

County Offices  
Newland  
Lincoln  
LN1 1YL

12 October 2017

**Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee**

A meeting of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee will be held on **Friday, 20 October 2017 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**  
**(11 Members of the Council and 4 Added Members)**

Councillors R L Foulkes (Chairman), R J Kendrick (Vice-Chairman), M D Boles, Mrs K Cook, Mrs W Bowkett, S R Dodds, M T Fido, C Matthews, A P Maughan, L Wootten and R Wootten.

**Added Members**

Church Representatives: Mr S C Rudman and Reverend Sue Evans

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



**CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE AGENDA  
FRIDAY, 20 OCTOBER 2017**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Pages</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Declarations of Members' Interests</b>	
<b>2</b>	<b>Apologies for Absence / Replacement Members</b>	
<b>3</b>	<b>Minutes of the meeting of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee held on 8 September 2017</b>	5 - 16
<b>4</b>	<b>Sector-Led School Improvement Model</b> <i>(To receive a presentation from Martin Smith, Children's Service Manager – School Standards, which will provide the Committee with an explanation of the sector-led model for school improvement; and also provide an update on the progress made with implementation of the model)</i>	Verbal Report
<b>5</b>	<b>Proposed Changes to Enhanced Resource Provision Units Supporting Children with Hearing Impairments</b> <i>(To receive a report from Andrew Hancy, County Manager Business Support, which provides feedback on the consultation document during the consultation period)</i>	17 - 32
<b>6</b>	<b>Corporate Parenting Sub-Group Update</b> <i>(To receive an update from Councillor D Brailsford, Chairman of the Corporate Parenting Sub-Group)</i>	33 - 42
<b>7</b>	<b>Lincolnshire Safeguarding Boards Scrutiny Sub-Group Update</b> <i>(To receive an update from Councillor S R Dodds, Chairman of the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Boards Scrutiny Sub-Group)</i>	43 - 50
<b>8</b>	<b>Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee Work Programme</b> <i>(To receive a report from Tracy Johnson, Senior Scrutiny Officer, which enables the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee to consider its work programme for the coming year)</i>	51 - 58

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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

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**CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE  
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE  
8 SEPTEMBER 2017**

**PRESENT: COUNCILLOR R L FOULKES (CHAIRMAN)**

Councillors M D Boles, Mrs K Cook, Mrs W Bowkett, S R Dodds, M T Fido, A P Maughan, L Wootten and R Wootten.

**Added Members**

Church Representatives: Mr S C Rudman and Reverend Sue Evans.

Parent Governor Representatives: Dr E van der Zee.

Councillors: Mrs P A Bradwell (Executive Councillor for Adult Care, Health and Children's Services) and D Brailsford (Executive Support Councillor for Children's Services) attended the meeting as observers.

Officers in attendance:-

Katrina Cope (Senior Democratic Services Officer), Tracy Johnson (Senior Scrutiny Officer), Jo Kavanagh (Interim Assistant Director, Early Help), Sally Savage (Chief Commissioning Officer) and Martin Smith (Children's Services Manager, School Standards).

**17 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE / REPLACEMENT MEMBERS**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors R J Kendrick and C Matthews and Mrs P J Barnett (Parent Governor Representative).

**18 DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS**

There was no declaration of members' interest made at this stage of the meeting.

**19 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE  
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE HELD ON 21 JULY 2017**

**RESOLVED**

That the minutes of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 21 July 2017, be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

20 ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE CHAIRMAN, EXECUTIVE COUNCILLOR FOR ADULT CARE, HEALTH AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES AND THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES

The Chairman on behalf of the Committee welcomed Reverend Sue Evans (Church Representative) to her first meeting of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee.

The Chairman also reminded members of the Committee to bring in their identification documents to enable the Senior Democratic Services Officer to initiate the necessary Disclosure and Barring Service checks.

21 CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S COMMISSIONING STRATEGIES

The Committee gave consideration to a report from Sally Savage, Chief Commissioning Officer, which provided the Committee with the Children and Young People's Commissioning Strategies that set out a vision for future priorities for Children's Services.

Appended to the report was a copy of the strategy for each of the four children's commissioning areas, these were:-

Appendix A – Safe and Healthy Commissioning Strategy 2017 – 2020

Appendix B – Readiness for Adult Life Commissioning Strategy 2017 – 2020

Appendix C – Readiness for School Commissioning Strategy 2017 – 2020

Appendix D – Learn and Achieve Commissioning Strategy 2017 – 2020

It was reported that each strategy proposed a series of recommendations to support sustainability and continuous improvement of the service; and to provide a strategic framework to support ongoing decision making. The strategies also provided an overarching strategic approach as to how the Council worked together with families to enhance children's lives.

The Committee noted that each of the four strategies detailed the objectives that needed to be accomplished to ensure positive outcomes for children and young people were achieved.

During consideration of the four strategies the following points were raised:-

Safe and Healthy Commissioning Strategy 2017 – 2020, (Appendix A)

- Support to children and families - The need to ensure intervention was made as early as possible in any process to help prevent exclusions; and other emotional conditions. Some reference was also made to the potential stigma attached when a young person was referred to the Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS). Officers advised that was why the new service would be promoting positive wellbeing. It was felt that all staff needed to receive training, to ensure that they were able to support a child or young

**CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**  
**8 SEPTEMBER 2017**

person. Officers confirmed that the new Emotional Wellbeing Service would be provided by the same contracted supplier who delivered CAMHS;

- Unaccompanied Asylum seeking children – One member expressed concerns that some of the unaccompanied asylum seekers coming into a school environment actually seemed a lot older than what was initially thought, which was presenting some schools with potential safeguarding issues. The Committee was advised that this was a challenging issue across the country; and that all available measures were being used to define age in these circumstances;
- One member enquired about the new Emotional Wellbeing Service which was due to commence on 1 October 2017. Officers advised that the service would offer support to schools to build up their resilience and to upskill school-based staff enabling them to become more confident to meet the emotional wellbeing needs of their pupils. It was highlighted that the service would bridge the gaps in current provision in Lincolnshire and signpost/refer pupils to other services as and when required. Officers advised that referral to the service could be made by the pupil, the school, or parents. Officers advised further that the principle behind the Emotional Wellbeing Service was to ultimately make it financially sustainable;
- Future in Mind Strategy – The Committee was advised that this was a government strategy for improving the mental health and wellbeing of young people, which also linked into the NHS five year view on improving young people's mental health;
- One member suggested that members of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee should receive some training on 'Signs of Safety'. Officers agreed that arrangements could be made for some training to be received at a date and time to be confirmed;
- A further suggestion was made for an explanation relating to the tiers pertaining to CAMHS. It was felt that an explanation would be useful, particularly to newer members of the Committee;
- Some concern was expressed as to whether CAMHS was dealing with requests for treatment within the required timeframes. Officers advised that there should not be a prolonged wait; however, there could be a period of waiting to allow the child to be prepared for therapy. The Committee was advised that there was a built in delay mechanism to ensure the best package was defined for the child, and the family;
- Further concerns were raised regarding the implications of teachers' comments on some children. It was felt that some teachers had no idea of the impact some remarks and comments had on young people, particularly in the secondary arena;
- The Pathway of Safer Families for Children – The Committee was advised that the Pathway of Safer Families for Children was initially started in Boston and Lincoln, but had now been expanded to West Lindsey. It was reported that Safer Families for Children was a faith based provider of an outsourced service offering support for struggling families with a child under 12 years of age; and providing 'edge of care' support as an alternative to short-stay foster care. It was noted that the early intervention approach was designed to stabilise families at a time of crisis, therefore preventing the escalation of

need, and lowering the risk of child abuse and neglect, and also reducing the number of children taken into care;

- The synergy between children in need and Looked After Children – Officers advised that the number of children was increasing nationally as well as locally; and work would be done to look at what was behind the increase in numbers; and
- Clarity regarding the increase in Intense Needs Supported Accommodation (INSA) - Officers advised that the increase was as a result of a growing number of young people with complex and multiple needs. For those at risk of homelessness accessing INSA, the expenditure had increased by nearly 140% in two years. The Committee was advised that the Council currently had arrangements with a number of providers, including one in Nottingham; and that Lincolnshire County Council was also looking into whether to purchase a property itself to provide all round care.

#### Readiness for Adult Life Commissioning Strategy 2017 – 2020, (Appendix B)

- Concern was raised regarding funding relating to the Leaving Care Service. Officers confirmed that the Leaving Care Service was currently contracted out to Barnardo's; and that Barnardo's invested money into the service;
- One member expressed concern relating to data pertaining to re-offending rates, as these had increased from 32.2% to 32.9%. The Committee was advised that the reason for the increase in the figure was because the cohort of young people had reduced and therefore the number of people re-offending was getting smaller and smaller. The Committee was advised further that the newly launched diversionary project in conjunction with Lincolnshire Police would also have an effect on the cohort. Officers reassured the Committee that the overall picture for re-offenders in Lincolnshire was a positive one;
- A question was asked relating to the outcomes on page 53. It was felt that the outcomes needed to include reference to vulnerability. A question was also asked as to what was being planned to engage/interact with young people with anti-social behaviour issues. Officers advised that the new work stream Partners in Practice (the next item on the agenda) would involve working with teenagers to develop relationships; and ensure that provision was available to all young people. It was noted that this was an ongoing piece of work and an update on progress of the new work stream would be received by the Committee in 2018;
- A question was also asked as to whether the statistics contained on page 57 relating to 16 – 18 year olds was before the changes in legislation. It was confirmed that the careers service had been taken out; and that the Council was only undertaking its statutory role. Some concern was expressed to the removal of the careers service as some 16 – 20 year olds found it hard to know what to do. During discussion, it was highlighted that some schools just encouraged students to take the university route, when that was not always the route some students wanted to take. One member also highlighted that students going down the wrong career path then resulted in some emotional wellbeing issues in some circumstances. It was highlighted that some careers advice given to students was not always impartial, and one member

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expressed disappointment that the careers advice had been removed. Officers confirmed that the Council still provided advice to its Looked After Children. It was also highlighted that some Head teachers did not encourage careers advice in schools. One member asked to receive an update pertaining to the work being undertaken with the Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership concerning business opportunities as this was very important to keep skills in Lincolnshire to fill the skills gap. Some members felt that some information as to how the skills gap would be resolved would be useful to know as a Committee. Some of the Committee felt that this matter should be considered by the Lincolnshire Schools Forum; and

- Some reference was made to the number of untoward incidents in supported accommodation. It was explained that the reporting of incidents was part of how the contract had been set up. Officers further explained that the incident could be something as simple as the young person missing an appointment. It was highlighted that most of the incidents occurred at Lincoln. Officers advised that this was due to the fact that most supported accommodation was in Lincoln. Officers also confirmed that there was some accommodation in Grantham and Stamford. It was noted that occupancy levels in certain areas would require immediate review to ensure that the service continued to deliver value for money for the Council and was best placed to meet the needs of young people.

