



In accordance with the powers granted by the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 this will be a virtual meeting.

CORPORATE PARENTING PANEL

THURSDAY, 11 MARCH 2021 at 10.00 AM
as a VIRTUAL - ONLINE MEETING VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS

Access to the meeting is as follows:

Members of the Corporate Parenting Panel and officers of the County Council supporting the meeting will access the meeting via Microsoft Teams.

Members of the public and the press may access the meeting via the following link:

<https://lincolnshire.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=647&MId=5847> where a live feed will be made available on the day of the meeting.

MEMBERSHIP

Lincolnshire County Council:

Councillors D Brailsford (Chairman), Clio Perraton-Williams (Vice-Chairman), R L Foulkes, A G Hagues, Mrs J E Killey, R H Trollope-Bellew and M A Whittington

Added Members (non-voting):

Polly Coombes, Ann Wright, Amy-Louise Butler and Elizabeth Bunney

AGENDA

Item	Title	Pages
1	Apologies for Absence/Replacement Members	
2	Declarations of Members Interests	
3	Minutes of the meeting held on 14 January 2021	3 - 10
4	Announcements by the Chairman, Executive Councillor and Lead Officers	

- 5** **Voices for Choices (V4C) Update Report** 11 - 20
(To receive a report by Ben Lilley, Team Manager (Quality and Standards), which provides a summary and overview of activities and meetings undertaken between October 2020 and January 2021)
- 6** **Children in Care Performance Measures - Quarter 3 2020/21 (October to December 2020)** 21 - 40
(To receive a report by Janice Spencer, Assistant Director – Children's Safeguarding, which provides key performance information for Quarter 3 2020/21 which is relevant to the work of the Corporate Parenting Panel)
- 7** **Long-Term Mental Health of Children in Care in England Research Project** 41 - 76
(To receive a report from Janice Spencer, Assistant Director – Children's Safeguarding, which provides an overview of the Long-term Mental Health of Children in Care in England research project to date and planned future phases)
- 8** **Fostering Quarterly Performance Report - Quarter 3** 77 - 88
(To receive a report by John Harris, Head of Regulated Services (Fostering and LAC North), which provides an overview of activity within the Fostering Service over Quarter 3)
- 9** **Corporate Parenting Panel Work Programme** 89 - 92
(To receive a report by Tracy Johnson, Senior Scrutiny Officer, which enables the Panel 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)

Distributed on Wednesday, 3 March 2021

Should you have any queries on the arrangements for this meeting, please contact Rachel Wilson via telephone 07796 994874 or alternatively via email at rachel.wilson@lincolnshire.gov.uk



CORPORATE PARENTING PANEL 14 JANUARY 2021

PRESENT: COUNCILLOR D BRAILSFORD (CHAIRMAN)

Lincolnshire County Council: Councillors Clio Perraton-Williams (Vice-Chairman), R L Foulkes, A G Hagues, Mrs J E Killey, R H Trollope-Bellew and M A Whittington

Added Members: Polly Coombes (Foster Carer), Ann Wright (Foster Carer) and Elizabeth Bunney (Lincolnshire Community Health Services)

Officers in attendance:-

Amy Allcock (Senior Commissioning Officer), Kieran Barnes (Virtual School Head Teacher), Bridie Fletcher (Commissioning Officer), John Harris (Head of Regulated Services - Fostering), Nick Harrison (Democratic Services Officer), Katrina Hewitt (Project Officer Participation Team, Young Inspectors), Andrew Morris (Corporate Parenting Manager), Yvonne Shearwood (Children's Service Manager - Regulated (South and Adoption)), Janice Spencer OBE (Assistant Director of Children's Services Safeguarding) and Nigel West (Head of Democratic Services and Statutory Scrutiny Officer)

Also in attendance Lisa Adams (Service Manager, Barnardos), Jenny Harper (NHS Lincolnshire CCG) and Kerry Mitchell (Assistant Director Barnardo's (Lincolnshire)) attended the meeting as observers

(Councillor Perraton-Williams in the Chair in the temporary absence of the Chairman, Councillor D Brailsford who had experienced IT connection issues)

37 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE/REPLACEMENT MEMBERS

An apology for absence was received from Susan Ombler, Deputy Director of Nursing for Lincolnshire Community Health Service.

38 DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Councillor M A Whittington wished it to be noted that his son was in receipt of support from Barnardo's.

39 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 26 NOVEMBER 2020

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting held on 26 November 2020 be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

**40 ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE CHAIRMAN, EXECUTIVE COUNCILLOR
AND LEAD OFFICERS**

(Councillor D Brailsford in the Chair)

The Chairman referred to minute 30 from the last meeting (Regulation 44 Independent Visiting Service) and requested that reference to 'the Fire Houses in Grantham' be known going forward as homes on Denton Avenue and not as 'the Fire Houses' which the Panel agreed to.

41 CHANGES TO THE INITIAL HEALTH ASSESSMENT

The Panel received an oral update from Gemma Cross, Lincolnshire Community Health Services NHS Trust and Jenny Harper, NHS Lincolnshire CCG, in relation to changes to the conduction of Initial Health Assessments and the developments put in place to mitigate these.

It had been reported at the last meeting that prior to the end of 2019, alternative ways of completing Initial Health assessments had been looked at and a proposal had been made for it to be a nurse led service and a paper was put together, however, this process was interrupted by Covid-19. Due to this GP's were no longer able to carry out these assessments, and so permission was sought for nurses to carry out these assessments by telephone, some face to face appointments took place during September and October, but now all assessments were back to telephone only and audited by the CCG. These processes, despite the CCG, had been challenged by Leicester and Nottinghamshire for being outside operational guidance and their view was that children should be seen face to face by GP's Guidance from the Royal Colleges also supported GP face to face assessments.

The Panel recognised the stresses the NHS was currently experiencing and that reports suggested that the nurse led process had achieved good outcomes for children and that this was the most important issue. The difficulties with the GP assessments were recognised especially during a pandemic. It was noted that the schools vaccination programme had experienced delays due to the pandemic.

Local authorities had been involved in discussions and a plan of action going forward had been drafted. Nurses would continue to undertake health and wellbeing checks and would ensure children received their health assessments in time. All those who had received a nurse led assessment had received a follow up call to check on their health. An evaluation of the nurse led model was currently being drafted and would be submitted to a future Panel meeting.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

42 COMMISSIONING EXCELLENCE: MEETING THE SUFFICIENCY DUTY
2018-2022 ANNUAL UPDATE

Consideration was given to a report from the Commissioning Manager – Commercial, on an annual update to the Action Plan of the Looked After Children Placement Sufficiency Strategy – 'Commissioning Excellence: Meeting the Sufficiency Duty 2018-2022'.

Section 22G of the Children Act 1989, and the Statutory Guidance on Securing Sufficient Accommodation for Looked After Children (2010), placed a duty on Local Authorities to act strategically to address gaps in provision by ensuring that they included, in relevant commissioning strategies, their plans for meeting the sufficiency duty. The Strategy had been signed off by the Corporate Parenting Sub Group in December 2017 with the recommendation to report annually on progress against the Action Plan (Appendix A of the report). The Corporate Parenting Panel was invited to discuss and endorse the updated content of the Action Plan which outlined 39 actions and commented on what was working well, what the concerns were and what needs to happen in relation to each one.

