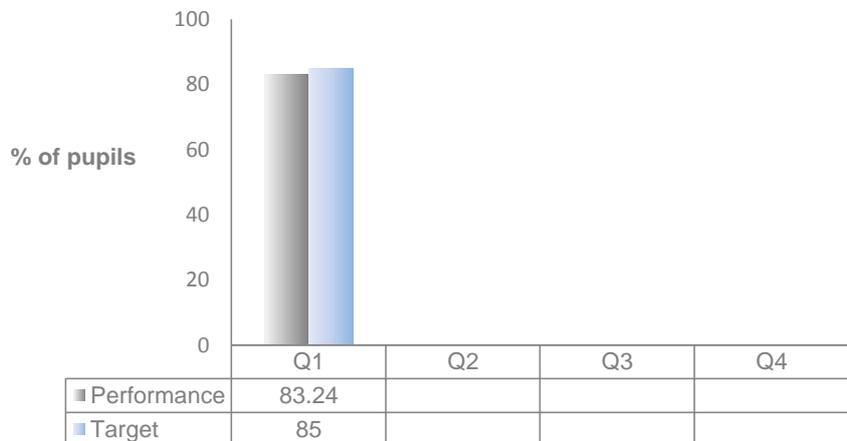


85

% of pupils

Target for June 2016

Pupils aged 16 – 18 participating in learning

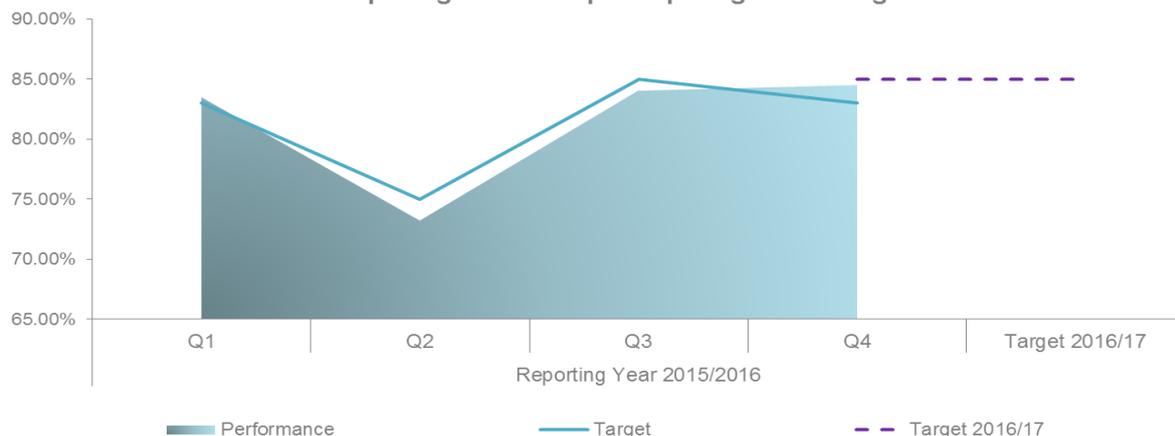


About the latest performance

Performance continues to be consistently on target and reflects the successful implementation of the Raising the Participation Age Strategy.

Further details

Pupils aged 16 – 18 participating in learning



Reporting Year 2015/2016

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Target 2016/17
Performance	83.48%	73.18%	84.02%	84.48%	
Target	83.00%	75.00%	85.00%	83.00%	87.00%

About the target

Target is ambitious as the Council has already have made significant increases in performance. We continue to improve our "in learning" figures, however we are still below the East Midlands figures. We aim by the end of the year to have met and exceeded the East Midlands figures. With the increase of data of the take up of Unknown leavers, we should be able to achieve this as the 18 year olds have a lower % in learning than those at 16 and 17.

About the target range

The target range does not allow us to slip under current performance.

About benchmarking

We benchmark nationally and with similar Local Authorities.



Health and Wellbeing is improved

Young people are supported to reach their potential

Participation in learning age 16

This measures young people who go into:-

Full time education or training;

Apprenticeship;

Employment combined with training;

Working towards participation age 16.

Numerator: Number of young people age 16 in full time education, education or training, apprenticeship, employment combined with training; working towards participation.

Denominator: Number of young people age 16

The percentage is calculated as follows: Numerator divided by the denominator multiplied by 100.