Readiness for School Commissioning Strategy 2017 – 2020, (Appendix C)

- It was noted that £0.350m of savings had been achieved for 2017/18 by decommissioning the Family Nurse Partnership element of the service. Officers advised that this service would be transferring to and being directly delivered by the Council from 1 October 2017; and
- Readiness for School – Some members felt that there needed to be good play provision available at the Children's Centres. A question was asked as to whether some of the targets that were underperforming on page 85 would be improved by the new model. It was confirmed that all parents were encouraged to use Children's Centres; and that it was a fact that some children were not at the development stage they should be at, as it was well known that not all children developed at the same rate. A further question was asked as to whether children who attended Children's Centres were tracked. Officer confirmed that children attending Children's Centres and those subject to a Plan were tracked in order to direct the right resources to those children who needed it. Officers confirmed further that a lot of planning had been done for transferring of the 0 -19 service on 1 October 2017 to ensure minimum change. From day one there would be a universal service available to all families. Work was also ongoing to looking into how teams could be better integrated within a locality. As a result of the transfer of the service, it was hoped that this would have a positive impact of the target figures. One member highlighted that healthy eating needed to be promoted from a young age, to help reduce obesity. Officers confirmed that healthy eating would be part of the 0 - 19 service. Officers confirmed further that Health Visitors would receive training to deliver support; and that Lincolnshire Partnership Foundation Trust (LPFT) would be providing specialist provision i.e. postnatal

depression. It was also highlighted that the role of parents was instrumental in supporting the 0 -19 service.

Learn and Achieve Commissioning Strategy 2017 - 2020, Appendix D

- Positive comments were received pertaining to the sector led approach, showing that schools working together could achieve professional and specialist development; which had improved outcomes in teaching and learning;
- The role of the Regional Schools Commissioner - It was highlighted that the relationship between with the Regional Schools Commissioner and the Council had improved greatly;
- One member enquired as to whether the Council had enough staff to deal with all the impending changes. Officers highlighted that the strategies together had lots of synergies and support in these areas;
- Exclusions – It was noted that for secondary schools the number of exclusions for 2017/18 had rose to 116; and that a key priority for 2017/18 was to target support and challenge the small number of secondary schools that had accounted for a disproportionate number of secondary exclusions in 2016/17; and
- Domiciliary Care provision – It was noted that there were 48 children and young people accessing the service, with a list of names of those awaiting domiciliary care that was constantly monitored and reviewed.

## RESOLVED

1. That support and endorsement be given to each of the four strategies.
2. That the planned review timetable as set out in section 9 of each strategy be approved.
3. That a Signs of Safety Workshop be arranged for members of the Committee at a date and time to be agreed.

## 22 PARTNERS IN PRACTICE PROGRAMME

The Committee gave consideration to a report from Tara Jones, Children's Service Manager – Partners in Practice, which provided the Committee with an overview of Lincolnshire's Partners in Practice Programme.

In the absence of the Children's Services Manager – Partners in Practice, Jo Kavanagh, Interim Assistant Director of Children's Services (Lead Early Help) guided the Committee through the report.

The Committee noted that as part of the Department for Education (DfE) reform programme 'Putting Children First' document, three fundamental pillars of reform were established. To achieve the required outcomes set out under each of the three pillars, the DfE had established a Partners in Practice Programme, which brought

together the country's eight leading authorities, of which Lincolnshire was one of the authorities.

It was noted further that the Partners in Practice Programme would improve practice in Lincolnshire and other Children's Services by transforming the quality of children's social care services and early help arrangements; and support the reform of the wider system. It was reported that Lincolnshire had a proven track record of continuous improvement and good performance; and the vision was to improve Children's Services in Lincolnshire and elsewhere.

The Committee was advised that the Partners in Practice Programme was scheduled to run until 31 March 2020; and was made up of three work streams, which aligned directly to the three fundamental pillars of the DfE reforms. Details of the three work streams and the projects associated with each work stream and the names of the responsible officers were contained within the report presented. It was highlighted that the Governance and Accountability project was currently on hold due to devolution and its wider impact on children's services across Lincolnshire.

In conclusion, the Committee noted that the project plan for the four year programme was continuing to be developed; and that monies had been agreed by the Department for Education; and that monies would be transferred via a Section 31 grant.

During discussion, the following issues were raised:-

- Reference was made to the Government's commitment to roll out a new national assessment and accreditation system by 2020. It was noted that the introduction of the National Assessment and Accreditation System (NAAS) would provide, for the first time, a consistent way of providing assurance to effectively assess social workers knowledge and skills. It was noted further that phase one of the NAAS roll out would involve local authorities that were 'Partners in Practice' piloting the assessment and accreditation system along with a group of volunteer local authorities. The project would ensure that social workers received refresher training, coaching and mentoring and the opportunity to attend masterclasses, so that the relevant level of knowledge and skill was achieved. Officers highlighted that there was a degree of nervousness as it was hoped that the accreditation would not create barriers to becoming a social worker as at the moment there was uncertainty as to which roles would be accredited;
- The Committee was advised that the money available from the DfE, would be used based on the content of the bid submitted. It was further confirmed that the amount received would total £1m, which would be received over a period of time. It was further highlighted that in instances where the Council provided help to other authorities, the Council was paid for this help separately. The Committee agreed that it was commendable that the Children's Services team were leading the way; and that it was an excellent achievement for Lincolnshire. One member felt that it would be useful for the Committee to have some more financial details, to have some reassurance that there was no financial burden on the Council;

- One member requested that the Committee should receive evaluation information relating to the changed ways of working, once the project was implemented. It was felt that a progress report should be received by the Committee in six months' time; and
- One question raised with regard to Project 5 was whether the Youth Offending Service would be integrated, to help parents and children. Officers confirmed that all work with children and young people was working with the whole family.

**RESOLVED**

1. That the proposals for the Partners in Practice Programme be endorsed.
2. That a progress report be received in six months' time (to include details of the financial impact of the programme).

**23 CORPORATE PARENTING SUB-GROUP UPDATE**

The Committee received a short update from Councillor David Brailsford, Chairman of the Corporate Parenting Sub-Group.

The Committee noted that at its last meeting, the Corporate Parenting Sub-Group had received training in a number of areas, which had included:-

- Corporate Parenting - This had provided an overview of adoption and fostering, residential homes, Looked After Children, Visiting Members and the role of a Corporate Parent;
- Types of Placements for Looked After Children – It had been agreed that a working group would be set up to look at the development of a refreshed strategy;
- Voices for Choices (V4C) – The Sub-Group had received an update on the activities of the V4C, the Children in Care Council;
- Role of the Virtual School – An overview had been provided concerning the responsibilities of the Virtual School and how schools were supported; and
- Performance measures – The Sub-Group had been advised of the performance measures relating to Looked After Children, plus a number of performance indicators that were not contained in the Council's Business Plan relating to Looked After Children and care leavers, which were reported to the Sub-Group for monitoring.

The Chairman advised that the Sub-Group was due to meet on 21 September 2017, when it would be receiving further training on residential services, role of visiting members, the independent visiting service and Barnardo's Leaving Care Service.

The Committee was advised of the importance of the role of Visiting Members; and those Visiting Members present who had not yet managed to visit their allotted home were encouraged to do so. It was agreed that the Senior Scrutiny Officer would send a reminder email to all Visiting Members.

Attached at Appendix A to the report presented was a copy of the draft minutes from the Corporate Parenting Sub-Group meeting held on 6 July 2017.

RESOLVED

That the work of the Corporate Parenting Sub-Group be supported and that the minutes from the Corporate Parenting Sub-Group held on 6 July 2017 be received.

24 THEME PERFORMANCE - QUARTER 1 2017/18

Consideration was given to a report from Debbie Barnes, Executive Director of Children's Services, which provided the Committee with key performance information for Quarter 1 2017/18, relevant to the work of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee.

Attached to the report were the following Appendices:-

- Appendix A – Council Business Plan Measures
- Appendix B – Complaint and Compliments Report
- Appendix C – Ofsted School Status Report
- Appendix D – Performance Monitoring of Contracts – Exempt

The Committee was reminded that Appendix D to the report contained exempt information, and if the Committee wished to discuss details pertaining to Appendix D, a vote would need to be taken to move into exempt session.

In guiding the Committee through the report the Chief Commissioning Officer Children's Services made particular reference to indicators that had not been achieved or were improving, but not achieved, these were:-

- Page 175 – Juvenile first time offenders – The Committee was advised that a lower number of young people were entering the criminal justice system for the first time, indicated better performance. It was further noted that the number of young people entering the criminal justice system for the first time was mostly controlled by external influences. It was reported that there was no expectation that the figure was likely to rise sharply in the near future. Reference was also made to the diversionary project being conducted in partnership with Lincolnshire Police;
- Page 181 – Looked After Children – It was noted that there had been a rise in the number of children looked after over the last two quarters; and that the senior management team were undertaking a number of measures to understand what was causing the increase; and to have assurance that those coming into care were appropriate; and that there were robust exit strategies in place;
- Page 183 - Children who are subject to a Child Protection Plan – The Committee noted that the performance for this indicator had exceeded its target;

**CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE  
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- Appendix B – Customer Satisfaction Information – One member enquired as to why the number of complaints had reduced. Officers advised that this was due to school data being removed; and
- Page 197 – A question was asked as to why the percentage relating to secondary schools appeared to be disproportionately higher than others. Officers reassured the Committee that the figures related to Academies and that relationships with Academies remained positive; as did relationships with the Regional Schools Commissioner. One member expressed concern as to whether the views of the local authority were taken into consideration when being reviewed by the Regional Schools Commissioner. Officers confirmed that legally the Regional Schools Commissioner did not have to note any issues, however due to the improved working relationship, this was now improving.