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

- A member noted that there was a shortage of one bedroom accommodation and suggested officers look at whether military bases could be used which officers undertook to consider whether this was an option.
- It was suggested that there should be a national approach to Council Tax relief / exemption being given to care leavers. It was noted that there were plans for the Government to produce a document on this. The Panel requested an update on this to a future meeting.
- Discussion took place on the average age of people undertaking foster care which was 53 and it was noted that generally most carers fell into the 50 to 70 age bracket and that in the past the role had been seen as a life choice. Nowadays it was not uncommon for carers to come forward offering limited capacity with a view that it was not a life choice.
- There was a national shortage of foster carers, with 8000 places required.
- It was noted that the digital offer of keeping in touch and training, in particular had been vital during the pandemic and that the success of these processes would be reviewed. One notable success had been increased participation. Although virtual and remote learning had been advantageous and a good substitute, it was seen as an additional option and not a replacement for face to face feedback from young people going forward. A blended approach was seen as the most likely proposition in the future.

RESOLVED:

- 1) That the updated Action Plan for the Sufficiency Strategy be supported and endorsed;

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- 2) The comments made by members, and outlined above, be considered by the Officers and where appropriate be reported back on to the Panel.

43 LINCOLNSHIRE VIRTUAL SCHOOL ANNUAL REPORT 2019-2020

Consideration was given to a report from the Virtual School Headteacher, on an overview of services provided by the Virtual School to support the improvement of educational outcomes of Children in Care and those Previously in Care for the academic year 2019/20). The report covered the period 1 September 2019 to 31 August 2020.

The Department for Education (DfE) Statutory Guidance on Promoting The Education of Looked after Children and Previously Looked After Children (DfE 2018) required an annual report on the delivery of service and the outcomes achieved by children in care. In addition, the Local Authority (LA) required an annual report to provide a summary of the core activities relating to improving educational outcomes for Children in Care.

The Corporate Parenting Panel was asked to accept the Annual Report 2019/20 as an accurate reflection of services provided for Children in Care and support the recommendations contained within the report. These were outlined as follows:-

'The Virtual School would continue to promote improving educational outcomes for children and young people as outlined in the Lincolnshire Looked after Children and Care Leavers Strategy 2018-2021.

1. The Virtual School continue to ensure that all Personal Education Plans (PEPS) were high quality and effective with children's services staff, carers, children and schools working effectively and in partnership to promote wellbeing and learning. That the work of the Virtual School Team focus on supporting our children and young people to access effective support as we emerge from the Covid Emergency.

2. Children's Services to continue to develop a highly skilled, effective and innovative workforce across Lincolnshire focused upon improving educational outcomes for children and young people in care and to ensure that we build on the opportunities presented in the recent crisis in our work to fulfil our statutory duties in our extended role to support previously looked after children.

3. That we continue to develop an emotional wellbeing pathway to promote selfconfidence and support academic progress so that our children and young people are better understood and supported to fulfil their potential'.

Members were provided with the opportunity to ask questions to the officers present and some of the points raised included the following:

- The Panel welcomed the report and thanked all those staff involved in the service.
- There was no evidence of looked after children being excluded from schools for not being able to access a laptop. Laptops were being issued by schools and it was thought that the majority of them had some access to an electronic

learning device and that this situation was likely to improve in the coming months.

- It was thought that teachers were doing an excellent job under challenging circumstances and that according to reports most children had responded well to online learning. It was thought likely that the coming months would not be any less challenging. It was suggested that where possible a face to face meeting with a Form Teacher could be helpful as part of a general check on pupil progress and wellbeing. It was reported that this was already in practice in some schools either face to face or via VC.
- The broadband signal in some rural areas was a concern but was not seen as a major issue. Schools were working together to provide free data where possible.

RESOLVED: The Annual Report be accepted as an accurate reflection of services provided for Children in Care and supported the recommendations contained therein and outlined above.

44 YOUNG INSPECTORS PROJECT UPDATE

Consideration was given to a report from the Project Officer Lincolnshire Young Inspectors, on a summary and overview of activities with regard to Lincolnshire Young Inspectors project.

Young Inspectors was a Lincolnshire County Council (LCC) project that comprised of young people from across the County aged between 11 and 19 (25 if they had any Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) or were care-leavers) who volunteered to undertake inspections to offer feedback and evaluation. The Young Inspectors project gave young people positive opportunities and support to become active volunteers. By carrying out various types of Inspections of services used by young people across the County, Young Inspectors helped to improve the services offered in order to promote active change in order to benefit other young people, children and families.

The report outlined the project structure, completed inspection work in 2020 planned inspection work in 2021, and detailed other work carried out. Services and had a good number of volunteers actively engaging. It was noted that the project had produced a number of successful inspection reports which had promoted positive change. This had proved challenging during 2020 amidst the restriction of Covid-19 but the group had met regularly in order to sustain momentum and participation.

Members were provided with the opportunity to ask questions to the officers present and some of the points raised included the following:

- It was noted that Young Inspectors was a nationwide project and that there was some liaison between authorities about best practice.
- The development of a training day and induction were under review with consideration given to former Inspectors being invited to share their experiences in a peer led approach.

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- There had been some logistical challenges in inspecting children's centres. About 50% of centres had been inspected and consideration was being given to revisiting those centres inspected to share findings.
- Following a member suggestion, officers would look at whether it was possible to widen links to other organisations including Cub Scouts, sports clubs and the Air Cadets for example.
- Meetings were normally held in Lincoln or Grantham, and occasionally Boston, and it was suggested that these should be broadened out to include areas on the east coast, staff resources permitting.
- It was suggested that Young Inspectors should be invited to review and add questions to the Council's Tell Us Survey.

RESOLVED:

- 1) That the report be noted
- 2) That officers consider the comments made by the Panel as outlined above.

45 LINCOLNSHIRE LEAVING CARE - SIX MONTHLY UPDATE REPORT

Consideration was given to a report from the Service Manager, Barnardo's Leaving Care Services, on a six monthly update provided by Barnardo's on behalf of Lincolnshire Leaving Care Service for April - September 2020. Areas covered within the report included: Barnardo's Response to Covid; Accessing and maintaining suitable, safe accommodation; Accessing and maintaining appropriate Education, Employment and Training opportunities; Compliments and Complaints; staffing establishment from April 2020.

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

- The Panel welcomed the comprehensive and informative report.
- Links had been developed with housing teams and Housing Associations to discuss protocols and priorities.
- It was noted that at the beginning of 2020 negotiations had commenced with Serco who had provided a number of job opportunities across the region in partnership with the County Council. A 'Care Leavers Mentoring Scheme' had been developed and launched and currently had five young people benefitting from working with a mentor from Serco. It was suggested that consideration should be given to looking into whether it would be possible to include the University of Lincoln in the scheme. The scheme was currently a Pilot and would be reviewed shortly. It was hoped that the scheme could include as many companies and agencies as possible.

(Councillor M Whittington gave his apologies and left at this point in the meeting)

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

46 LONG-TERM MENTAL HEALTH OF CHILDREN IN CARE IN ENGLAND RESEARCH PROJECT

The report from the Inspections and Special Projects Officer, on an overview of the Long-term Mental Health of Children in Care in England research project to date and planned future phases was deferred to a future meeting.

47 FOSTERING QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE REPORT QUARTER 2

Consideration was given to a report from the Children's Services Manager, on an overview of activity within the fostering service over Quarter 2.