Achieved

95.12

% of 16 year olds

Quarter 1 June 2016

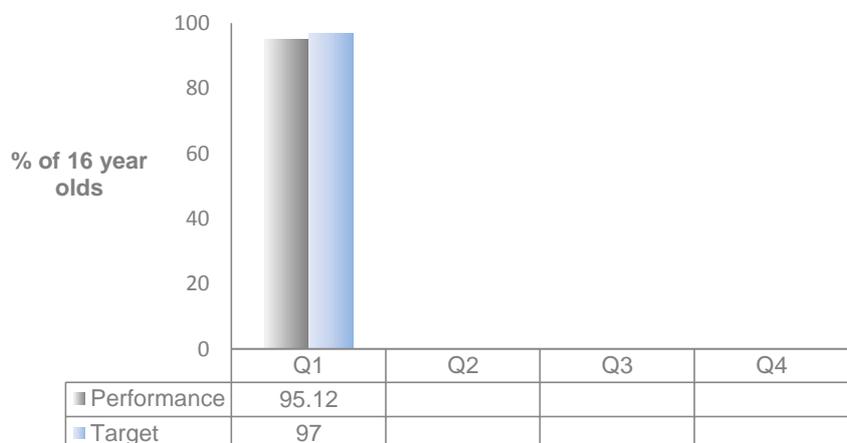


97

% of 16 year olds

Target for June 2016

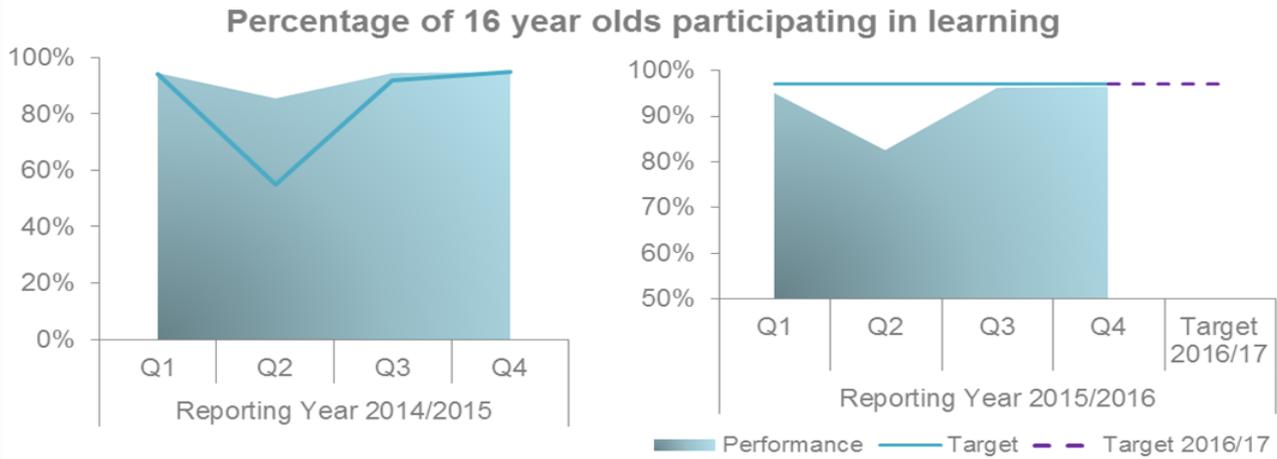
Participation in learning age 16



About the latest performance

Performance continues to be consistent and on target. There is no recent national comparative data the overall trend in performance is slightly better than the average for England. Efforts continue to ensure that participation of the most vulnerable young people increases to the level of the overall cohort.

Further details



	Reporting Year 2014/2015				Reporting Year 2015/2016				Target 2016/17
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	
Performance	94.50%	85.70%	94.70%	94.90%	95.05%	82.60%	96.08%	96.32%	
Target	94.00%	55.00%	92.00%	95.00%	97.00%	97.00%	97.00%	97.00%	97.00%

About the target

Target is ambitious as the Council has already have made significant increases in performance. We continue to improve our "in learning" figures, however we are still below the East Midlands figures. We aim by the end of the year to have met and exceeded the East Midlands figures. With the increase of data of the take up of Unknown leavers, we should be able to achieve this as the 18 year olds have a lower % in learning than those at 16 and 17.

About the target range

The target range does not allow us to slip under current performance.

About benchmarking

We benchmark nationally and with similar Local Authorities.



Health and Wellbeing is improved

Young people are supported to reach their potential

16-18 year old Looked After Children participating in learning

This measures young people recorded as being Looked After Children at the end of the reporting period and will not take into consideration the length of time that they have been in local authority care.
 Numerator: Number of Looked After Children participating in learning at the end of the reporting period.
 Denominator: Number of Looked After Children at the end of the reporting period.
 The percentage is calculated as follows: Numerator divided by the denominator multiplied by 100.


Achieved

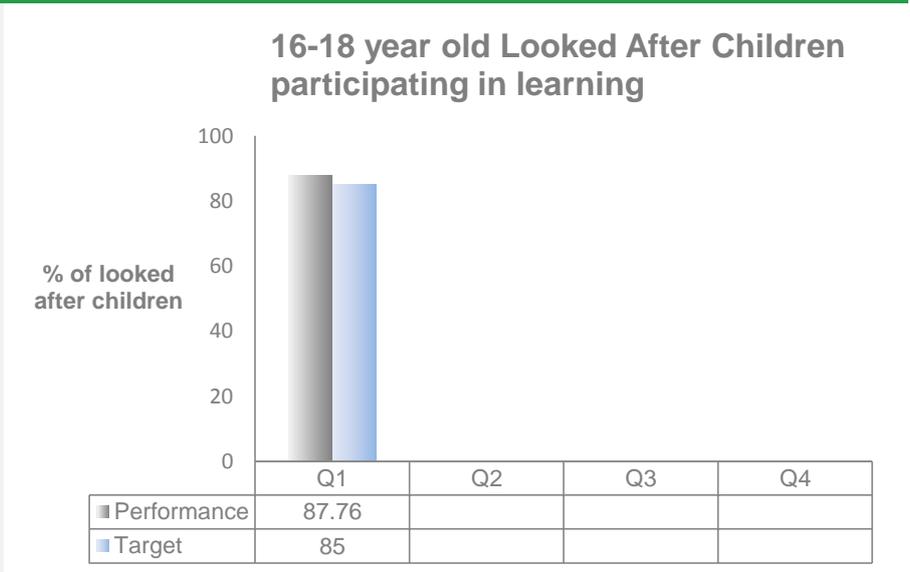
87.76

% of looked after children
Quarter 1 June 2016

↓

85

% of looked after children
Target for June 2016

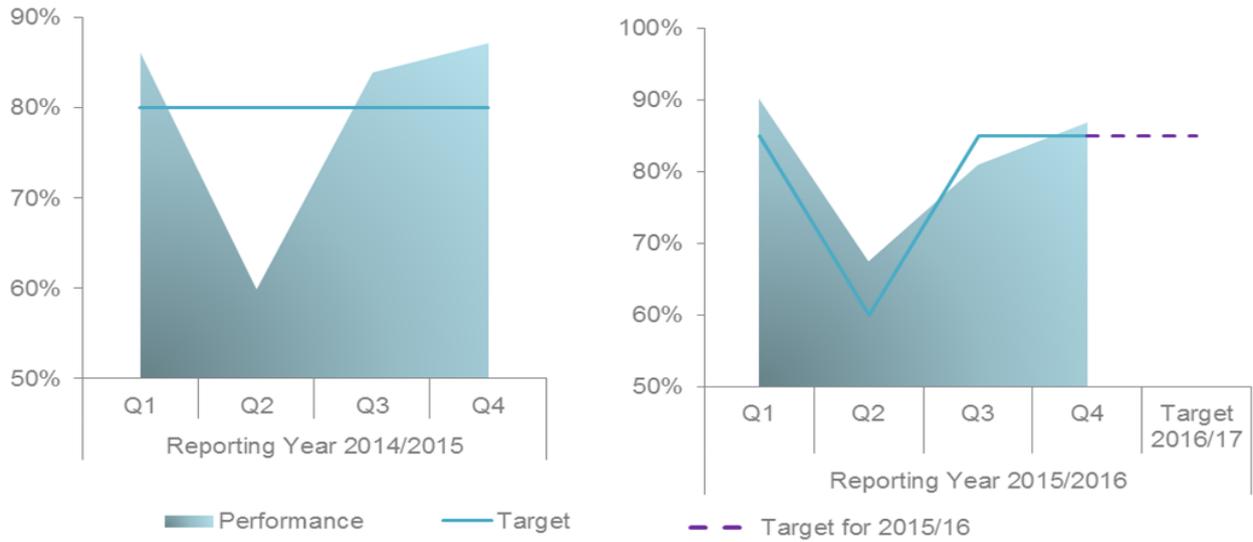


About the latest performance

Performance for 16-18 year old Looked After Children who are participating in learning was 87.76%. This is 2.76% above the set target. This over performance is due to the excellent focused provision provided by Virtual School 16+ coordinator. The Virtual School will continue to focus on 16-18 year old looked after children and share best practice across all the Virtual school team.