At this point in the meeting it was moved, seconded and

**RESOLVED**

That in accordance with Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press be excluded from the meeting for consideration of Appendix D to the report on the grounds that if they were present there could be a disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended.

The Chairman invited members of the Committee to ask questions in relation to Appendix D of the report and officers responded to questions raised.

**RESOLVED**

That the performance for Quarter 1 2017/18 be received by the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee; and that officers note the comments raised by the Committee.

**25 CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME**

The Committee gave consideration to a report from Tracy Johnson, Senior Scrutiny Officer, which enabled the Committee to consider and comment on the content of its work programme as detailed at Appendix A.

The Committee was invited to put forward items for potential consideration:-

- Home to School Transport in relation to Grammar Schools (Officers advised that this item was due to be reviewed in 2018); and
- Partners in Practice for 6 months' time.

**RESOLVED**

That the work programme as detailed in Appendix A to the report presented be received, subject to the addition of a progress report concerning Partners in Practice in 6 months' time.

The meeting closed at 1.10 pm

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

Report to:	<b>Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee</b>
Date:	<b>20 October 2017</b>
Subject:	<b>Proposed Changes to Enhanced Resource Provision Units Supporting Children with Hearing Impairments</b>

**Summary:**

The purpose of this report is to inform and engage, with members of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee, on the public consultation which proposes alternative options on the future provision of Enhanced Resource Provision Units supporting children with significant hearing impairments across Lincolnshire.

**Actions Required:**

The Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee is asked to

1. consider the background of the review and the proposed options for public consultation
2. provide feedback on the proposed options during the consultation period including their preferred model for future provision.

## **1. Background**

Children's Services are committed to the inclusion of all children with Hearing Impairments who should be offered the ability to access education in a school as near to their home as possible and provided with high quality support when they need it, so they can achieve their potential in learning.

In June 2017 a review of the Enhanced Resource Provision (ERP) units was commenced to ensure the provision continued to meet the needs of children with a hearing impairment and families. The review evidenced the number of children accessing support through an ERP had reduced significantly over recent years and the current units were now underutilised. This reduction was mainly due to a clear majority of families wanting their child to attend their nearest school so their child could benefit from education in their local community.

The Council employs the Lincolnshire Sensory Education Support Team (SEST) which is staffed by Specialist qualified Teachers who provide learning to children with sensory impairments.

At present SEST supports 545 children across Lincolnshire with a sensory impairment from birth to school leaving age. Over 98% of these children are supported within their local mainstream school with outreach support being provided to schools through the SEST service.

Depending on the child's level of need they are likely to have an Education, Health and Care Plan in place, providing any additional support or resources required to meet their needs within a mainstream school setting or specialist setting.

At present there are four schools (2 primary and 2 secondary) across Lincolnshire with an ERP unit providing targeted support to 9 children with significant hearing impairments. Specialist teaching from these units is provided through SEST. Some of these children also have complex needs in addition to their sensory impairment which impacts their learning.

The review has concluded many parents and carers prefer to have their children attend their local school as they have confidence in their school's ability to meet their child's needs. Additional feedback includes preference for their child going to their local school so they can attend with family members and/or friends. Parents and carers have also stated they prefer not to have their child travel excessive distances to a dedicated ERP Unit. This review has prompted the need to undertake formal consultation on the ERP Units.

## **2. Conclusion**

As a result of the feedback received to date a number of alternative models for service provision have emerged and we now want to consult with children, parents, carers and all stakeholders to understand in more detail their aspirations and preferences for how services for children with hearing impairments are delivered.

The proposals which are being consulted on are not about reducing the level of provision of support which is currently provided from SEST but are intended to enhance it by providing targeted support where and when it is needed to all children across Lincolnshire.

The consultation proposals (attached as a separate document) provide more detailed information on the background of the service provision and the four proposed options being consulted on:

**Option 1** - Retain existing 4 units across Lincolnshire (No change)

**Option 2** - Reduce Number of ERP units from 4 to 2 across Lincolnshire

**Option 3** - No further placement of children into the ERPs – all new placements into local mainstream schools

**Option 4** - Decommission the ERP Units and support children in a mainstream school setting

The consultation is solely based on the question of whether the ERP units should remain, be reconfigured or be decommissioned with this provision being removed from the Local Offer, and replaced with enhanced support through SEST.

**3. Consultation**

**a) Have Risks and Impact Analysis been carried out?**

Yes

**b) Risks and Impact Analysis**

An Equality Impact Analysis has been completed which will be updated during the course of the consultation to reflect feedback received. The Impact Analysis has been published on the Council's Family Services Directory website together with the consultation paper.

**4. Appendices**

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Proposed Changes to Enhanced Resource Provision Units Supporting Children with Hearing Impairments Consultation Paper

**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 Andrew Hancy, who can be contacted on 01522 5554031 or [andrew.hancy@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:andrew.hancy@lincolnshire.gov.uk).

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## **Proposed Changes to Enhanced Resource Provision Units Supporting Children with Hearing Impairments**

### **Have your say!**

Closing date for responses: **Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2017**

The detailed information that follows provides an outline of current services, what we have learned so far from the current service review, and how this has led us to create a number of options to consult on about how this provision could be delivered in the future. We recommend that this information is read and considered before the consultation response is completed. We apologise for the lengthiness of this information, but feel it important to provide sufficient detail to support informed choice.

This consultation sets out a number of options on how the current provision of support to children could be configured across Lincolnshire to meet the needs of children with significant Hearing Impairments

#### **Background**

Children's Services are committed to ensuring that children with a Hearing Impairment are provided with the highest quality support in school when they need it as near to their home as possible, so they can achieve their potential in learning. In June 2017 a review of the Enhanced Resource Provision (ERP) units was undertaken to ensure that the provision continued to meet the needs of children with a hearing impairment and their families. This review found that the units were underutilised with a clear majority of families wanting their child to attend their nearest school so that their child could benefit from education in their local community.

As well as Enhanced Resource Provision units, the Council employs the Sensory Education Support Team (SEST) which provides support to learning to 545 children with a Sensory Impairment from birth to school leaving age:

- 313 children who have a Hearing Impairment
- 184 children who have a Visual Impairment
- 48 children who have Multiple Sensory Impairment

Over 98% of children with sensory impairments are supported within their local mainstream school with outreach support being provided to schools through the SEST service. For a number of children their sensory impairment is significant or complex enough to require

intensive support with high levels of input from specialist teaching and support staff. At present they may be supported in one of four ERP Units based across the county. These units are located within mainstream primary and secondary settings. Typically, the children supported within these units have a main need of hearing impairment, but some have other additional learning needs.

Historically, some schools have employed their own specialist Teachers of the Deaf/Hearing Impaired. However, over recent years, with diminishing numbers of children being supported in these units, the teaching provision has been moved over to be solely provided through the Lincolnshire SEST service.

For those children educated in Schools with an ERP the majority of their time is spent being supported in mainstream classes with their peer group. Depending on the level of support required they will spend part of their time in the ERP unit receiving targeted teaching and being supported by Teaching/Learning Assistant(s) who will have received training in the appropriate communication method relevant to the child they support. Specialist teaching staff work closely with mainstream teaching and support staff to enable each child to progress in their communication and listening skills.

This approach is outlined in the SEST Local Offer which can be found at: [https://lincolnshire.fsd.org.uk/kb5/lincs/fsd/service.page?id=v10\\_-8sl45U&familychannel=0](https://lincolnshire.fsd.org.uk/kb5/lincs/fsd/service.page?id=v10_-8sl45U&familychannel=0)

Some of the ERP schools use a dedicated classroom as the ERP Unit. The environment of the classrooms should be adapted to ensure the acoustics are at an adequate level so speech communication is sufficiently audible and intelligible to the learner. At present the ERP schools have differing levels of classroom adaptation and if ERPs were to be retained they would all need to be upgraded to the same standard; Building Regulations DFES (2004) Building Bulletin 93: Acoustic Design in Schools.

[http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20130402164558/https://www.education.gov.uk/publications/eOrderingDownload/BB93-Acoustic\\_Design.pdf](http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20130402164558/https://www.education.gov.uk/publications/eOrderingDownload/BB93-Acoustic_Design.pdf)

Lincolnshire County Council has a historic arrangement with four schools to provide an ERP unit for Hearing Impairment (there is no ERP provision for children with VI or MSI). These schools are:

- Saint Thomas' Church of England School, Boston (Primary – Maintained)
- Pembroke – A Priory Academy, Cherry Willingham (Secondary – Academy)
- Thomas Cowley High School, Donnington (Secondary - Academy)
- Chestnut Street Church of England Primary, Ruskington (Primary - Academy)

Over recent years the number of children being supported within ERP unit settings has reduced significantly. This is due a number of reasons including: parents and carers wishing for their child to go to a school in their local area,; increased technology to support children who are deaf/hearing impaired in mainstream settings, schools being more inclusive and

promoting their ability to support children with Sensory Impairment needs, and the offer of a strong teaching and support service (SEST) which provides:

- Proactive and targeted support based on individual need
- Early intervention post diagnosis via the new-born hearing screening programme
- Improvements in hearing aid and radio aid technology
- Providing (where assessed as required) additional funding or resources through Education Health and Care Plans.

On conclusion of the review in September 2017 Children’s Services identified that nine children with significant hearing impairments were being taught and supported in two of the above schools. One is a primary school and the other a secondary school.