It was noted that the development of the virtual foster care community, via Caring2Learn (C2L), had created a model for the future and additional payments had been made, to both value the work of foster carers and promote placement stability. Despite this, and reflective of the demography of foster carers within the County, up to 83 foster placements had been lost during the Covid pandemic as a result of self-isolation and vulnerabilities. At the end of Quarter 2, the number of children in care had continued to rise to 662. At the same time, those placed with Independent Fostering agencies had risen to 33, four of whom were unaccompanied migrant children. Amongst this group were two children placed who had waited for a long term placement for in excess of six months. 72 children became looked after for the first time in this quarter, of these 49 were placed in foster care.

The report covered information on recruitment and retention, marketing, virtual information events, a permanence campaign, the fostering friendly project, Retention / Caring2Learn / Our World Magazine, family finding training, kinship, Caring 2 Learn and assessments. The report also commented on what had worked well and what were the areas of concern.

In conclusion it was noted that Covid-19 had presented as some foster carers took themselves off line due to their own health vulnerabilities. As a result placement stability in this quarter had continued to be strong but placement availability had resulted in an increase in placements sought within the independent sector. The increase in care plans for permanent fostering had represented one of the most significant challenges for the Directorate as the number of plans continued to grow, whilst the recruitment of permanent foster carers remained worryingly low. Caring2learn continued to create the Foster care community and had established itself as a core framework for delivering the fostering service.

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

- The toolkit for new carers, which included the standards from the Training Standards Development (TSD), had been well received. These were starting to come in for assessment resulting in carers receiving a Learning Homes Award with an expectation to resubmit a portfolio every three years to ensure on going personal and professional development. It was requested that the

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criteria for the assessments and Award be circulated to the Panel for information.

- Councillor R Foulkes volunteered to contact the Editor of the 'Stamford Living' publication with a view to discussing a possible article on fostering, following liaison with the dedicated media officer in the Fostering Service.
- It was noted that private fostering agencies used similar scrutiny and approval processes. Independent agencies were far more active in Lincolnshire and were able to offer a higher remuneration. It was reported that financial remuneration was not on its own a long term motivator in foster caring, especially as needs were often complex and the role was 24/7.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted and accepted as an accurate overview of the Fostering Service.

48 CORPORATE PARENTING PANEL WORK PROGRAMME

Consideration was given to a report which provided the Panel with the opportunity to consider its work programme for the coming year to ensure that scrutiny activity was focused where it could be of greatest benefit.

The Head of Democratic Services and Statutory Scrutiny Officer, confirmed that he would re include the item deferred earlier in the meeting in the work programme - Long-term Mental Health of Children in Care in England Research Project. Consideration would also be given to the suggestion that the Panel should receive a report at a future meeting on its work over the last few years, including the improvements to services it had agreed to and any challenges faced.

The Chairman thanked Ryan Goodyear, IT, for resolving his connection issues during the meeting.

RESOLVED: That the work programme be noted as amended above.

The meeting closed at 12.42 pm



**Open Report on behalf of Heather Sandy,
Executive Director - Children's Services**

Report to:	Corporate Parenting Panel
Date:	11 March 2021
Subject:	Voices for Choices (V4C) Update Report

Summary:

This report gives a summary and overview of:

- Activities with regard to V4C between October 2020 – January 2021;
- Future V4C planning and progress, including consulting with children and young people within our residential settings; and
- soundLINCS V4C music sessions for children and young people.

V4C is Lincolnshire's Children in Care Council with the aim being to share experiences of being looked after in Lincolnshire and to inform teams who support Children in Care what does and does not work for them. V4C meetings are held within Children's Services locality quadrants and are delivered by Senior Youth and Community Development Workers and supported by Children's Services Participation Officers.

Actions Required:

The Corporate Parenting Panel is invited to provide comment and steer regarding:

1. V4C activities and meetings undertaken within the reporting period.
2. Future planning and delivery of V4C meetings and activities.

1. Background

V4C delivery October 2020 – January 2021

During this reporting period, due to the on-going restrictions and unavailability of physical activities and meetings, V4C and engagement activities have continued to be delivered, and attempted to be delivered, remotely via the Zoom platform.

The details below provide a summary of virtual V4C sessions and attendances by locality:

Lincoln and West Lindsey

Date of meeting	Venue	Number of young people attended
3 October 2020	Zoom meeting	3
12 October 2020	Northolme Children's Home	6
29 October 2020	Holiday activities	4
5 November 2020	Zoom meeting	2
3 December 2020	Zoom meeting	1
3 December 2020	Zoom meeting	1
3 December 2020	Phone call 1-2-1	1

During this period, V4C delivery staff visited Northolme Children's Residential Home in Gainsborough to speak with and engage directly with the children and young people, with the result being that four of the residents participated in V4C activities in October and fed back that they enjoyed the sessions. However, due to Coronavirus infections among staff within the home after this, it was not possible for the meetings to continue after November and this has since been on hold, with planning now taking place to hopefully resume. Meetings in January have proved difficult to gain engagement with four young people feeding back they have moved onto college and have other commitments. Feedback from children at Northolme has been that they would like to return to physical activity based meetings.

October Holiday Activity:

A V4C activity session was held at Wild Pines Park in Market Rasen. Numbers able to attend were limited due to Covid-19 restrictions but four young people participated in and enjoyed undertaking archery and a rope course: <https://www.wildpinespark.com/>

Boston and South Holland

Attendances within the Boston and South Holland locality are below, with regular weekly meetings and some good levels of attendance and engagement:

Date of meeting	Venue	Number YP Attended
7 October 2020	Zoom	8
14 October 2020	Zoom	8
28 October 2020	Zoom	8
4 November 2020	Zoom	7
11 November 2020	Zoom	8
18 November 2020	Zoom	8
25 November 2020	Zoom	8
2 December 2020	Zoom	8
9 December 2020	Zoom	10
16 December 2020	Zoom	9
13 January 2021	Zoom	6
20 January 2021	Zoom	7
27 January 2021	Zoom	8

The young people are still enjoying their weekly V4C sessions and would like it to continue running weekly. There is a consistent group of young people who attend every week and the number of young people is similar each week.

The sessions are taking place over Zoom and consist of crafts, quizzes, sport and bingo activities. The young people receive packs which contain the resources for that month along with a programme of what activities will occur and when. The programme also tells the young people what is included in their packs and what resources they will need from home.

In October, the young people created Halloween themed crafts including pony bead pumpkins and Halloween stain glass. They also participated in bingo and had a night playing the Name that Emoji game.

In November there was a Remembrance Day craft where they created a poppy cross stitch and other activities included bingo and quiz night which the young people always enjoy. During the Remembrance Day session on 11 November, staff facilitated a conversation about Remembrance Day. Staff shared a video called The Poppy Story which is a book animation. The young people had seen the video previously and recited the In Flanders Fields poem alongside the video. Two young people knew this Poem from Scouts and saluted during the recital which was a lovely moment. The last craft of the month was Christmas themed and the young people created an advent calendar to be used throughout December.



December consisted of lots more Christmas activities including a Christmas quiz, Christmas tree decorations and Christmas wreaths. On the final session of the year, the young people had a Christmas party which included Christmas bingo, quiz and Christmas songs. They also received a little extra in their packs including Christmas chocolates and notebook as well as Christmas dress up items (Elf hat and masks!).