Further details

Percentage of 16-18 year olds in Local Authority care participating in learning



	Reporting Year 2014/2015				Reporting Year 2015/2016				Target 2016/17
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	
Performance	86%	60%	84%	87%	90%	67%	81%	87%	
Target	80%	80%	80%	80%	85%	60%	85%	85%	85%

About the target

The target has been set to maintain the same performance as the previous year.

About the target range

Due to the small numbers, each person represents 1.25%. The target range is set at a level to allow for 2 young people above the target and 5 young people below the target.

About benchmarking

We can compare ourselves both nationally and with similar authorities on an annual basis and so benchmarking data for this measure is not available.



Health and Wellbeing is improved

Young people are supported to reach their potential

Care Leavers in suitable accommodation

A care leaver is a young person who reaches the age of 18 who had been in local authority care.

Numerator: Number of care leavers turning 19 years of age in the year who are living in accommodation deemed as "suitable".

Denominator: Number of care leavers turning 19 years of age in the year.

The percentage is calculated as follows: Numerator divided by the denominator multiplied by 100.



Achieved

93

%

Quarter 1 June 2016

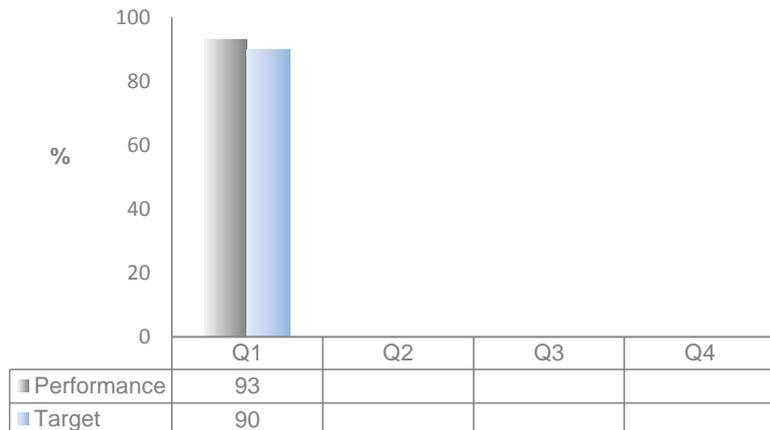


90

%

Target for June 2016

Care Leavers in suitable accommodation



About the latest performance

The performance continues to show improvement. This relates to 16 young people, 9 of whom are in custody and 2 are unaccompanied young people who are all rights exhausted. There are 5 other young people for whom the leaving care service is attempting to address the suitability of accommodation. The service continues to monitor all young people and work with them to secure positive accommodation options.

Further details

Percentage of care leavers in suitable accommodation



	Reporting Year 2014/2015				Reporting Year 2015/2016				Target 2016/17
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	
Performance	89.70%	91.60%	91.30%	92.70%	91.40%	93.10%	93.80%	92.60%	
Target	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%

About the target

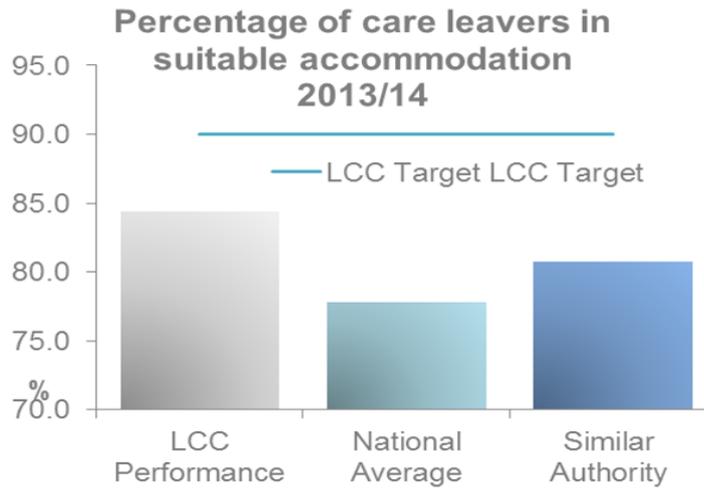
Target remains the same as the previous year, we are above both national and similar authority averages

About the target range

The upper target range is set to the level achieved in 2014. Lower target range is set to accommodate an improvement on 2015 performance but keeps us above the average for similar authorities.

About benchmarking

We benchmark nationally and at similar authority level. Benchmarking data is sourced from the national LAIT (Local Authority Interactive Tool).



%	LCC Performance	National Average	Similar Authority	LCC Target
2013/14 Q4	84.4%	77.8%	80.8%	90.0%
2014/15 Q4				



Health and Wellbeing is improved

There is a secure foundation for all children to progress through school and life

Achievement at a good level of development in the Early Years Foundation Stage

Numerator: Number of children achieving a good level of development in Early Years Foundation Stage.

Denominator: Number of pupils in Early Years Foundation Stage.

The percentage is calculated as follows: Numerator divided by the denominator multiplied by 100.