Mainstream School with an ERP Unit	Pupils	Current provision of Teachers of the Deaf/HI
Saint Thomas' School, Boston	0	Provided through SEST outreach support
Pembroke – A Priory Academy, Cherry Willingham	0	Provided through SEST outreach support
Thomas Cowley High School, Donnington	3	Provided through SEST outreach support
Ruskington Chestnut Street Primary	6	SEST Teacher of the Deaf/HI allocated to school ERP

Placement of children into an ERP is undertaken through SEST in collaboration with Additional Needs at the time of the child's Education Health and Care Plan being completed. Depending upon their level of needs, children with sensory impairments will be assessed for an Education Health and Care Plan which will identify their support needs and the most appropriate placement/provision. This placement may be in a mainstream school, within an ERP or in an Independent provision.

Due to the strong community for deaf/hearing impaired children and the provision of Specialist Teachers of the Deaf within the ERP, SEST have experienced requests from a small number of parents or carers to place their children in a school providing an ERP unit irrespective of whether provision could be provided within a local mainstream setting. In the last two years there have only been two children with hearing impairments placed in an ERP where they were previously placed in an out of county ERP unit.

## Purpose of Consultation

This review has led us to understand that many parents or carers prefer to have their children attend local schools rather than having their child travel excessive distances to a dedicated ERP Unit and assurance that a significant majority of parents have confidence in their local school to meet their child's needs. As a result of the feedback received to date alternative models for service provision have emerged and we now want to consult with children, parents, carers and all stakeholders to understand in more detail their aspirations and preferences for how services for children with hearing impairments are delivered.

These proposals are not about reducing the level of provision of support from SEST but are intended to enhance it by providing targeted support where and when it is needed. We think that this would, enable the Local Authority to provide a consistent service across the whole county. This consultation is solely based on the question of whether ERP units should remain, be reconfigured or be decommissioned with this provision being removed from the local offer, and replaced with enhanced support through SEST.

### Consultation Option 1 – Retain existing four units across Lincolnshire (No change)

This option recommends the retention of the ERP units at the current four localities and to promote this as a specialist provision for Hearing Impaired children to meet high level needs. SEST would continue to resource the units within the schools with Specialist Teachers of the Deaf to ensure consistency of provision and achievement of outcomes.

Potential Positives	Potential Risks
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4 ERP units spread across county to enable children to access provision</li> <li>• Children with hearing impairments are educated and able to socialise with other children who have similar hearing impairment needs</li> <li>• Dedicated and adapted classrooms set aside for supporting children with hearing impairments</li> <li>• Targeted teaching and support continues to be provided through SEST</li> <li>• Children still have the option to attend a local school if this was their (and their parents) preference</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Numbers in units remains low as parents prefer their child to attend a local school</li> <li>• Resourcing of the units could have a detrimental impact on teaching resource available to support children in other mainstream schools</li> <li>• May result in significant travelling distances and time for children before and after school</li> <li>• Fails to integrate children within their community at a local school</li> <li>• May cause transition problems when moving from primary to secondary if children do not move with their peers</li> <li>• No additional funding provided to ERP schools other than through the current Special Needs block funding or through Education Health and Care Plans</li> </ul>

## Option 2 – Reduce Number of ERP units from four to two across Lincolnshire

This option looks at a planned reduction from four to two units. With the number of children obtaining specialist educational support within an ERP unit gradually reducing over recent years the ability to provide the current number of dedicated unit has become unfeasible. As two of the current schools have no pupils allocated in the units, these could both be decommissioned and focus placed on the remaining two units with their numbers being strengthened.

Potential Positives	Potential Risks
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two dedicated ERP units remain which could be strengthened by promoting provision from each</li> <li>• Dedicated units; one focusing on primary provision and one on secondary provision</li> <li>• Children with HI are educated and able to socialise with other children who have similar hearing impairment needs</li> <li>• Dedicated and adapted classrooms set aside for supporting children with hearing impairments</li> <li>• Targeted teaching and support continues to be provided through SEST</li> <li>• Children still have the option to attend a local school if this was their (and their parents) preference</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Distance of the two units may be an issue – whilst Ruskington (primary) is central, Thomas Cowley is located in the south-east of the county</li> <li>• Reducing provision to only two units could result in significant increase in travel time for some children</li> <li>• Children would be educated away from family or peer group friends who attend a local school</li> <li>• Fails to integrate children within their community at a local school</li> <li>• May cause transition problems when moving from primary to secondary if children do not progress with their peers</li> <li>• No additional funding provided to ERP schools other than through the current Special Needs block funding or through Education Health and Care Plans</li> </ul>

## Option 3 – No further placement of children into the ERPs – all new placements into local mainstream schools

All ERP units are currently resourced through SEST. Ruskington has a Teacher of the Deaf specifically allocated to the school whilst the remaining ERP schools are supported through the SEST outreach model. This option would be to retain the current provision but gradually wind down the units with no further new placements being made after Easter 2018. SEST will continue to ensure sufficient teaching time is allocated to each remaining child in the ERP to ensure their educational and support needs are met. However, as the number of children in the unit reduces, the allocated Teacher of the Deaf time would be reduced to enable teaching resource to be used to support other children in mainstream settings. Only when the units have no children remaining due to them moving on to a new school or leaving education would the units then be de-commissioned and removed from the Local Offer.

Potential Positives	Potential Risks
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provides continuity of provision for children with significant hearing impairments</li> <li>• Makes the transition process to decommission the units easier – as children move through or out of school the numbers will naturally reduce</li> <li>• Targeted teaching and support continues to be provided through SEST</li> <li>• Children still have the option to attend a local school if this was their (and their parents) preference</li> <li>• Although pupil numbers in units will reduce the provision of teaching support will continue in line with the assessed needs of each child</li> <li>• Teacher of the Deaf time is used to support other children in mainstream settings</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Over time children with hearing impairments have less opportunities to socialise with peer group of children with similar hearing impairments</li> <li>• As numbers reduce the units become less viable to remain which may cause operational issues for the schools who provide them with less opportunities to socialise with peer group of children with similar hearing impairments</li> <li>• Results in an inconsistent provision for hearing impairment support across Lincolnshire</li> <li>• Fails to support children being educated near to home in a local mainstream school</li> <li>• There could be a challenge to placements as the provision of an ERP unit remains as part of the Local Offer</li> </ul>

**Option 4 – Decommission the ERP Units and support children in a mainstream school setting**

This option promotes the provision that all pupils with hearing impairments are educated and supported within their local mainstream primary or secondary school and that the Local Authority no longer provides support through a dedicated ERP Unit.

Those children currently educated within an ERP unit would be provided with the option to remain on roll at their current school and continue to receive targeted support from SEST through outreach support so avoiding any disruption to their child's day to day schooling. If parents/carers choose to move their child to an alternative school which was closer to their home, and one which could meet their child's needs, the Local Authority would work with the child and their parents/carers to support effective transition to an alternative provision.

Under this option the Teacher of the Deaf resource would be provided on an outreach basis in line with the provision to all other mainstream schools. The allocated SEST teaching time spent with individual children will continue to be provided in line with their assessed needs.

Potential Positives	Potential Risks
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provides an understandable and consistent model of provision across the county and schools</li> <li>• Targeted teaching and support continues to be provided through SEST via outreach</li> <li>• Those children currently supported</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provision is limited to being educated either within mainstream (with support) or within a special school</li> <li>• Some mainstream schools may not have the requisite skills and experience of</li> </ul>

<p>within an ERP only spend a small amount of their school time in the unit. If they decided to stay on roll at the same school the impact would be minimal for the child</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promotes inclusion and educating of pupils with sensory impairment needs within their own community setting</li> <li>• Enables children with hearing impairments to remain with family or peer group friends being educated in the same school</li> <li>• Supports the transition of children from primary to secondary as they will move with friends</li> <li>• Significantly reduces travelling time to and from school for children</li> <li>• Teacher of the Deaf time is used to support other children in mainstream settings</li> </ul>	<p>supporting a child with significant hearing impairment needs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Classrooms would have to be assessed to ensure they comply with required regulations and funding provided as necessary to meet required regulations</li> <li>• Mainstream schools would remain responsible for providing support through their notional funding plus any additional funding assessed as required through an Education Health and Care Plan</li> </ul>
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Children's Services would like to invite any comments or suggestions you may have on the above options which would help us to improve outcomes for children with hearing impairments across Lincolnshire. Your feedback can be provided under Question 2 in the attached feedback response or online as detailed below.

### **Preferred Model**

Based on feedback received to date, Option 4 would be the Local Authority's preferred option for the future provision of support to children with significant hearing impairments. We believe that this option best addresses concerns raised regarding local provision of support, promoting inclusion of all children in the local community, reducing travel time to and from school and provides a consistent service from SEST Specialist Teachers of the Deaf who are fully accountable for pupil outcomes in progressing sensory impairment development.

### **How to provide your feedback?**

We welcome and value your feedback on this consultation, which will help the Local Authority reach a considered decision. Feedback on your preferred option can be provided by:

Completing our online Consultation Feedback Response at:

<http://snapsurveys.lincolnshire.gov.uk/snapwebhost/s.asp?k=150771610786>

- Completing the attached Consultation Feedback Response and send to the address provided below:  
**ERP Consultation Feedback**  
**Room 2.11**  
**Lincolnshire County Council**  
**Orchard House**  
**Orchard Street**  
**Lincoln**  
**LN1 1BA**
- Emailing your Consultation Feedback Response form to [ERPFeedback@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:ERPFeedback@lincolnshire.gov.uk)

### **Consultation Meetings**

In addition to the consultation feedback, the Local Authority is offering the opportunity for those parents, carers and children with hearing impairments who are currently supported in the ERP units a personalised meeting with SEST to discuss the consultation proposals in more detail.

Please email [ERPFeedback@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:ERPFeedback@lincolnshire.gov.uk) with your name, address, and contact phone numbers and we will make the necessary arrangements for a suitable date and time for a meeting to take place during the Consultation period.

### **What happens next?**

The consultation period for these proposals is from Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2017 to Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2017 inclusive.

Responses will be collated, summarised and then duly considered by the Children and Young People's Scrutiny Group on 19<sup>th</sup> January 2018 which is open for members of the general public to attend if they wish. A decision will then be made by the Executive Councillor; Adult Care, Health and Children's Services on 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2018.