Andrew Garbutt from the Participation Team joined the group for some consultation on the Tell Us Survey. The young people gave their views on whether the questions made sense, the language was understandable and if there were any

other questions which should be asked. That session was followed by 30 minutes of physical activity to keep the young people on their toes! The rest of the month's activities consisted of bingo and quiz.

On 3 February 2021, the South Holland and Boston V4C group delivered an additional session alongside the Lincolnshire Youth Commission regarding a Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) consultation that is on-going. Two young people from V4C attended this session – one male, 17 years old and one female, just turned 18 years old. Claudia James, Project Coordinator for the Lincolnshire Youth Commission, facilitated the session supported by three young people from the Lincolnshire Youth Commission. The discussion surrounded night-time safety and relationships with the Police and they gained detailed responses from the two V4C young people. The Co-ordinator fed back that they were very impressed with the contribution of the young people and also their confidence, which has grown through V4C involvement. This is a great example of partnership working and young people participating and giving their views to inform change.

North and South Kesteven

Date of meeting	Venue	Number of Young People Attended
8 October 2020	Zoom	1:1
8 October 2020	Zoom	1:1
20 October 2020	Zoom	1:1
21 October 2020	Telephone	1:1
26 October 2020	Activity Venue	1:1
17 November 2020	Zoom	1:1
17 November 2020	Zoom	1:1
18 December 2020	Zoom	1:1
19 January 2021	Zoom	2:1
20 January 2021	Zoom	1:1

Young people in the North and South Kesteven quadrant requested that they had 1:1 meetings on zoom rather than group meetings. Meetings were scheduled on either a weekly or fortnightly basis, using the meetings to check in with young people and ensure they were ok. Discussions have focussed on how young people are coping with the changes in local lockdown situations and schooling, alongside looking at the Kooth (counselling support) website and updating young people on the changes and progress of the Language that Care's and Lincolnshire Caring Promise work.

East Lindsey

Virtual meetings have been difficult to progress in East Lindsey. Feedback from young people has been that they prefer telephone check-ins, and these have been happening. There are five young people and two older young people from Barnardo's Leaving Care Service who are having individual contacts with the worker delivering V4C but group Zoom sessions, when attempted, have not resulted in engagement.

V4C Virtual soundLINCS Programme

The soundLINCS music project was established to enable young people from the V4C groups to take part in an activity to support their health and wellbeing during the summer.

The project consisted of three different sessions, over a number of dates, delivered by soundLINCS and/or Participation and Youth Work staff:

- Rhymes and Beats
- Learning to play the Ukulele
- Electronic Music Production

Each session had a maximum number of four young people to ensure each person had quality time and got the most out of the activity. Sessions were held from the end of August to early October with 38 children and young people attending, with details given in the previous V4C Corporate Parenting Panel Report.

Feedback from the sessions has been very positive, with young people requesting further sessions.

As a result a second phase of soundLincs V4C workshops has been developed and has operated since October 2020 through to January 2021. Following consultation with young people, the content of the sessions delivered, during evening sessions, has been:

- Rhyme and Beats
- Learn to Play the Ukulele
- Electronic Music Production

Attendances are shown below with good engagement from the young people:

Date of meeting	Venue	Number of young people attended
06.10.20 session 1	Zoom	2
06.10.20 session 2	Zoom	1
03.12.20 session 1	Zoom	5
03.12.20 session 2	Zoom	3
10.12.20 session 1	Zoom	5
10.12.20 session 2	Zoom	1
07.01.20 session 1	Zoom	4
07.01.20 session 2	Zoom	2
17.01.21 session 1	Zoom	3
17.01.21 session 2	Zoom	2
14.01.21 session 2	Zoom	4
14.01.21 session 2	Zoom	1
21.01.21 session 1	Zoom	4
21.01.21 session 2	Zoom	2

Further communication regarding more sessions (see Appendix A for an example of information sent out) are in place for February and March and have been filled, with 20 sessions overall (two on each date below):

Electronic Music Production	Mon 22 February	Mon 1 March	Mon 8 March	Mon 15 March	Mon 22 March
Beats & Rhymes	Thurs 25 February	Thurs 4 March	Thurs 11 March	Thurs 18 March	Thurs 25 March

V4C Planning

Action planning has taken place that seeks to establish the return to face to face delivery dependent on potential different levels of restrictions and what can be safely achieved in working towards face to face delivery. This includes making considerations and planning regarding:

- potential venues where V4C could be delivered
- options of activities that could be delivered or externally commissioned
- delivery of bespoke sessions for children in residential settings including potential delivery within homes settings

The following actions are taking place to develop and encourage engagement and participation from children and young people:

- Participation Team staff visiting children and staff in the residential homes to consult on what they would like future V4C sessions and delivery to look like, with a possible option to deliver sessions within the homes.
- Questionnaires are being circulated to get feedback from young people on the content and delivery of future V4C sessions.
- Planning to continue with the option of providing virtual V4C meetings in addition to physical meetings and activities when they resume. This will help to offer V4C for young people who are unable or do not wish to attend physical meetings.
- Home addresses of the children and young people have been analysed so there is an understanding of where best to focus future locations of possible meetings to be most easily accessed for transport.
- Developing a new plan of participation activities for children and young people to feedback on within meetings.
- On-going communication via V4C and foster carers newsletters, Facebook and communications to teams.
- Planning is being undertaken to arrange a film of V4C young people to talk about language and their views which will be shared with staff to raise awareness.

The aim is to re-establish face to face V4C meetings in risk assessed formats and delivery locations when possible. Further discussions directly with children and young people will take place to help understand and ensure V4C sessions are engaging and address any barriers to engagement.

2. Conclusions

A) Delivery of V4C meetings and sessions has taken place virtually via Zoom since the spring time. This report evidences that virtual delivery remains inconsistent in terms of successful engagement with children and young people. The Youth Development Workers in the Boston and South Holland quadrant (Charli Morley and Amy Davies) continue to deliver innovative and fun activities on a very regular basis which has achieved excellent engagement and feedback. The Lincoln and West Lindsey quadrant has also maintained engagement and staff have linked with Northolme Children's Residential Home. Although attendances have declined in January it is hoped this picks up into February.

However, the North and South Kesteven and East Lindsey quadrants report repeated difficulties in obtaining children and young people's willingness to engage in the virtual meetings. These on-going difficulties will be explored further to understand reasons why engagement is limited through discussions with young people and staff from the Eastgate Residential Home.

B) Feedback from the soundLINCS music programme for V4C members provides a further example that virtual delivery of activities can be successful and engaging. As a result, extended sessions have been arranged with soundLINCS as feedback has shown young people would be interested in further music based activities.

C) As stated in the previous report to the Panel, virtual V4C meetings have been popular among certain young people. They offer a different mechanism for them to communicate, engage and give their views. Some young people prefer this method to physical meetings. It also enables participation where young people are unable to travel to certain locations. It is therefore recommended that these options of meetings continue in some form when physical meetings resume.

D) Planning will now continue to establish a format for face to face V4C meetings to resume.

3. Consultation

a) Risks and Impact Analysis

Risk assessments are carried out via the Senior Youth and Community Development Workers.

4. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	V4C Music Flyer

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 Ben Lilley, Team Manager (Quality and Standards), who can be contacted on 07876 212470 or at ben.lilley@lincolnshire.gov.uk



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**Open Report on behalf of Heather Sandy,
Executive Director – Children's Services**

Report to:	Corporate Parenting Panel
Date:	11 March 2021
Subject:	Children in Care Performance Measures - Quarter 3 2020/21 (October to December 2020)

Summary:

The accompanying appendix to this report provides key performance information for Quarter 3 2020/21 that is relevant to the work of the Corporate Parenting Panel.