Achieved

69.1

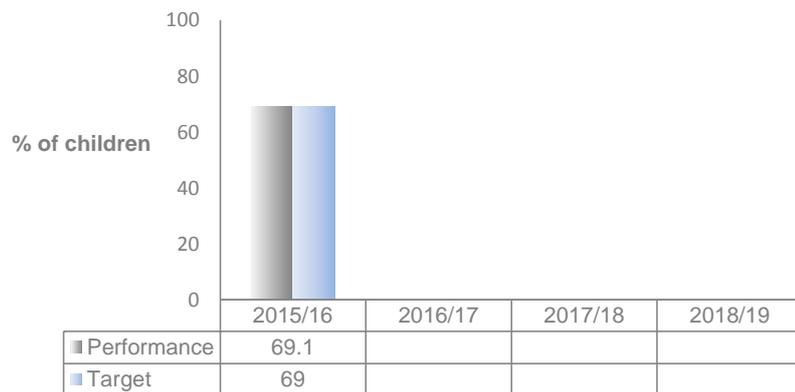
% of children
March 2016



69

% of children
Target for March 2016

Achievement at a good level of development in the Early Years Foundation Stage

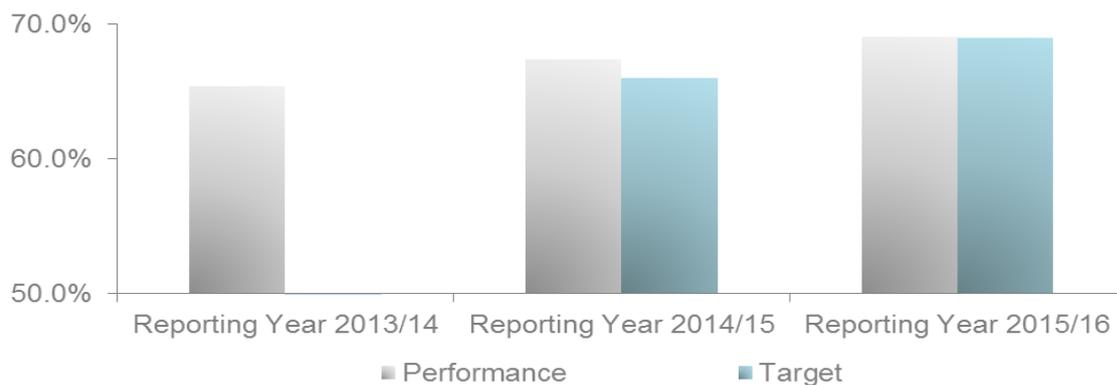


About the latest performance

The percentage of children achieving a good level of development is 69.1%, which is slightly above target and 2.8% above the national average of 66.3%. It is also an increase of 2.1% on the previous year. This increase has been supported by robust trialling and training events for schools to enable a clearer understanding of the profile, quality assurance of judgements and data sets. Following a quality assurance visit in 2015, the Standards and Testing Agency confirmed that Lincolnshire met the statutory arrangements for assessing and reporting. Lincolnshire has been commissioned to deliver Leicester City's moderation process in 2016, recognising our high quality support and processes.

Further details

Achievement at a good level of development in the Early Years Foundation Stage



	Reporting Year 2013/14	Reporting Year 2014/15	Reporting Year 2015/16	Target for 2016/17
Performance	65.4%	67.4%	69.1%	
Target		66.0%	69.0%	69.0%

About the target

As a high performing council we have aspirational aims to be the highest performing in our statistical neighbour grouping. The targets reflect this.

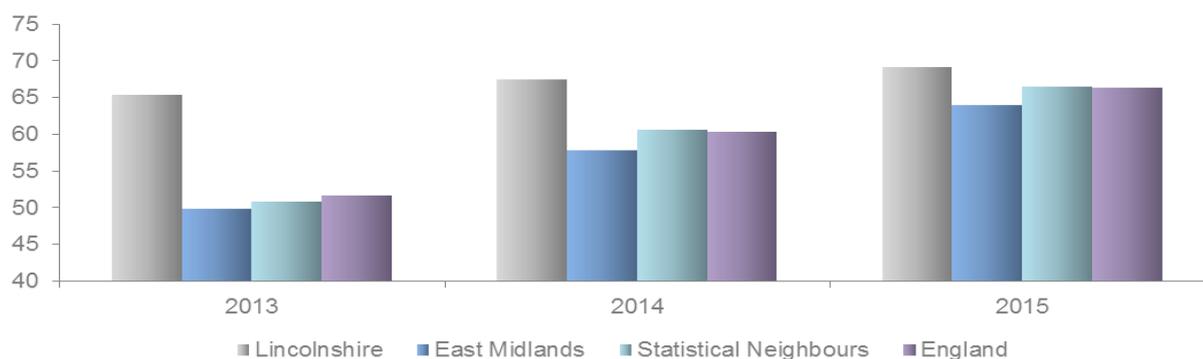
About the target range

The target range is in line with performance against the previous method of measuring performance and takes account of any levelling or dip in performance.

About benchmarking

We benchmark nationally and at similar authority level.

Percentage of children achieving a good level of development at Foundation stage comparison



Measure Name	Achievement at a good level of development in the Early Years Foundation Stage			
	2013	2014	2015	Change from
Lincolnshire	65.4	67.4	69.1	1.7
East Midlands	49.8	57.8	64.0	6.2
Statistical Neighbours	50.9	60.6	66.5	6.0
England	51.7	60.4	66.3	5.9



Health and Wellbeing is improved

There is a secure foundation for all children to progress through school and life

Achievement gap between the lowest 20% of pupils and their peers at Foundation stage

The percentage gap in achievement between:-

The lowest 20 per cent of achieving children in a local authority compared to the average score across the local authority.

The gap is calculated from unrounded percentages.



Not achieved

29.4

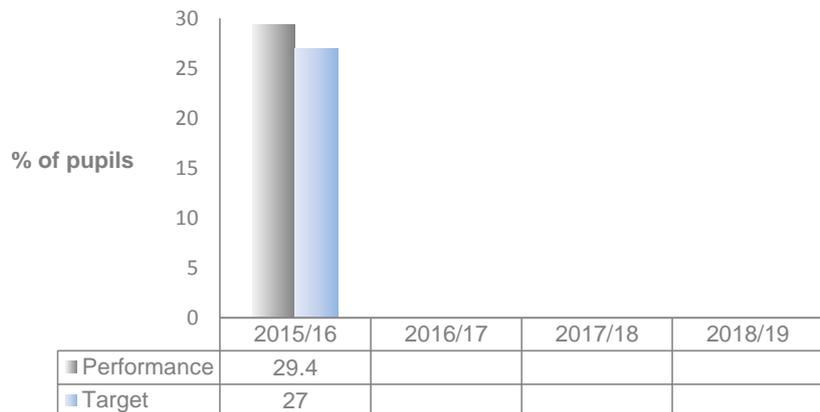
% of pupils
March 2016



27

% of pupils
Target for March 2016

Achievement gap between the lowest 20% of pupils and their peers at Foundation stage