You will be able to see the result of this decision making at:

<https://lincolnshire.fsd.org.uk/kb5/lincs/fsd/advice.page?id=J8Ju7P0T6pU>. Parents and carers of those children within the ERP Units will also be contacted to inform them of the decision.

## Proposed Changes to Enhanced Resource Provision Units Supporting Children with Hearing Impairments

### Consultation Feedback Response

Thank you for taking the time to read this Consultation document and for providing us with your feedback.

Please detail below your preferred option (\* Please select one) from those detailed in the Consultation. It would also help us to know why you have chosen this option so we can make an informed recommendation on the most appropriate model to support children with significant Hearing Impairments who are currently receiving support at one of the four Enhanced Resource Provision Units in Lincolnshire.

Alternatively you can provide us with feedback online at:

<http://snapsurveys.lincolnshire.gov.uk/snapwebhost/s.asp?k=150771610786>

<b>Which one of the options do you think will best meet your child's needs?</b> (*please select only one)		<b>Why do you think this is the best option?</b>
Option 1 - <b>Retain existing four units across Lincolnshire</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Option 2 - <b>Reduce Number of ERP units from four to two across Lincolnshire</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Option 3 - <b>No further placement of children into the ERPs – all new placements into local mainstream schools</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Option 4 - <b>Decommission the ERP Units and support children in a mainstream school setting</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Q1. If services or the way they are provided need to change, when do you think this should happen to minimise the impact on your child?	
Q2. What else should we consider within the proposed options to help improve the outcomes of children with Hearing Impairments?	
Q3. (For schools only) What additional resources would you need to support children with significant hearing impairment if they joined your school?	

## About you

This section is about you, our customer. It is your choice to answer the following questions. If you do choose to answer them, this will help us to make informed decisions. Your responses will be kept completely confidential and in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998. Our aim is to not be intrusive and we will not ask irrelevant or unnecessary questions.

Are you:

*Please select the option that best describes you*

A teacher/head teacher/principal	<input type="checkbox"/>
A parent/carer of a pupil(s)/student(s) with a Hearing Impairment attending an Enhanced Resource Provision Unit	<input type="checkbox"/>
A parent/carer of a pupil(s)/student(s) with a Hearing Impairment attending a mainstream Lincolnshire school or college	<input type="checkbox"/>
A parent/carer of a pupil(s)/student(s) with a Hearing Impairment attending an out of county school or college	<input type="checkbox"/>
A pupil(s)/student(s) with a Hearing Impairment attending an Enhanced Resource Provision Unit	<input type="checkbox"/>
A pupil(s)/student(s) with a Hearing Impairment attending a mainstream Lincolnshire school or college	<input type="checkbox"/>
A pupil(s)/student(s) with a Hearing Impairment attending an out of county school or college	<input type="checkbox"/>
Prefer not to say	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other, please specify:	<input type="checkbox"/>

Do you consider yourself to have a disability?

Yes  No  Prefer not to say

Please return your completed response to ensure it received by **Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2017**, to:

**ERP Consultation Feedback  
Room 2.11  
Lincolnshire County Council  
Orchard House  
Orchard Street  
Lincoln  
LN1 1BA**

Or, email to [ERPFeedback@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:ERPFeedback@lincolnshire.gov.uk)

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

Report to:	<b>Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee</b>
Date:	<b>20 October 2017</b>
Subject:	<b>Corporate Parenting Sub Group Update</b>

**Summary:**

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

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

It is agreed that the minutes of the Corporate Parenting Sub Group be presented to the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee, and attached are the draft minutes of the meeting held on 21 September 2017.

**Actions Required:**

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

**1. Background**

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

## 2. Conclusion

The ongoing scrutiny process looking at how well we meet our respective responsibilities and the different aspects of a child and young person's needs is pivotal to the work of the Corporate Parenting Sub Group. The attached draft minutes provide an account of the work undertaken since the previous meeting held on 6 July 2017.

## 3. Consultation

### a) Have Risks and Impact Analysis been carried out?

No

### b) Risks and Impact Analysis

Not Applicable

## 4. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Corporate Parenting Sub Group Draft Minutes 21 September 2017

## 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 Yvonne Shearwood, Service Manager Regulated Services, who can be contacted on 01522 554849 or [yvonne.shearwood@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:yvonne.shearwood@lincolnshire.gov.uk).

**CORPORATE PARENTING SUB  
 GROUP  
 21 SEPTEMBER 2017**

**PRESENT: COUNCILLOR D BRAILSFORD (CHAIRMAN)**

**Lincolnshire County Council:** Councillors Mrs K Cook, S R Dodds, R L Foulkes and Mrs C L Perraton-Williams (Vice-Chairman).

**Added Members:** Jean Burbidge (Lincolnshire Community Health Services), Katerina Hardy (Children in Care Council) and Ann Wright (Foster Carer).

Officers in attendance:-

Dave Clarke (Secure Unit Principal), Annie Fletcher (Children's Services Manager, Barnardo's), Cheryl Hall (Democratic Services Officer), Melody Harrison (Independent Chair/Regulation 43 Visitor), John Herbert (Youth Development Practice Supervisor), Tracy Johnson (Senior Scrutiny Officer), Jo Kavanagh (Interim Assistant Director, Early Help), Carolyn Knight (Quality and Standards Manager), Sarah Lane (Virtual School Team Manager), Kerry Mitchell (Assistant Director Barnardo's (Lincolnshire)), Andrew Morris (Corporate Parenting Manager), Yvonne Shearwood (Children's Service Manager - Regulated (South and Adoption)) and Janice Spencer (Assistant Director Safeguarding).

**12 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE/REPLACEMENT MEMBERS**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies for absence were received from Michelle Andrews (Service Manager, Early Years and Childcare Support), Councillor Mrs W Bowkett, Kieran Barnes (Virtual Head Teacher), Amy-Louise Butler (Lincolnshire Partnership NHS Trust), Polly Coombes (Foster Carer), John Harris (Children's Service Manager – Regulated – North and Fostering) and Ildiko Kiss (Regulation 43 Visitor).

**13 DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTEREST**

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

**14 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CORPORATE PARENTING SUB-GROUP HELD ON 6 JULY 2017**

**RESOLVED**

That the minutes of the meeting held on 6 July 2017 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

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15 RESIDENTIAL SERVICES IN LINCOLNSHIRE

The Sub-Group received a presentation from Dave Clarke (Principal, Lincolnshire Secure Unit), which provided an overview of the residential services in Lincolnshire.

The presentation slides covered the following areas: -

- Lincolnshire Secure Unit;
- Three Residential Homes;
- Three Children with Disabilities Homes (*The Beacon; Haven Cottage; and Strut House*);
- Audit / Inspection Processes.

The Sub-Group was provided with an opportunity to ask questions, where the following points were noted: -

- It was noted that there was a significantly higher number of boys in secure units compared to the number of girls. The differences in the services offered to girls were discussed;
- It was confirmed that all inspections carried out by Ofsted were unannounced. Further to this, it was noted that the three Children with Disability Homes were all found to be either 'outstanding' or 'good';
- It was noted that a new unit would be built within the Sleaford area of the County;
- It was confirmed that recruitment at the secure unit in Lincolnshire had not been a problem, unlike other services across the County;
- The transitional arrangements for children leaving the secure unit were discussed. Further to this, it was highlighted that each child in each of the Children with Disability Homes had a plan in place, which covered transitional arrangements;
- The educational arrangements within the secure unit were discussed, where it was highlighted that each child had their educational ability assessed so that their education could be tailored to their assessed educational age.

RESOLVED

That the presentation slides be emailed to Members of the Corporate Parenting Sub-Group.

16 V4C (VOICES 4 CHOICES) - QUARTERLY REPORT (JUNE - AUGUST 2017)

Consideration was given to a report by John Herbert (Youth Development Supervisor), which provided an update on the work of the V4C (Voice for Choices), Lincolnshire's Children in Care Council.

The presentation of the Children in Care Council advised that Members of V4C had delivered a fun-filled workshop to Children's Services staff who had attended the

Professional Judgement Conference on Wednesday, 2 August 2017 at Bishop Grosseteste University. V4C Members worked together to plan and prepare the session; and make decisions on the message that they would like to share with professionals about working with Looked After Children. The Sub-Group was advised that the workshop was enjoyable for all who had attended.

It was noted that all young people in care had been sent a pack containing information on V4C. The future meeting dates of V4C were detailed on page 30 of the agenda pack, and Members of the Sub-Group were advised that they were welcome to attend any of the meetings. It was advised that the majority of meeting dates were either held on a Saturday or during half terms to make them more accessible for young people.

It was noted that Big Conversation 14 was due to be held in October 2017 half term and details of the event were detailed on page 29 of the agenda pack.

#### RESOLVED

- (1) That support be given to Big Conversation 14.
- (2) That the Senior Scrutiny Officer be requested to email Members of the Corporate Parenting Sub-Group; Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee; and visiting members seeking volunteers to attend Big Conversation 14 and V4C Meetings.

#### 17 ROLE OF VISITING MEMBERS

The Sub-Group received a presentation from Janice Spencer (Assistant Director of Children's Safeguarding), which provided an overview of the Elected and Visiting Members Roles and Responsibilities.

The presentation slides covered the following areas: -

- What is Safeguarding;
- Role of the Lead Member;
- Role of the Elected Members;
- The role of Visiting Members;
- Requirements;
- Visit frequency.

The Sub-Group was provided with an opportunity to ask questions, where the following points were noted: -

- It was reiterated that elected members had a leading role in ensuring that Lincolnshire County Council acted effectively to safeguard children and young people and to take positive action to ensure the best possible outcomes for children and young people. It was highlighted that should a member of the public raise a safeguarding concern with an elected member, this should be referred to an officer immediately so the appropriate steps could be followed;

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- Visiting members were outside the line management of a home and the residents could meet visiting members privately; visiting members had the welfare of residents as their paramount concern. All visiting members were required to have an enhanced DBS. The process for obtaining a DBS was discussed;
- The regulations required the visiting members, after undertaking a visit, to prepare a report on the conduct of the homes and to send a copy of that report to the Senior Scrutiny Officer. Reports were shared with the Assistant Director of Children's Services and the Children's Services Manager. Visiting members would receive a written response to their report and all visits were logged and reported to the Corporate Parenting Sub Group at each meeting.