Actions Required:

The Corporate Parenting Panel is invited to review and comment on the performance information contained in the appendices of this report and recommend any actions or changes to the Executive Councillor for Adult Care, Health and Children's Services.

1. Background

Appendix A provides a full and detailed report that covers the measures that are relevant to Children in Care used by Children's Services. This is available for questions.

There are 14 measures in total that relate to Children in Care that are reported on in Quarter 3. Of these measures, seven are outside of the target set by the services. These are:

Fostering/Adoption of Looked After Children aged 10 to 16 year olds

This performance remains under target. The vast majority of children looked after within this age group are placed in foster care settings but this has been impacted by the pandemic as placement options have been reduced as a result of foster carers shielding and unable to take additional placements. However, there has been an increase in the number of younger children in residential placements in the past year. These are often children who have experienced a number of foster placement moves who struggle to adhere to the expectations of living in a family. Residential care has provided a nurturing environment for this group and has enabled them to settle. There has also been a concentrated focus on reunifying children with their birth families this year and some of this group are awaiting revocation of their care orders.

Stability of Placements of Looked After Children: Number of Moves

This is a cumulative indicator identifying those children who experience three placement moves. The target is challenging and slipped under target last year, although our performance is generally better than other East Midlands authorities where an average of 10% of looked after children experienced three placement moves in a year. At this stage performance remains good, but this is a cumulative indicator and may change at year end. The year has been challenging for all children but foster carers have proven to be very resourceful and committed to the children they care for. However placement availability has been negatively impacted as some foster carers have chosen to concentrate on the children already in their care and declined to take additional placements.

Stability of Placements of Looked After Children: Length of Placement

Performance has improved during this quarter but remains just below target. For all placements, the service continues to ensure that foster carers are well supported and that potential problems are identified early. This has been reinforced by the success of the Caring2Learn project which has encouraged foster carers to share and find solutions to problems and developed a whole range of tailored training. Nevertheless we have continued to see that some stable placements disrupt unexpectedly and this can have a significant impact upon this indicator. We have also seen an increase in the number of children with care plans for long term fostering and this will present challenges in achieving placement stability for some children due to the local and national shortage of foster carers who want to care on a long term basis.

Percentage of Looked after Children with Up to Date Routine Immunisations

The significant restriction and changes to the way in which health services are delivered to the public continues to impact on our children in care. There are limitations in respect of the number of children who are able to attend their schools. This has resulted in immunisations for those children who were due to be immunised within the school building having not all taken place. We continue to have number of refusers, including parents who have their children placed with them under placement with parent regulations, and adolescents. It has been an on-going challenge to encourage older young people to engage with medical services to have their Td/IPV vaccine.

Percentage of Looked after children with an Up to Date Dental Check

There continues to be a significant under performance in this area. This is due to the Covid-19 pandemic and the restrictions which have been put on dental practices as a result of this. This has included dental practices being closed to patients, and when open, having significant restrictions in the number of patients which they are able to see. It is not anticipated that this measure will move to previous levels until the spread of the virus is managed in a manner which results in a significant reduction in infections.

Care Leavers in Education, Employment or Training (EET)

The Leaving Care Service continues to monitor every single young person who is not in EET. The Leaving Care Service continues to report on a monthly basis the efforts of the service to re-engage individuals back into EET and the Corporate Parenting Manager tracks this performance and is satisfied that the Service is working to re-engage young people. Covid-19 continues to have an impact on the service sector and this does directly affect care leavers. Most young people start their working lives with jobs in bars, restaurants, shops and front line customer services where the largest job losses are being witnessed and the recent lockdowns continue to impact on the ability of these employers to open. It is anticipated that Covid-19 will continue to impact on EET and the percentage remains in the low to mid 50% range. All young people open on apprenticeships remain in employment and are progressing their qualifications. Since December, two new young people have started the Care Leaver Apprenticeship Scheme (CLAS). This performance continues to be carefully tracked.

Children in Care Living Within a Family Environment

This is performing ahead of target. It confirms that, for the vast majority of children in care, a family placement is the most effective means of offering care. Of these, 39 children at the end of the quarter were living with parents and were either subject to an order as part of care proceedings or reunified home.

2. Conclusion

This report summarises the Quarter 3 performance for Children and Young People in Care, and the Corporate Parenting Panel is asked to raise any questions on the content of the report.

3. Consultation

a) Risks and Impact Analysis

Not Applicable.

4. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Children in Care Measures

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 Simon Hardcastle, who can be contacted at simon.hardcastle@lincolnshire.gov.uk.

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APPENDIX A





Healthy and Safe

Children are Healthy and Safe

Fostering/adoption of LAC aged 10 to <16 years old

Percentage of Looked after Children aged 10 to under 16 who have been fostered or placed for adoption



Not achieved

76.8

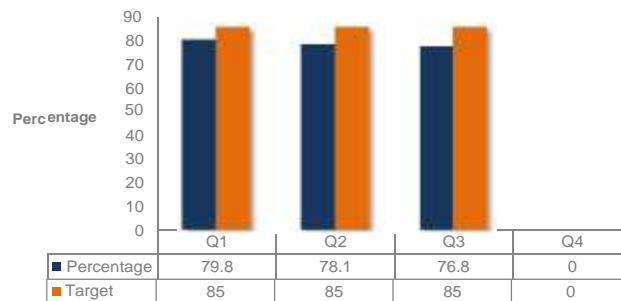
Percentage
Quarter 3 December 2020



85.0

Percentage
Target for December 2020

Fostering/adoption of LAC aged 10 to <16 years old



About the latest performance

This performance remains under target. The vast majority of children looked after within this age group are placed in foster care settings but this has been impacted by the pandemic as placement options have been reduced as a result of foster carers shielding and unable to take additional placements. However, there has been an increase in the numbers of younger children in residential placements in the past year. These are often children who have experienced a number of foster placement moves who struggle to adhere to the expectations of living in a family. Residential care has provided a nurturing environment for this group and has enabled them to settle. There has also been a concentrated focus on reunifying children with their birth families this year and some of this group are awaiting revocation of their care orders.

About the target

Target reduced to 85% as performance has remained under target at 82% over the past year. This is indicative of a reduction in the number of foster carers, challenges in foster carer recruitment and children with complex needs.

About the target range

A 2% variance is set for the upper value and 3% for the lower value.

Meeting the upper tolerance level would achieve a performance level not reached recently and show a change in the overall trend.

About benchmarking

Benchmarking data no longer available



Healthy and Safe

Children are Healthy and Safe

Number of Looked after Children per 10,000 under 18s

Looked after children per 10,000 population aged under 18. There are a number of reasons why a child may be 'looked after' by the local authority. Most often it is because the child's parents or the people who have parental responsibilities and rights to look after the child are unable to care for the child, have been neglecting the child or the child has committed an offence. The local authority has specific responsibilities and duties towards a child who is being looked after or who has been looked after. This measure is reported taking a snapshot in time. So for example Q2 is performance as at 30th September.

A lower rate of children looked after by the Local Authority indicates a better performance.