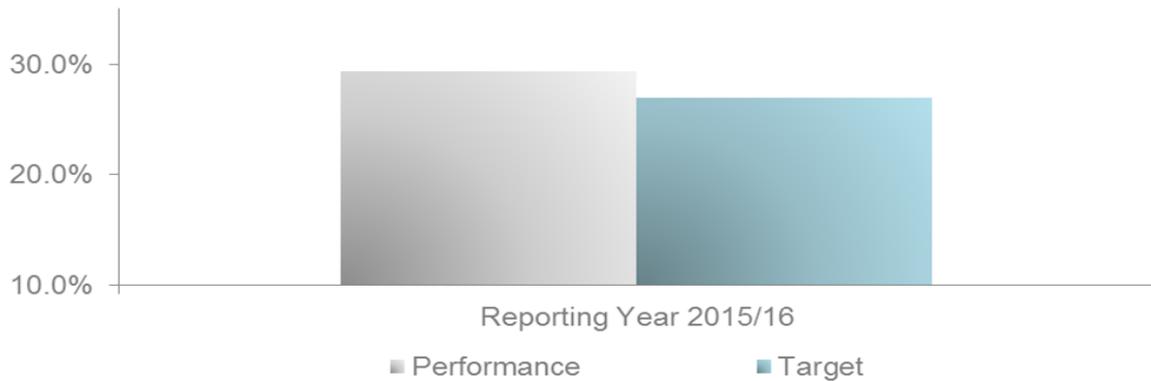


About the latest performance

At a national level, the achievement gap between the lowest attaining 20% of children and the mean average is 32.1%. At 29.4% the gap in Lincolnshire remains less than the national figure. Although the gap has widened by 0.9% in Lincolnshire, we have identified that the most significant gap is for children with English as an additional language (EAL) - data shows the number of reception aged children with EAL has increased by 200 in the county since the previous profile. As a result we have identified this cohort as a priority for early years support to reduce the gap in attainment and autumn term agreement trialling for schools has focused on supporting children with EAL.

Further details

Achievement at a good level of development in the Early Years Foundation Stage



	Reporting Year 2015/16
Performance	29.4%
Target	27.0%

About the target

We have shown consistent improvement against all comparators and will probably plateau going forward, however the best improvement in our statistical neighbours show that an upward trajectory is still possible.

About the target range

The target range is based on 2014/15 performance and a significant, aspirational improvement.

About benchmarking

Benchmarking data for this measure is not available



Businesses Are Supported to Grow

Improve educational attainment for all pupils

Education, Health and Care Plans for children with special educational needs completed within 20 weeks

Numerator: Number of Children and Young People with Special Educational Needs, whose education, health and care plans are within statutory timescales (20 weeks).

Denominator: Number of Children and Young People with Special Educational Needs, eligible for a education, health and care plan.

The percentage is calculated as follows: Numerator divided by the denominator multiplied by 100.



Reported
annually in Q2



About the latest performance

Further details

This measure is formally reported for the first time in 2016/2017 and so it is not possible to provide historical information.

About the target

The target for this measure has been set to 90%, with the work the Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) team has been completing this target is a fair reflection on the information that we have been collecting for the past year. We aim to have 90% of our plan completed within the allotted timescale. This allows for small slippages around nature of the process.

About the target range

The target range has been set to cover the uncertain and uncontrollable nature of this measure. There is No upper tolerance as we see meeting the 90% target as a good achievement and anything above this should show as exceeding. The lower range has been set to 85% to allow further flexibility in relation to unknown elements for this measure.

About benchmarking

We benchmark nationally and at similar authority level.



Businesses Are Supported to Grow

Improve educational attainment for all pupils

Permanent exclusions

Number of permanent exclusions in all schools divided by the School population



Reported
annually in Q4



About the latest performance

Further details

There is a new definition for this measure in 2016/17 and so it is not possible to compare historical performance.

About the target

The trend of this measure has stabilised at 15% and as extra provision support has not been put in place as yet, the measure will continue at this rate for 2015-16. Based on the proposals of the Exclusion Strategy which states that permanent exclusions will be reduced by 25% over the next 2 years, this equates to a year on year reduction of 2% which equates to approximately 20 exclusions a year.

About the target range

It is proposed to not exceed the 15% target as performance worse than this would indicate an increasing rate of permanent exclusions.

About benchmarking

We can compare ourselves both nationally and with similar authorities on an annual basis. Comparison data from the Statistical First Release Data is available in July the following year .

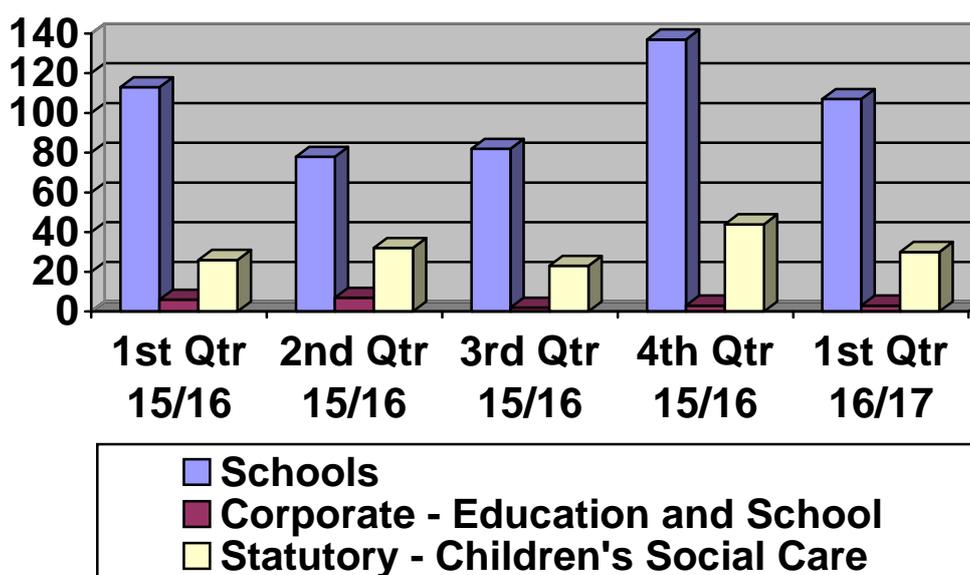
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Customer Satisfaction Information – Scrutiny Committees

Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee		
Date Range for Report	1 st April 2016 – 30 th of June 2016 (1st January – 31st March 2016)	
Total number of complaints received across all LCC service area.	259 (318)	
Total number of complaints relating to <u>Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee</u>	140 (184)	
Total number of compliments relating to <u>Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee</u>	9 (4)	
Total Service Area Complaints	Schools	107 (137)
	Corporate – Education and School	3 (3)
	Statutory - Children’s Care	30 (44)
Schools Complaint Reason Codes	Admission issue	3 (2)
	Allegation against Head Teacher	6 (3)
	Allegation against other school staff	3 (9)
	Attendance Issues	8 (10)
	Bullying – Homophobic	0 (1)
	Bullying – Gender	0 (0)
	Bullying – Racial	0 (2)
	Bullying – SEN	0 (1)
	Bullying – Social Media	5 (3)
	Bullying Issue	12 (17)
	Class/School Organisation	7 (15)
	Equality Issue	1 (0)
	Exclusion Issue	7 (6)
	Inconsistency in application of rules	2 (5)
	Meals/Snacks/Drinks	3 (0)
	Medical	1 (10)
	Other	9 (6)
	Parental responsibilities/rights	6 (3)
	Procedural Irregularity	6 (8)
	Racial Issues	10 (9)
	School Neighbours	0 (2)
	School Uniform	1 (3)
	SEN	7 (10)
	Social Media Abuse	1 (0)
	Truancy Issues	0 (0)
	Unfair treatment by staff	9 (0)
	No category selected	0 (0)

Corporate – Education and School Complaint Reason Codes	Age	0 (0)
	Breach of confidence	0 (0)
	Conduct/Attitude/Rudeness of staff	0 (0)
	Delayed Assessment of Service request	0 (0)
	Disability	0 (0)
	Disagree with policy	2 (1)
	Disagree with Procedure	0 (1)
	Insufficient Information Provided	0 (0)
	Other	0 (0)
	Procedure not Followed	0 (0)
	Procedural - Other	1 (0)
	Service Delay	0 (1)
Statutory - Children's Care Complaint areas Area information not available this quarter due to no database for statutory complaints	Statutory - Children's Care	30 (44)
Service Area Compliments	Schools	0 (0)
	Corporate - Children's	0 (1)
	Statutory - Children's Care	9 (3)
How many LCC Corporate complaints have not been resolved within service standard	4 (8)	
Number of complaints referred to Ombudsman	5 (10)	

Total Complaint Receipts by Quarter



Summary

LCC Overview of Complaints

The total number of LCC complaints received for this Quarter (Q1) shows a 19.7% decrease on the previous Quarter (Q4). When comparing this Quarter with Q1 2015/16, there is a 31% increase, when 105 complaints were received.

Children's and Young People's Services Overview of Complaints

Children's and Young People's Services received a 31.4% decrease (44 complaints) in the number of complaints received compared to Quarter 4. When comparing this with Quarter 1 of 2015/16, there is a 3.6% decrease when 145 complaints were received.

This Quarter, schools make up 76.4% of the total complaints received, with statutory complaints at 21.4% and corporate at 2.1%. In Quarter 1 of 2015/16, schools have made up 78% of total complaints with statutory at 18% and corporate at 4%.

School Complaints

The volume of complaints for Quarter 1 2016/17 (140) is similar for Quarter 1 last year 2015/16 (145).

Complaints about Bullying (12 in total – 6 primary / 5 secondary/ 1 unknown) represent the highest single reason for contact. Complaints relate to different schools and show no pattern or clustering. Of the 5 social media complaints recorded, 3 related to the same case, thus 3 cases in total are represented (3 primary / 2 secondary).

'Racial Issue' complaints (10 in total - 4 primary / 6 secondary) consisted entirely of racist incident (RI) reports submitted by schools themselves.

Alleged 'Unfair treatment by staff' accounted for 9 complaints. Of these, 2 related to parental bans from the school site following incidents of aggressive behaviour.

Academies account for 35 out of 107 complaints (33%), which is broadly in line with the share of schools which are academies.

Education and School (Corporate) Complaints

Education and School corporate complaints received 3 complaints this Quarter. 2 were in relation to school administration. 1 was regarding a child being out of education as no school places were available. The other was involving the Inclusion and Attendance Team and the Elective Home Education protocol. They were both partly substantiated. The last complaint was regarding a disagreement with an education transport route assessment. This complaint was unsubstantiated.

Children's Care (Statutory) Complaints

Complaint receipts in Quarter 1 for Children's Social Care have decreased by 14 complaints compared to last Quarter. From the 30 complaints received this quarter, 2 complaints was substantiated, 14 were partly substantiated and 14 were not substantiated.

Nature of Substantiated complaints	Improvements or changes implemented as a result of customers complaint
Regarding a named Social Workers comments towards a family.	To be addressed with the social worker on their return from leave.
Regarding the conduct of an Early Work helper	Concerns to be addressed through performance improvement plan. Focus on professional boundaries/approach

Nature of partially substantiated complaints	Improvements or changes implemented as a result of customers complaint
Lack of response to a letter sent. Disagreement over an assessment	Changes already implemented in regards assessment timescales.
Complaint regarding social worker	Change of social worker due to young person's views and need to find a solution to achieve change.
Regarding decisions and judgements made during an adoption process	Need to reconsider the timing of approaches to adopters re siblings Making sure that all staff are informing prospective adopters of the levels of uncertainty in cases before the courts. To consider that adopters who do not feel able to manage foster to adopt may not manage the stress of waiting during court proceedings. To improve communication between fast teams and adoption teams.
Young person complaining about missing items of clothing between moves	To ensure that all residential/fostering services complete comprehensive inventories which are updated regularly
Regarding social workers attitude towards parents	Discussion with Practice Supervisor and worker within supervision around explaining processes in more detail and ensuring messages are responded to.
Cancellation of a fathers visitation with his children	Allocated social worker change in an attempt to promote engagement without resorting to court proceedings.
As above	As above
Regarding surprise visits made by social worker at the property	Discussion with social worker to ensure concerns raised are addressed with service user.
Lack of response from social worker in relation to not being able to see Grandchildren	None reported
Allegation of malicious rumours	None reported
Concerns that Son's version of events not listened to by children services	None reported
Feels that they weren't listened to during Case Conference Meeting	None reported
Local Authorities decision to accept Psychologists report	Need to communicate better with families when completing specialist assessments. Need to check name and address when undertaking police national computer check.