**RESOLVED**

That the presentation slides be emailed to Members of the Corporate Parenting Sub-Group.

**18 INDEPENDENT VISITING SERVICE**

The Sub-Group received a presentation from Carolyn Knight (Quality and Standards Manager), which provided an overview of the Independent Visiting Service (Regulation 44).

The presentation slides covered the following areas: -

- Children's Homes Regulations 2015, Part 6 - Monitoring and Reviewing Children's Homes (Regulation 43);
- Regulation 44 Report;
- Collaboration with the elected members.

An example of a Regulation 44 Report was circulated at the meeting to enable Members of the Sub-Group to gain an understanding on the process of the Independent Visiting Service. It was noted that the Regulation 44 report should address nine standards: quality and purpose of care; children's views, wishes and feeling; education; enjoyment and achievement; health and wellbeing; positive relationship; protection of children; leadership and management; and care planning.

The Sub-Group was provided with an opportunity to ask questions, where the following points were noted: -

- The independent person's report could recommend actions that the registered person may take in relation to the home and timescales within which the registered person must consider whether or not to take those actions; and
- Looked after Children were encouraged to participate in the National Citizen Service, which was a 2-4 week programme, which aims to develop skills that employers increasingly value: confidence, leadership and independence. Looked after Children were also encouraged to access other community resources.

RESOLVED

That the presentation slides be emailed to Members of the Corporate Parenting Sub-Group.

19 BARNARDO'S LEAVING CARE SERVICE

The Sub-Group received a presentation from Kerry Mitchell (Assistant Director of Barnardo's) and Annie Fletcher (Children's Services Manager, Barnardo's), which provided an overview of the Barnardo's Lincolnshire Leaving Care Service.

The presentation slides covered the following areas: -

- Organisational chart;
- Profile of care leavers;
- Planning Transition to Adulthood for Care Leavers;
- Multi-Agency Pathway Planning;
- Dimensions of the Pathway Plan;
- Employment, Education and Training Target 65% and Activity;
- Work Preparation Programme Outcomes;
- Apprenticeship Scheme;
- Suitably Accommodated Target 80%; and
- Types of Accommodation.

The Sub-Group was provided with an opportunity to ask questions, where the following points were noted: -

- The Sub-Group sought clarification on the types of accommodation and how this information was coded. For example, it was advised that 'No fixed abode' could mean that the young person was staying with friends but not consistently at any one address;
- The Showmen's Guild of Great Britain was suggested as a useful contact, should the service need to locate a young person who formed part of a fair;
- The importance of planning a transition to adulthood for care leavers was discussed and the ways in which this was undertaken were discussed. It was recognised that the pathway plan of each young person would develop in response to their needs;
- The Care Leavers Apprenticeship Scheme had now been in place for a period of 10 years, with 42 young people completing their apprenticeships. The Sub-Group expressed their disappointment at the change nationally in the entry requirements for apprenticeship schemes, which had introduced a requirement for Maths and English GCSEs A\*-C. To help address this issue, Barnardo's was working with young people in providing educational support to help them achieve the required qualifications;
- The way in which care leavers were allocated to apprenticeships was discussed;

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- The benefits of work experience placements were highlighted to the Sub-Group, where it was recognised that these were a good way of gaining work experience, prior to starting an apprenticeship.

## RESOLVED

That the presentation slides be emailed to Members of the Corporate Parenting Sub-Group.

20 VISITING MEMBERS QUARTERLY REPORT

An updated version of the visiting members' log of quarterly visits to Children's Homes April 2017 to March 2018 was received and comments made during consideration of this log included the following: -

- the visit to the Beacon, Grantham was scheduled to take place 22 September 2017; and
- the visit to 33 Northolme, Gainsborough was scheduled to take place during the week commencing 25 September 2017.

The Senior Scrutiny Officer was requested to remind all visiting members to complete their quarter two visits by the end of September 2017. Visits for quarter three could be carried out from October 2017 onwards.

## RESOLVED

That the Senior Scrutiny Officer be requested to remind all visiting members to complete their quarter two visits by the end of September 2017.

21 PERFORMANCE - QUARTER 1 EXCEPTIONS REPORT (APRIL - JUNE 2017)

Consideration was given to the performance indicators relevant to the work of the Corporate Parenting Sub-Group, and some of the points raised during discussion of the information contained within the report included the following: -

- There had been a rise in the number of Looked after Children per 10,000 under 18s over the last two quarters. The senior management team was undertaking a number of strategies to understand the cause of the increase. Further to this, it was noted that Lincolnshire remained below the national average;
- The performance for the percentage of Looked after Children cases which were reviewed within required timescales was lower than expected, which was mainly owing to the change to a workflow system which had introduced a significant shift in the working practice around Look after Children. A significant amount of work was being undertaken to ensure that performance would be accurately reflected in quarter two's performance report;

- The percentage of Looked after Children with an up to date dental check – there continued to be a number of young people who declined to engage with dental health services. Workers were continuing to encourage those young people to engage with this service;
- The percentage of Looked after Children with an up to date routine immunisations – the percentage was lower than expected owing to a number of challenges with the new workflow system. Managers were taking robust action to ensure that it was regularly reviewed and any issues were addressed.

The Sub-Group explored the issues with the implementation of the new workflow system and received assurances that the Managers were taking action to address any identified issues.

#### RESOLVED

That the performance information presented be noted.

#### 22 CORPORATE PARENTING SUB-GROUP WORK PROGRAMME 2017/18

Consideration was given to a report by Tracy Johnson (Senior Scrutiny officer), which invited the Corporate Parenting Sub-Group to discuss and agree its work programme for 2017.

It was suggested that a letter of thanks be sent to Katerina Hardy (Children in Care Council) recognising her contribution at the meeting and inviting her to attend future meetings of the Sub-Group.

#### RESOLVED

- (1) That the Corporate Parenting Sub-Group's work programme for 2017 be approved.
- (2) That a letter of thanks be sent to Katerina Hardy (Children in Care Council) recognising her contribution at the meeting and inviting her to attend future meetings of the Sub-Group.

#### 23 FUTURE MEETING DATES

#### RESOLVED

That future meetings of the Corporate Parenting Sub-Group be held on the following dates and times: -

- 15 March 2018 at 10.00 am;
- 14 June 2018 at 10.00 am;
- 20 September 2018 at 10.00 am; and
- 6 December 2018 at 10.00 am.

**8**  
**CORPORATE PARENTING SUB GROUP**  
**21 SEPTEMBER 2017**

The meeting closed at 12.35 pm.

DRAFT

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

Report to:	<b>Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee</b>
Date:	<b>20 October 2017</b>
Subject:	<b>Lincolnshire Safeguarding Boards Scrutiny Sub-Group – Update</b>

**Summary:**

This report enables the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee to have an overview of the activities of the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Boards Scrutiny Sub-Group, in particular the Sub-Group's consideration of child safeguarding matters. The draft minutes of the last meeting of the Scrutiny Sub-Group held on 26 September 2017 are attached.

**Actions Required:**

That the draft minutes of the meeting of the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Boards Scrutiny Sub-Group, held on 26 September 2017, be endorsed.

## **1. Background**

The Lincolnshire Safeguarding Boards Scrutiny Sub-Group considers both adults' and children's safeguarding matters, in particular focusing on the activities of the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Board and Lincolnshire Safeguarding Adults Board.

The last meeting of the Sub-Group was held on 26 September 2017 and the draft minutes are attached at Appendix A to this report. As the remit of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee includes children's safeguarding, the Committee is requested to focus on those minutes of the Sub-Group, which are relevant to this remit.

## **2. Conclusion**

The draft minutes appended to this report are for the Committee's information.

## **3. Consultation**

### **a) Have Risks and Impact Analysis been carried out?**

No

## **b) Risks and Impact Analysis**

Not Applicable

## **4. Appendices**

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Draft Minutes of the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Boards Scrutiny Sub-Group held on 26 September 2017

## **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 Andrea Brown, who can be contacted on 01522 553787 or [andrea.brown@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:andrea.brown@lincolnshire.gov.uk).

**LINCOLNSHIRE SAFEGUARDING  
 BOARDS SCRUTINY SUB-GROUP  
 26 SEPTEMBER 2017**

**PRESENT:**

**Lincolnshire County Council:** Councillors S R Dodds, R L Foulkes, Mrs C J Lawton and R Wootten

**District Council:** District Councillor Mrs S Waring

**Representative appointed by Police and Crime Commissioner:** Marc Jones

Also in attendance:-

Chris Cook (Independent Chairman of the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Board), Barry Earnshaw (Independent Chairman, Lincolnshire Safeguarding Adults Board), Simon Evans (Health Scrutiny Officer), David Hair (Member Services Manager), Clare Rowley (Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Board Business Manager) and Sue Wilson (Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Board Policy and Audit Officer).

**1 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**

The Sub-Group was invited to nominate a County Council member of the Sub-Group to serve as Chairman for the Council year. Councillor S R Dodds was nominated and seconded and there were no other nominations.

**RESOLVED**

That Councillor S R Dodds be duly elected as Chairman of the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Boards Scrutiny Sub-Group for the Council year 2017/18.

**COUNCILLOR S R DODDS IN THE CHAIR**

Councillor Dodds introduced herself and invited all those present to also introduce themselves to the meeting.

**2 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN**

The Chairman invited nominations for the role of Vice-Chairman of the Scrutiny Sub-Group for the Council year 2017/18. Councillor R L Foulkes was nominated and seconded and there were no other nominations.

2

**LINCOLNSHIRE SAFEGUARDING BOARDS SCRUTINY SUB-GROUP  
26 SEPTEMBER 2017**

RESOLVED

That Councillor R L Foulkes be duly elected as Vice-Chairman of the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Boards Scrutiny Sub-Group for the Council year 2017/18.