Achieved

47.1

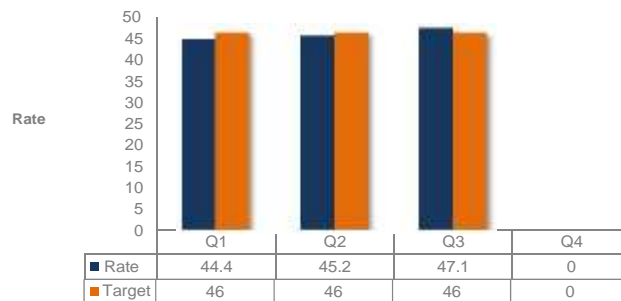
Rate
Quarter 3 December 2020



46.0

Rate
Target for December 2020

Number of Looked after Children per 10,000 under 18s



About the latest performance

This measure has achieved target, however, it is currently showing a slight adverse trend. Whilst the number of Looked After Child starters has risen slightly in Quarter 3 but stayed reasonably static, the number of Looked After Child leavers over Quarter 3 has been around 25% lower than Quarter 2. This appears to have pushed the Looked After Child per 10,000 figure further up in the past quarter.

However, despite the increase, the Lincolnshire number of Looked After Children per 10,000 remains significantly below the most recent published figures both nationally and by our statistical neighbours (67 per 10,000 and 61.2 per 10,000 respectively in 2018/19).

About the target

Target Remains Same as Previous Year

About the target range

The Upper and lower Target allows for the number of LAC to vary between approximately 626- 699. This is about +/- 35 children from target.

Anything above or below this number would be flagged as worse than target, i.e. indicating a significant variance from the current position.

About benchmarking

Comparator information is available and is showing an increasing trend



Healthy and Safe

Children are Healthy and Safe

Stability of placements of looked after children : Number of moves

Percentage of Looked after Children with three or more placements



Achieved

2.0

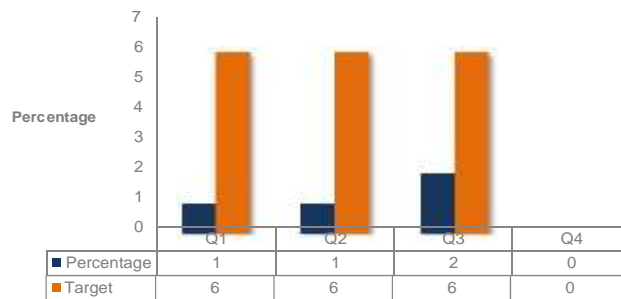
Percentage
Quarter 3 December 2020



6.0

Percentage
Target for December 2020

Stability of placements of looked after children : Number of moves



About the latest performance

This is a cumulative indicator identifying those children who experience 3 placement moves. The target is challenging and slipped under target last year although our performance is generally better than other East Midland authorities where an average of 10% of looked after children experienced 3 placement moves in a year. At this stage performance remains good, but this is a cumulative indicator and may change at year end. The year has been challenging for all children but foster carers have proven to be very resourceful and committed to the children they care for. However placement availability has been negatively impacted as some foster carers have chosen to concentrate on the children already in their care and declined to take additional placements.

About the target

Target remains same as 2019/20. Performance remains good in comparison with the 11% stated national figure. However we have seen a deterioration this year which reflects the reduced choice of placement options and complexities of young people placed.

About the target range

Achieving the upper tolerance level should maintain LCC's position within the top quartile nationally and still maintain LCC as one of the best performing of our statistical neighbours. Comparative performance within our statistical neighbours is 9.6%. Anything below the lower level should be shown as a significant improvement over last year.

About benchmarking

We can compare ourselves both nationally and with similar authorities on an annual basis



Healthy and Safe

Children are Healthy and Safe

Stability of placements of looked after children: length of placement

Percentage of Looked after Children in the same placement for at least two years



Not achieved

70.9

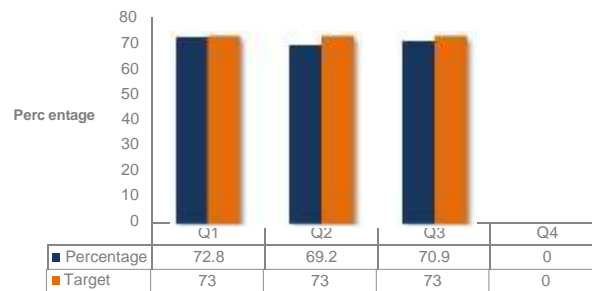
Percentage
Quarter 3 December 2020



73.0

Percentage
Target for December 2020

Stability of placements of looked after children: length of placement



About the latest performance

Performance has improved during this quarter but remains just below target. For all placements, the service continues to ensure that foster carers are well supported and that potential problems are identified early. This has been reinforced by the success of the caring2learn project which has encouraged foster carers to share and find solutions to problems and developed a whole range of tailored training. Nevertheless we have continued to see that some stable placements disrupt unexpectedly and this can have a significant impact upon this indicator. We have also seen an increase in the number of children with care plans for long term fostering and this will present challenges in achieving placement stability for some children due to the local and national shortage of foster carers who want to care on a long term basis.

About the target

Target remains the same as previous years and above the present performance of statistical neighbours. Tolerances for this measure take into account the current performance.

About the target range

Tolerances for this measure take into account the current performance.

About benchmarking

We can compare ourselves both nationally and with similar authorities on an annual basis



Healthy and Safe

Children are Healthy and Safe

Looked after children cases which were reviewed within required timescales

Percentage of Looked after Children cases that have been reviewed within timescales



Achieved

98.4

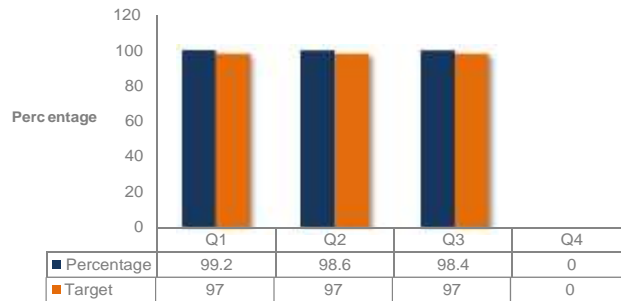
Percentage
Quarter 3 December 2020



97.0

Percentage
Target for December 2020

Looked after children cases which were reviewed within required timescales



About the latest performance

Current performance has met the targets set.

About the target

Target remains at 95% to take into account current performance.

About the target range

As the target is 95%, an upper value of 5% has been set.

A lower value of 95% has been set to highlight any performance lower than 95%

About benchmarking

We can compare ourselves both nationally and with similar authorities on an annual basis



Healthy and Safe

Children are Healthy and Safe

Participation of LAC in reviews

Percentage of Looked after children who participated in their reviews



Achieved

99.2

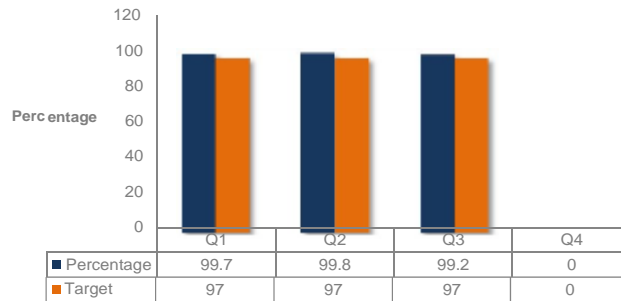
Percentage
Quarter 3 December 2020



97.0

Percentage
Target for December 2020

Participation of LAC in reviews



About the latest performance

Current performance has met the targets set.