Looked after child's parent's complained about not knowing new social worker and looked after child review meeting.	None recorded
---	---------------

Similar to last Quarter the main theme of the unsubstantiated complaints were regarding complaints made against social workers. Out of the 23 complaints which were recorded, 14 of these were regarding conduct/attitude of social workers. There were no other themes identified this Quarter.

Overall Children's and Young People Compliments

This Quarter, Children & Young People received 9 compliments which is an increase of 5 compliments from last Quarter when 4 were received.

Education and School (Corporate) Compliments

This Quarter, Education and School Corporate received 0 compliments. .

Children's Care (Statutory) Compliments

Statutory Children's Care received 9 compliments this Quarter. The compliments were regarding:

- 8 were compliments for social workers and staff members.
- 1 was regarding the adoption service.

Ombudsman Complaints

In Quarter 1 of 2016/17, 5 complaints were registered with the Ombudsman. 1 of these complaints was recorded against Children and Young People.

- Regarding SEN treatment for pupil.

At present, this is still open.

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Appendix C: Summary of most recent Mainstream Ofsted Inspections-
breakdown of 'Overall Effectiveness' judgement by school type as at

Table 1a/1b: Schools/Pupils in Schools rated Outstanding or Good

Schools Outstanding or Good	CS51	Pupils in Outstanding or Good	CS50
308	88.8%	87,616	86%

Table 2a/2b: Count and percentage of schools by Phase and Overall Effectiveness Category

Phase	Outstanding	Good	Requires Improvement	Inadequate	Total
All-through	-	-	1	-	1
Nursery	3	2	-	-	5
Primary	39	207	21	2	269
PRU	-	1	-	1	2
Secondary	12	25	11	2	50
Special	8	11	1	-	20
Total	62	246	34	5	347

Phase	Outstanding	Good	Requires Improvement	Inadequate
All-through	-	-	100%	-
Nursery	60%	40%	-	-
Primary	14%	77%	8%	1%
PRU	-	50%	-	50%
Secondary	24%	50%	22%	4%
Special	40%	55%	5%	-
Total	18%	71%	10%	1%

Table 3a/3b: Count and percentage of pupils by Phase and Overall Effectiveness Category

Phase	Outstanding	Good	Requires Improvement	Inadequate	Total
All-through	-	-	1016	-	1016
Nursery	352	175	-	-	527
Primary	10446	38575	5003	168	54192
PRU	-	-	-	206	206
Secondary	13546	22845	6400	1371	44162
Special	677	1000	49	-	1726
Total	25021	62595	12468	1745	101829

Phase	Outstanding	Good	Requires Improvement	Inadequate
All-through	-	-	100%	-
Nursery	67%	33%	-	-
Primary	19%	71%	9%	0%
PRU	-	-	-	100%
Secondary	31%	52%	14%	3%
Special	39%	58%	3%	-
Total	25%	61%	12%	2%

Table 4: Percentage of schools by Phase and Overall Effectiveness Category for Lincolnshire, Statistical Neighbours and Nationally

Phase	Outstanding			Good			Requires Improvement			Inadequate			Lincs	SN	National
	Lincs	SN	National	Lincs	SN	National	Lincs	SN	National	Lincs	SN	National			
Nursery	60%	65%	60%	40%	35%	39%	-	-	1%	-	-	0%	-	-	0%
Primary	14%	14%	18%	77%	69%	67%	8%	11%	11%	1%	1%	1%	-	5%	4%
PRU	-	11%	17%	50%	72%	61%	-	6%	10%	50%	6%	3%	-	4%	9%
Secondary	24%	12%	21%	49%	55%	50%	24%	21%	18%	4%	4%	4%	-	8%	7%
Special	40%	29%	37%	55%	60%	52%	5%	2%	5%	-	1%	2%	-	7%	4%
Total	18%	14%	20%	71%	67%	63%	10%	12%	11%	1%	1%	1%		5%	4%

Table 5: Schools currently judged to be Inadequate and/or under an Interim Executive Board

DfE Number	School Name	Academy Sponsor	Status	Time in Special Measures	Number on Roll
9255416	Sir John Gleed School	CfBT Schools Trust	Inadequate	472 days	1095
9251105	The Lincolnshire Teaching and Learning Centre	-	Inadequate	520 days	206
9252041	South Witham Community Primary School	-	Inadequate	-	102
9252220	Theddlethorpe Primary School	-	Inadequate	-	66
9254062	Cherry Willingham Community School	-	Inadequate	381 days	276
				Total	1745

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By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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

Report to:	Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee
Date:	09 September 2016
Subject:	Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee Work Programme

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, Senior Scrutiny Officer, 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 Ray Wootten

9 September 2016		
Item	Contributor	Purpose
Update on Saving Proposals in the Children's Services Budget 2016/17	Debbie Barnes Executive Director of Children's Services	Budget Scrutiny
Partners in Practice	Debbie Barnes Executive Director of Children's Services	Status Report
Post 16 Strategic Priorities and Area Based Review	Maggie Freeman 14 – 19 Commissioner	Pre-Decision Scrutiny (Executive Councillor decision on 27 September 2016)
Centre for Public Scrutiny's Guide to Scrutinising Children's Safeguarding Arrangements – Key Scrutiny Questions for Safeguarding – Questions 5-7	Janice Spencer Assistant Director – Children's (Safeguarding)	Performance Scrutiny
Theme Performance: Quarter 1	Sally Savage Chief Commissioning Officer – Children's	Performance Scrutiny
Lincolnshire Safeguarding Boards Scrutiny Sub-Group – Verbal Update	Cllr Ron Oxby Chairman of the Sub Group	Member Report

21 October 2016		
Item	Contributor	Purpose
Open Select List for Placements (EXEMPT)	Amy Allcock Commissioning Officer Mark Rainey Children's Commissioning Manager	Pre-Decision Scrutiny (Executive Councillor decision on 31 October 2016)
Educational Excellence Everywhere	Heather Sandy Chief Commissioner - Learning	Status Report
Sector Led Model for School Improvement – Update Report	Heather Sandy Chief Commissioner - Learning	Policy Development

21 October 2016		
Item	Contributor	Purpose
Inclusive Lincolnshire Strategy – Six Monthly Update	Mary Meredith Service Manager – Inclusion	Policy Review
Corporate Parenting Panel Update	Cllr David Brailsford Chairman of the Panel	Member Report
Children's health services future model and commissioning plan (EXEMPT)	Charlotte Gray Team Manager Children's Commissioning	Pre-Decision Scrutiny (Executive Decision on 1 November 2016)