3 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE/REPLACEMENT MEMBERS

It was reported that apologies for absence had been received from Councillors Mrs W Bowkett and A P Maughan, Janice Spencer, Assistant Director, Children's Services and from David Culy, Lincolnshire Safeguarding Adults Board Business Manager.

It was also reported that Marc Jones, Police and Crime Commissioner for Lincolnshire, would be the Police and Crime Commissioner representative for this meeting in place of Malcolm Burch, Chief Executive, Lincolnshire Police and Crime Commissioner's Office.

4 DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

None were reported.

5 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE LINCOLNSHIRE SAFEGUARDING BOARDS SCRUTINY SUB-GROUP HELD ON 28 MARCH 2017

The meeting considered the minutes of the meeting held on 28 March 2017. It was recognised that the only member present on 28 March was Councillor S R Dodds. Councillor Dodds confirmed that the minutes were a correct record.

6 LINCOLNSHIRE SAFEGUARDING BOARDS SCRUTINY SUB GROUP INTRODUCTION AND TERMS OF REFERENCE

A report outlining the Sub-Group's role and Terms of Reference was presented by Simon Evans, Health Scrutiny Officer. The report highlighted the key focus of the Sub-Group to scrutinise the effectiveness of both the Adults and Children Boards and to satisfy itself that agencies were working together effectively to achieve clear goals. It was confirmed that minutes from meetings of the Sub-Group would subsequently be presented to the relevant County Council scrutiny committee as part of the published agenda for that meeting.

The membership of the Sub-Group was discussed and it was confirmed that a representative from a local NHS organisation had been nominated and that Mr Andrew Burton, South West Lincolnshire CCG, would be in attendance from the next meeting. It was also confirmed that efforts were still underway to identify a Foster Carer representative for the Sub-Group.

The value of the Sub-Group was recognised by those present and the unique nature of the Sub-Group within the world of scrutiny. The existence and flagship nature of the Sub-Group was welcomed by the Chairs of both the safeguarding boards.

**LINCOLNSHIRE SAFEGUARDING BOARDS SCRUTINY SUB-GROUP**  
**26 SEPTEMBER 2017**

Part of the role of members of the Sub-Group was to attend meetings of the two safeguarding boards. The importance of this activity was discussed and the clear benefit of being able to see the boards in action and to report back on board activity to the Sub-Group.

RESOLVED

The Sub-Group noted its Terms of Reference.

7 INTRODUCTION TO THE LINCOLNSHIRE SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD (LSCB)

The Sub-Group received a presentation from Clare Rowley, Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Board Business Manager and Chris Cook, Independent Chair of the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Board.

The presentation outlined the multi-agency membership of the Board and its overarching role to ensure that multi-agency services were effectively co-ordinated to safeguard all children in Lincolnshire. In addition to the many links already made by the Board it was confirmed that new links had been established with the Lincolnshire Football Association in light of recent national safeguarding cases that had been reported. It was recognised that maintaining a successful multi-agency approach was an on-going challenge but that through hard work and good communication this was achievable.

The role of the LSCB was explained in more detail and key functions highlighted were;

- Developing policies and procedures for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in Lincolnshire.
- Communicating to persons and bodies in Lincolnshire the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, raising their awareness of how this can best be done and encouraging them to do so.
- Monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of what is done by the authority and their Board partners individually and collectively.
- Participating in the planning of services for children in Lincolnshire.
- Undertaking reviews of serious cases and advising the authority and their Board partners on lessons to be learned.

National and local objectives for the period 2016-18 were set out including four specific local objectives to address Child Sexual Exploitation and emerging themes of abuse, to enhance the emotional wellbeing of young people, to promote healthy relationships and to work innovatively to reduce risk taking behaviours.

The meeting then considered the structure of the LSCB including the overarching Strategic Management Group and the Operational Delivery Group and the six subsidiary bodies that considered specific areas of child safeguarding. The challenge of maintaining proper separation between strategic and operational activity was recognised with some occasional overlap considered inevitable.

## LINCOLNSHIRE SAFEGUARDING BOARDS SCRUTINY SUB-GROUP 26 SEPTEMBER 2017

Members of the Sub-Group queried how the LSCB and its various structures were addressing emerging forms of abuse. Members were advised that both the Education Sub-Group and the Child Exploitation Sub-Group addressed concerns around 'virtual' abuse. In terms of PREVENT, the anti-radicalisation agenda, there were members of the PREVENT steering group sitting on a number of the Board structures and the work of the E-Safety Officer within schools was discussed. It was suggested that the E-Safety officer should be invited to a future meeting of the Sub-Group to describe their role and impact.

The presentation concluded with a look ahead to the future work of the LSCB and key priorities were;

- Budget setting for 2018/2019
- Business Planning for 2018-2021
- Audit Plan
- Policy Reviews
- Review of Multi-Agency Child Exploitation model.

The Sub-Group agreed that looked-after children were a group at potentially greatest risk and the Sub-Group was advised that discussions were already under-way between the LSCB Business Manager and the Corporate Parenting Manager about developing even stronger links in the future. The Sub-Group thanked both presenters for a very informative presentation.

### 8 INTRODUCTION TO THE LINCOLNSHIRE SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD (LSAB)

The Sub-Group received a presentation from Barry Earnshaw, Independent Chair of the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Adults Board.

The Sub-Group was advised that the LSAB was relatively new compared to the LSCB and that it had only come into existence as part of the recommendations within the Care Act 2014. The Care Act 2014 had defined an adult at risk if they;

- had needs for care and support (whether or not the local authority is meeting any of those needs) and;
- was experiencing, or at risk of, abuse or neglect; and
- as a result of those care and support needs was unable to protect themselves from either the risk of, or the experience of abuse or neglect.

The Care Act 2014 had also set out the three key core duties of an adults safeguarding board;

- To publish a strategic plan for each financial year that sets how it will meet its main objective and what the members will do to achieve this.
- To publish an annual report detailing what the SAB has done during the year to achieve its main objective and implement its strategic plan.
- To conduct any Safeguarding Adults Review.

**LINCOLNSHIRE SAFEGUARDING BOARDS SCRUTINY SUB-GROUP**  
**26 SEPTEMBER 2017**

The multi-agency nature of the LSAB was outlined along with the key roles played by Lincolnshire Police, the NHS and the County Council in promoting adult safeguarding across Lincolnshire. The LSAB structure was explained in more detail. In addition to the overarching Board, five subsidiary bodies existed below the Board itself to carry out the various adult safeguarding responsibilities.

The LSAB had itself established six strategic aims;

- Community: Improve public awareness of adult safeguarding
- Making Safeguarding Personal: Embed choice and control
- Collaboration: Improve cross partner information sharing
- Assurance: Confirm what we do makes a difference
- Workforce: Ensure a competent and capable workforce
- Prevention: Empowering people to safeguard themselves and others – promoting personal responsibility

Looking ahead reference was made to some of the emerging challenges within adult safeguarding including modern day slavery, PREVENT, domestic abuse, suicide and self-harm, self-neglect including hoarding and cyber-crime.

The Sub-Group recognised modern day slavery as a serious issue which had received considerable media attention following a recent major court case involving criminal activity in Lincolnshire. It was confirmed that there would be a review of the recent criminal convictions related to modern day slavery in the Lincolnshire area and that lessons learned and good practice established would be published to assist other police forces and local authorities locally and across the country.

Cyber-crime and scams were discussed and the risk to those who were already socially isolated. The Sub-Group highlighted the importance of public services continuing to offer face-to-face interaction to members of the public as this might be one of the only opportunities some people had for regular human interaction. The Sub-Group was advised that the Public Health team was currently exploring this issue and what could be done to improve the situation. It was also mentioned that as part of the STP (Sustainability and Transformation Plan) in Lincolnshire, the Neighbourhood Teams were piloting a 'self-care' approach in the Gainsborough area.

The safeguarding challenges faced by those adults with mental health conditions were also raised by members of the Sub-Group who were interested to know more about how mental health was factored into the safeguarding approach. The Sub-Group was advised that representatives from LPFT (Lincolnshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust – provider of specialist health services for people with learning disabilities and mental health problems) featured on both safeguarding boards. Reference was also made to the 'Toxic Trio' of domestic abuse, mental ill-health and substance abuse and how a combination of some or all of these factors presented a challenge both for adults and children's safeguarding.

The presentation concluded with a look ahead to future priorities in addition to the strategic aims and priorities set out above and these included;

## 6

### **LINCOLNSHIRE SAFEGUARDING BOARDS SCRUTINY SUB-GROUP 26 SEPTEMBER 2017**

- A review of front-end systems and processes
- Peer Review; Scrutiny, Challenge and Assurance role in respect of CQC Reports and STP;
- New LSAB Strategy 2018/19 – 2021/22;
- Sustainable SAB funding; supporting regional and national developments.

The Sub-Group was advised that the LSAB Annual Report 2016/17 had just been finalised and would be presented to the next meeting of the Sub-Group following approval at the LSAB meeting on 27 September 2017.

## 9 LINCOLNSHIRE SAFEGUARDING BOARDS SCRUTINY SUB GROUP - DATES OF MEETINGS AND WORK PROGRAMME

The Sub-Group considered a report outlining its future Work Programme which featured a list of standard items for each meeting. A revised list of standard items was agreed as follows;

- Key messages from the LSAB
- Safeguarding Adult Reviews
- Key messages from LSCB
- Serious Case Reviews
- Policy and Audit update

It was agreed that dates of meetings for the forthcoming year would be finalised shortly following discussions between the Chairman of the Sub-Group and the Health Scrutiny Officer. Volunteers from the Sub-Group would also be sought to attend the meetings of the LSCB and LSAB.

### RESOLVED

That the Work Programme of the Sub-Group be noted and that dates of future meetings be established and circulated shortly.

The meeting closed at 11.55 am

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

Report to:	<b>Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee</b>
Date:	<b>20 October 2017</b>
Subject:	<b>Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee Work Programme</b>

**Summary:**

This item enables the Committee to consider and comment on the content of its work programme for the coming year to ensure that scrutiny activity is focused where it can be of greatest benefit. Members are encouraged to highlight items that could be included for consideration in the work programme.