About the target

Target remains at 95% to take into account current performance.

About the target range

As the target is 95%, an upper value of 5% has been set.

A lower value of 95% has been set to highlight any performance lower than 95%

About benchmarking

We can compare ourselves both nationally and with similar authorities on an annual basis



Healthy and Safe

Children are Healthy and Safe

Percentage of Looked after children with an up to date health check

Percentage of Looked after children with an up to date health check record



Achieved

94.1

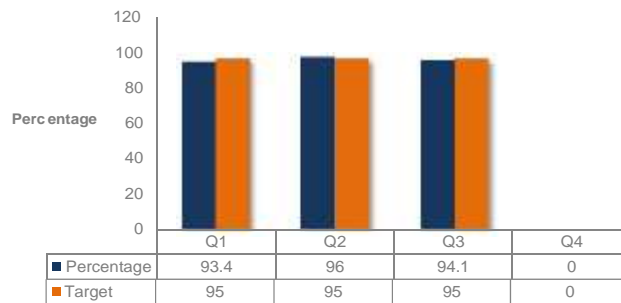
Percentage
Quarter 3 December 2020



95.0

Percentage
Target for December 2020

Percentage of Looked after children with an up to date health check



About the latest performance

Current performance has met the targets set.

About the target

Remain as previous year, tolerance allows performance to be in line with this year's performance.

About the target range

An upper tolerance of 4.5% has been set. This would mean that if all checks were done within timescale we would have achieved an excellent outcome, which would be shown as better than target.

A lower tolerance of 2% has been set to allow for under performance. Data from the last two years shows achieving 93% is very achievable and performance has not often fallen below this marker.

About benchmarking

We can compare ourselves both nationally and with similar authorities on an annual basis



Healthy and Safe

Children are Healthy and Safe

Percentage of Looked after children with an up to date dental check

Percentage of Looked after children with an up to date dental check



Not achieved

69.9

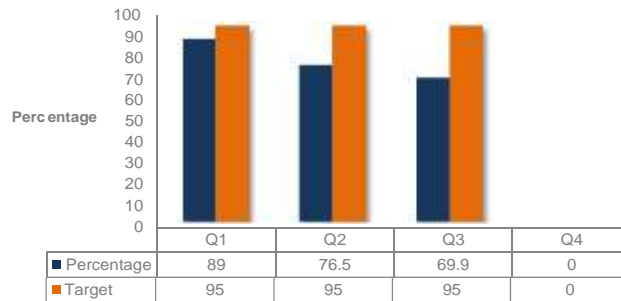
Percentage
Quarter 3 December 2020



95.0

Percentage
Target for December 2020

Percentage of Looked after children with an up to date dental check



About the latest performance

There continues to be a significant under performance in this area. This is due to the Covid pandemic and the restrictions which have been put on dental practices as a result of this. This has included dental practices being closed to patients and when open having significant restrictions in the number of patients which they are able to see. It is not anticipated that this measure will move to previous levels until the spread of the virus is managed in a manner which results in a significant reduction in infections.

About the target

Remain as previous year, tolerance allows performance to be in line with this year's performance.

About the target range

An upper tolerance of 4.5% has been set. This would mean that if all checks were done within timescale we would have achieved an excellent outcome, which would be shown as better than target.

A lower tolerance of 2% has been set to allow for under performance. Data from the last two years shows achieving 93% is very achievable and performance has not often fallen below this marker.

About benchmarking

We can compare ourselves both nationally and with similar authorities on an annual basis



Healthy and Safe

Children are Healthy and Safe

Percentage of Looked after children with an up to date routine immunisations

Percentage of looked after children with an up to date routine immunisations recorded



Not achieved

76.5

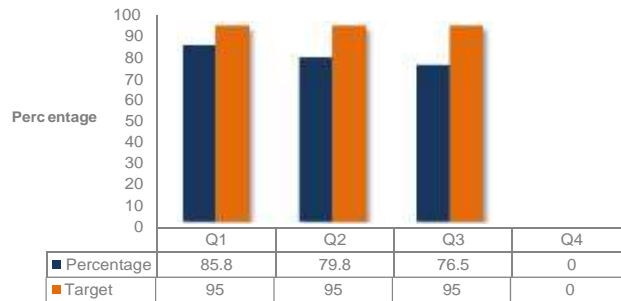
Percentage
Quarter 3 December 2020



95.0

Percentage
Target for December 2020

Percentage of Looked after children with an up to date routine immunisations



About the latest performance

The significant restriction and changes to the way in which health services are delivered to the public continues to impact on our children in care. There are limitations in respect of the number of children who are able to attend their schools. This has resulted in immunisations for those children who were due to be immunised within the school building having not all taken place. We continue to have number of refusers including parents who have their children placed with them under placement with parent regulations and adolescence. It has been an on-going challenge to encourage older young people to engage with medical services to have their Td/IPV vaccine.

About the target

Remain as previous year, tolerance allows performance to be in line with this year's performance.


About the target range

An upper tolerance of 4.5% has been set. Achievement of this would indicate that all LAC received all their health checks within timescale – achievement of 100%.

A lower tolerance of 1% has been set to allow for under performance. Data from the last two years shows achieving 94% is very achievable and performance has not often fallen below this marker.

About benchmarking

We can compare ourselves both nationally and with similar authorities on an annual basis

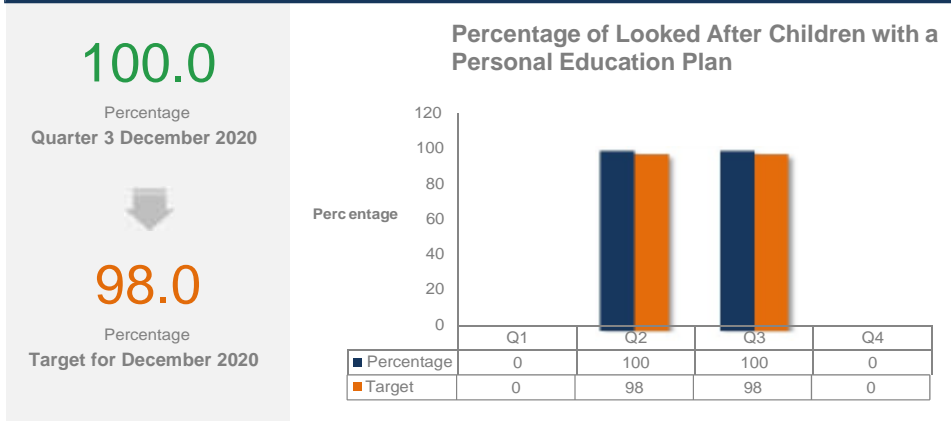
 Learn and Achieve

Learn and Achieve

Percentage of Looked After Children with a Personal Education Plan

Percentage of Looked After Children with a Personal Education Plan

 Achieved



About the latest performance

Current performance has met the targets set.

About the target

Target remains at 98%, increase in capacity in the Virtual school should see the performance being reached.

About the target range

Lower tolerance is set to 2% below the target which would represent poor performance. The tolerance range reflects the need for emergency placements out of county/in county for a small proportion of children in care.

About benchmarking

We can compare ourselves both nationally and with similar authorities on an annual basis.



Ready for Adult Life

Ready for Adult Life

16-17 year old Looked After Children who are participating in Learning

This measures young people recorded as being Looked After Children participating in learning at the end of the reporting period and will not take into consideration the length of time that they have been in local authority care.