25 November 2016		
Item	Contributor	Purpose
Theme Performance: Quarter 2	Sally Savage Chief Commissioning Officer – Children's	Performance Scrutiny
Lincolnshire Safeguarding Boards Scrutiny Sub-Group Update	Cllr Ron Oxby Chairman of the Sub Group	Member Report
Centre for Public Scrutiny's Guide to Scrutinising Children's Safeguarding Arrangements – Key Scrutiny Questions for Safeguarding – Questions 8, 9, 13, 14	Janice Spencer Assistant Director – Children's (Safeguarding)	Performance Scrutiny
The Future of the Music Service – Update	John O'Connor Children's Services Manager: Education Support	Pre-Decision Scrutiny (Executive Councillor decision on 9 December 2016)
Additional Item		
Additional Item		

20 January 2017		
Item	Contributor	Purpose
Budget Proposals 2017/18	Debbie Barnes Executive Director of Children's Services	Budget Scrutiny
Corporate Parenting Panel Update	Cllr David Brailsford Chairman of the Panel	Member Report
Additional Item		

10 March 2017		
Item	Contributor	Purpose
Lincolnshire Local Authority School Performance 2015-16	Martin Smith Children's Service Manager - School Standards	Performance Scrutiny
Theme Performance: Quarter 3	Sally Savage Chief Commissioning Officer – Children's	Performance Scrutiny
Lincolnshire Safeguarding Boards Scrutiny Sub-Group Update	Cllr Ron Oxby Chairman of the Sub Group	Member Report
Centre for Public Scrutiny's Guide to Scrutinising Children's Safeguarding Arrangements Guide – Key Scrutiny Questions for Safeguarding – Questions 18, 20, 21	Janice Spencer Assistant Director – Children's (Safeguarding)	Performance Scrutiny
Partners in Practice Update	Debbie Barnes Executive Director of Children's Services	Update Report
Additional Item		

28 April 2017		
Item	Contributor	Purpose
Additional Item		

9 June 2017		
Item	Contributor	Purpose
A Proposed Future Model of SEN Provision from Lincolnshire Special Schools	Andrew Hancy	Pre-Decision Scrutiny
Theme Performance: Quarter 4	Sally Savage Chief Commissioning Officer – Children's	Performance Scrutiny
Lincolnshire Safeguarding Boards Scrutiny Sub-Group Update	Cllr Ron Oxby Chairman of the Sub Group	Member Report
Corporate Parenting Panel Update	Cllr David Brailsford Chairman of the Panel	Member Report
Additional Item		
Additional Item		

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, Senior 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 SEPTEMBER 2016

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
I011798	Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children - National UASC Transfer Protocol 2016/2017	6 September 2016	Executive	Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee	Report	Quality and Standards Manager Tel: 01522 554849 Email: yvonne.shearwood@lincolnshire.gov.uk	Executive Councillor: Adult Care, Health and Children's Services and Executive Director of Children's Services	No	All Divisions
I011995 New!	Annual Report - Adoption	12 September 2016	Executive Councillor: Adult Care, Health and Children's Services	Corporate Parenting Panel	Report	Assistant Director of Children's Services Tel: 01522 553202 Email: janice.spencer@lincolnshire.gov.uk	Executive Councillor: Adult Care, Health and Children's Services and Executive Director of Children's Services	No	All Divisions
I011997 New!	Statement of Purpose - Fostering	12 September 2016	Executive Councillor: Adult Care, Health and Children's Services	Corporate Parenting Panel	Report	Assistant Director of Children's Services Tel: 01522 553202 Email: janice.spencer@lincolnshire.gov.uk	Executive Councillor: Adult Care, Health and Children's Services and Executive Director of Children's Services	No	All Divisions
I011998 New!	Annual Report - Fostering	12 September 2016	Executive Councillor: Adult Care, Health and Children's Services	Corporate Parenting Panel	Report	Assistant Director of Children's Services Tel: 01522 553202 Email: janice.spencer@lincolnshire.gov.uk	Executive Councillor: Adult Care, Health and Children's Services and Executive Director of Children's Services	No	All Divisions
I011999 New!	Statement of Purpose - Adoption	12 September 2016	Executive Councillor: Adult Care, Health and Children's Services	Corporate Parenting Panel	Report	Assistant Director of Children's Services Tel: 01522 553202 Email: janice.spencer@lincolnshire.gov.uk	Executive Councillor: Adult Care, Health and Children's Services and Executive Director of Children's Services	No	All Divisions
I011945 New!	Local Authority Position Statement for Review of Post 16 Education and Training in Greater Lincolnshire	27 September 2016	Executive Councillor: Adult Care, Health and Children's Services	Executive Councillor for Development; 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, Health and Children's Services and Executive Director of Children's Services	Yes	All Divisions

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
I011946 New!	Open Select List for Placements in Children Services	31 October 2016	Executive Councillor: Adult Care, Health and Children's Services	Representatives from Children in Care Council; Additional Needs Team; Looked after Children Team; Lincolnshire Leaving Care Service	Exempt Report	Senior Commissioning Officer Tel: 01522 552687 Email: amy.allcock@lincolnshire.gov.uk	Executive Councillor: Adult Care, Health and Children's Services and Executive Director of Children's Services	Yes	All Divisions
I011790 New!	Children's health services future model and commissioning plan	1 November 2016	Executive	Children's DMT; Informal Member Working Group; Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee	Exempt Report	Commissioning and Development Officer Tel: 01522 553783 Email: charlotte.gray@lincolnshire.gov.uk	Executive Councillor: Adult Care, Health and Children's Services and Executive Director of Children's Services	Yes	All Divisions
I011993 New!	Statement of Purpose - Private Fostering	9 January 2017	Executive Councillor: Adult Care, Health and Children's Services	Corporate Parenting Panel	Report	Assistant Director of Children's Services Tel: 01522 553202 Email: janet.spencer@lincolnshire.gov.uk	Executive Councillor: Adult Care, Health and Children's Services and Executive Director of Children's Services	No	All Divisions
I011996 New!	Annual Report - Private Fostering	9 January 2017	Executive Councillor: Adult Care, Health and Children's Services	Corporate Parenting Panel	Report	Assistant Director of Children's Services Tel: 01522 553202 Email: janice.spencer@lincolnshire.gov.uk	Executive Councillor: Adult Care, Health and Children's Services and Executive Director of Children's Services	No	All Divisions