The work programme will be reviewed at each meeting of the Committee to ensure that its contents are still relevant and will add value to the work of the Council and partners.

**Actions Required:**

Members of the Committee are invited to:

- 1) Review and agree the Committee's work programme as set out in Appendix A to this report.
- 2) Highlight for discussion any additional scrutiny activity which could be included for consideration in the work programme.

### 1. Background

Overview and Scrutiny should be positive, constructive, independent, fair and open. The scrutiny process should be challenging, as its aim is to identify areas for improvement. Scrutiny activity should be targeted, focused and timely and include issues of corporate and local importance, where scrutiny activity can influence and add value.

Overview and scrutiny committees should not, as a general rule, involve themselves in relatively minor matters or individual cases, particularly where there are other processes, which can handle these issues more effectively.

All members of overview and scrutiny committees are encouraged to bring forward important items of community interest to the Committee whilst recognising that not all items will be taken up depending on available resource.

## **Purpose of Scrutiny Activity**

Set out below are the definitions used to describe the types of scrutiny, relating to the items on the Committee Work Programme:

Policy Development - The Committee is involved in the development of policy, usually at an early stage, where a range of options are being considered.

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.

Policy Review - The Committee is reviewing the implementation of policy, to consider the success, impact, outcomes and performance.

Performance Scrutiny - The Committee is scrutinising periodic performance, issue specific performance or external inspection reports.

Consultation - The Committee is responding to (or making arrangements to) respond to a consultation, either formally or informally. This includes pre-consultation engagement.

Budget Scrutiny - The Committee is scrutinising the previous year's budget, or the current year's budget or proposals for the future year's budget.

Member Report – The Committee is reviewing the work of the Sub-Groups or Working Groups.

Requests for specific items for information should be dealt with by other means, for instance briefing papers to members.

## **Identifying Topics**

Selecting the right topics where scrutiny can add value is essential in order for scrutiny to be a positive influence on the work of the Council. Members may wish to consider the following questions when highlighting potential topics for discussion to the Committee:-

- Will Scrutiny input add value?  
*Is there a clear objective for scrutinising the topic, what are the identifiable benefits and what is the likelihood of achieving a desired outcome?*
- Is the topic a concern to local residents?  
*Does the topic have a potential impact for one or more section(s) of the local population?*
- Is the topic a Council or partner priority area?  
*Does the topic relate to council corporate priority areas and is there a high level of budgetary commitment to the service/policy area?*

- Are there relevant external factors relating to the issue?  
*Is the topic a central government priority area or is it a result of new government guidance or legislation?*

## Scrutiny Review Activity

Where a topic requires more in-depth consideration, the Committee may commission a Scrutiny Panel to undertake a Scrutiny Review, subject to the availability of resources and approval of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board. The Committee may also establish a maximum of two working groups at any one time, comprising a group of members from the Committee.

Work Programme items on scrutiny review activity can include discussion on possible scrutiny review items; finalising the scoping for the review; consideration and approval of the final report; the response to the report; and monitoring outcomes of previous reviews.

## 2. Conclusion

The Committee's work programme for the coming year is attached at Appendix A to this report. A list of all upcoming Forward Plan decisions relating to the Committee is also attached at Appendix B.

Members of the Committee are invited to review, consider and comment on the work programme as set out in Appendix A and highlight for discussion any additional scrutiny activity which could be included for consideration in the work programme.

Consideration should be given to the items included in the work programme as well as any 'items to be programmed' listed.

## 3. Consultation

### a) Have Risks and Impact Analysis been carried out?

Not Applicable

### b) Risks and Impact Analysis

Not Applicable

## 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	Forward Plan of Decisions relating to the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee

## **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 by e-mail at [tracy.johnson@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:tracy.johnson@lincolnshire.gov.uk)

**CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

Chairman: Councillor Robert Foulkes

Vice Chairman: Councillor Robert Kendrick

<b>20 October 2017</b>		
<b>Item</b>	<b>Contributor</b>	<b>Purpose</b>
Sector-Led School Improvement Model - Presentation	Martin Smith Children's Service Manager - School Standards	Policy Review
Proposed Changes to Enhanced Resource Provision Units Supporting Children with Hearing Impairments	Andrew Hancy County Manager Business Support	Consultation / Policy Review
Lincolnshire Safeguarding Boards Scrutiny Sub-Group Update (26 September 2017 minutes)	Cllr Sarah Dodds Chairman of the Sub Group	Member Report
Corporate Parenting Sub-Group Update (21 September 2017 minutes)	Cllr David Brailsford Chairman of the Sub Group	Member Report

<b>1 December 2017</b>		
<b>Item</b>	<b>Contributor</b>	<b>Purpose</b>
Supported Accommodation for Looked After Children	Janice Spencer Assistant Director – Children's Safeguarding	Pre-Decision Scrutiny (TBC)
A Proposed Future Model of SEN Provision from Lincolnshire Special Schools	Eileen McMorro Senior Project Officer SEND Review	Pre-Decision Scrutiny / Consultation (Executive decision on 5 December 2017)
0-19 Public Health Nursing	Sally Savage Chief Commissioning Officer – Children's	Performance Scrutiny
Lincolnshire Music Service	John O'Connor Children's Services Manager: Education Support  Jen McKie Senior Music Adviser Lincolnshire Music Service	Policy Review
Theme Performance: Quarter 2	Sally Savage Chief Commissioning Officer – Children's	Performance Scrutiny

<b>19 January 2018</b>		
<b>Item</b>	<b>Contributor</b>	<b>Purpose</b>
Budget Proposals 2018/19	Debbie Barnes Executive Director of Children's Services	Budget Scrutiny
Proposed Changes to Enhanced Resource Provision Units Supporting Children with Hearing Impairments	Andrew Hancy County Manager Business Support	Pre-Decision Scrutiny (Executive Councillor decision on 2 February 2018)
Corporate Parenting Sub- Group Update (7 December 2017 minutes)	Cllr David Brailsford Chairman of the Sub Group	Member Report
Early Years Childcare Provision	Michelle Andrews Children's Service Manager – Early Years	Policy Review
Inclusive Lincolnshire Strategy	Mary Meredith Children's Service Manager - Inclusion	Policy Review

<b>9 March 2018</b>		
<b>Item</b>	<b>Contributor</b>	<b>Purpose</b>
Proposal to amend the age ranges of Grainthorpe Primary School and Marshchapel Primary School (Final Decision)	Matthew Clayton Admissions and Education Provision Manager	Pre-Decision Scrutiny (Executive Councillor decision 23 March 2018)
Lincolnshire Local Authority School Performance 2016-17	Martin Smith Children's Service Manager - School Standards	Performance Scrutiny
Restorative Panels Pilot	Andy Cook Youth Offending Manager	Policy Review
Partners in Practice	Tara Jones Children's Service Manager – Partners in Practice	Policy Review
Lincolnshire Safeguarding Boards Scrutiny Sub- Group Update (January 2018 minutes)	Cllr Sarah Dodds Chairman of the Sub Group	Member Report
Theme Performance: Quarter 3	Sally Savage Chief Commissioning Officer – Children's	Performance Scrutiny

<b>20 April 2018</b>		
<b>Item</b>	<b>Contributor</b>	<b>Purpose</b>
Prevent and the Implications for Children and Young People	Nicole Hilton Community Assets and Resilience Commissioning Manager	Policy Development
Corporate Parenting Sub-Group Update (15 March 2018 minutes)	Cllr David Brailsford Chairman of the Sub Group	Member Report

<b>8 June 2018</b>		
<b>Item</b>	<b>Contributor</b>	<b>Purpose</b>
A Proposed Future Model of SEN Provision from Lincolnshire Special Schools	Eileen McMorrow Senior Project Officer SEND Review	Pre-Decision Scrutiny (Executive Councillor decision TBC)
Lincolnshire Safeguarding Boards Scrutiny Sub-Group Update (April 2018 minutes)	Cllr Sarah Dodds Chairman of the Sub Group	Member Report
Theme Performance: Quarter 4	Sally Savage Chief Commissioning Officer – Children's	Performance Scrutiny

<b>20 July 2018</b>		
<b>Item</b>	<b>Contributor</b>	<b>Purpose</b>
Corporate Parenting Sub-Group Update (14 June 2018 minutes)	Cllr David Brailsford Chairman of the Sub Group	Member Report

### **To be programmed**

- School funding and the impact of the National Funding Formula implementations
- Lincolnshire Learning Partnership (LLP) Strategic Plan and Impact Evaluation
- Home to School Transport Policy including post 16 transport and grammar school transport (The outcome of the scrutiny review in 2016 on Grammar School Transport was to reconsider the current policy in two years' time.)
- Education including educational policy updates and the impact in Lincolnshire's schools; monitoring the changing position and how the Local Authority is fulfilling its responsibilities; relationship with academies; school improvement; overview of academies and maintained schools; and small rural schools
- Significant place planning and school reorganisation
- Safeguarding children and social care work
- Supported accommodation
- Educational progress of Looked After Children (LAC), including electronic Personal Education Plans (ePEPs)
- Post Adoption Support
- Support for foster carers

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](mailto:tracy.johnson@lincolnshire.gov.uk)

**FORWARD PLAN OF DECISIONS RELATING TO CHILDREN'S SERVICES FROM 3 OCTOBER 2017**

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
I014445 New!	Proposal to amend the age ranges of Grainthorpe Primary School and Marshchapel Primary School (Decision to go to Statutory Notice)	29 November 2017	Executive Councillor: Adult Care, Health and Children's Services	Interested parties as DfE guidance including parents; school staff; neighbouring schools; County and District Councils; MPs; Trade Unions and Diocese	Report	Admissions and Education Provision Manager Tel: 01522 553535 Email: matthew.clayton@lincolnshire.gov.uk	Executive Councillor: Adult Care, Health and Children's Services and Executive Director of Children's Services	No	Saltfleet and the Cotes; Louth North; Louth South