Numerator: Number of Looked After Children participating in learning at the end of the reporting period.
Denominator: Number of Looked After Children at the end of the reporting period.

The percentage is calculated as follows: Numerator divided by the denominator multiplied by 100. The parameters of this measure were previously defined as recording 16-18 year old Looked After Children participating in learning. As of Q1 2017/18 onwards, the Department for Education no longer require monitoring of children aged 18, and so the measure has been amended accordingly, restricting data provision to 16-17 year old Looked After Children only. A higher percentage of Looked After Children participating in learning indicates a better performance.



Achieved

86.0

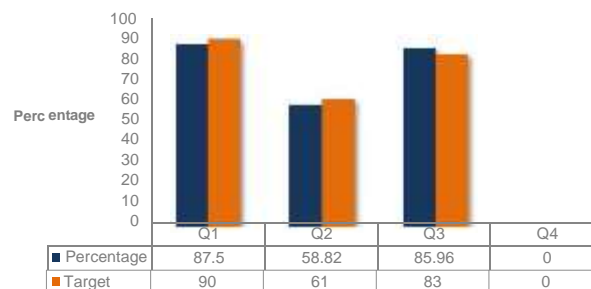
Percentage
Quarter 3 December 2020



83.0

Percentage
Target for December 2020

16-17 year old Looked After Children who are participating in Learning



About the latest performance

At 85.96% Quarter 3 performance is significantly higher than the LCC target for the Quarter of 83%. The Virtual School team works effectively with our social workers, carers, students and education providers to ensure that transitions from Year 11 into Year 12 are successful and that all students have an appropriate educational placement that meets their needs Post 16. Once they have accessed a place in Sixth Form or College we regularly monitor and review their progress to ensure they are appropriately supported to become confident learners.

About the target

Target has been raised by 1% to 90%. The rationale for this raise is that at the time of target setting performance is 90.4%, above the 2019/20 target of 89%, and is on track to achieve the upper target of 91%. The reason for only a small increase is that as the cohort is very small a change of one or two children moving out of learning can have a significant impact of the percentage in learning. Q2 & Q3 targets lower to allow for the expected dip at this time of year due to September being the start of the tracking process

About the target range

The target range is set at a level to allow for 2 percentage points above the target and 5 percentage points below the target.

About benchmarking

Benchmarking information is not available for this cohort.



Ready for Adult Life

Ready for Adult Life

Care Leavers in Suitable Accommodation

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

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

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

The percentage is calculated as follows: Numerator divided by the denominator multiplied by 100. A higher percentage of care leavers in suitable accommodation indicates a better performance.



Achieved

93.7

Percentage

Quarter 3 December 2020

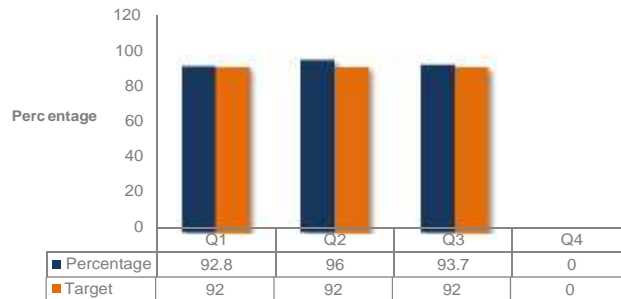


92.0

Percentage

Target for December 2020

Care Leavers in Suitable Accommodation



About the latest performance

The good performance is down to better working relationships with District Councils and their willingness to now view care leavers as a priority group. The flexibility and resilience demonstrated by our housing provider, Nacro, during the pandemic ensured safe accommodation was on offer to young people. The above combined with persistent and creative work of leaving care staff has ensured that nearly every care leaver is suitably accommodated.

About the target

Target to remain the same as previous year, we are above both national and similar authority average.

About the target range

The lower target has been set at the 25% quartile. Meaning if we fall below this we will not be in the top 25% of authorities. The upper target has been set 5% above this.



Ready for Adult Life

Ready for Adult Life

Care Leavers in Education, Employment or Training

The number of care leavers turning 19 years of age in the year who are in either Education, Employment or Training



Not achieved

52.8

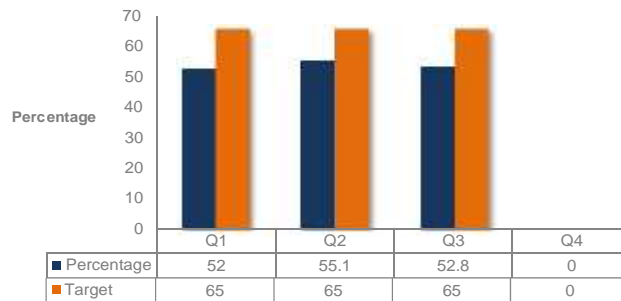
Percentage
Quarter 3 December 2020



65.0

Percentage
Target for December 2020

Care Leavers in Education, Employment or Training



About the latest performance

The Leaving Care Service continues to monitor every single young person who is not in EET. The Leaving Care Service continues to report on a monthly basis the efforts of the service to re-engage individuals back into EET and the Corporate Parenting Manager tracks this performance and is satisfied that the Service is working to reengage young people. Covid-19 continues to have an impact on the service sector and this does directly affect care leavers. Most young people start their working lives with jobs in bars, restaurants, shops and front line customer services where the largest job losses are being witnessed and the recent lockdowns continues impact on the ability of these employers to open. It is anticipated that Covid-19 will continue to impact on EET and the percentage remains in the low to mid 50% range. All young people open on apprenticeships remain in employment and are progressing their qualifications. Since December two new young people have started CLAS. This performance continues to be carefully tracked.

About the target

Target reduced to 65% this is based on both recent performance and in comparison with other local authorities nationally.

About the target range

Tolerances for this measure take into account the current performance.

About benchmarking

We can compare ourselves both nationally and with similar authorities on an annual basis



Healthy and Safe

Children are Healthy and Safe

Children in Care Living within a Family Environment

Percentage of Children in Care Living within a Family Environment



Achieved

78.6

Days

Quarter 3 December 2020

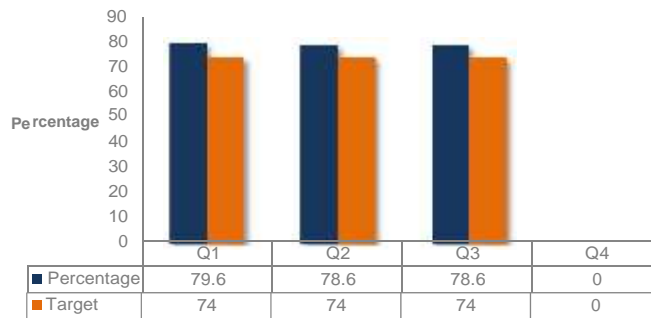


74

Days

Target for December 2020

Children in Care Living within a Family Environment



About the latest performance

This is performing ahead of target. It confirms that, for the vast majority of children in care, a family placement is the most effective means of offering care. Of these, 39 children at the end of quarter were living with parents and were either subject to an order as part of care proceedings or reunified home.

About the target

The target has been set to 74%. This is a new Performance Indicator which includes children in care living with parents as well as in foster and adoption placements.

About the target range

We would like to see performance between 70% and 77%, so we have set the lower range to -4% and the upper range to +3%.

About benchmarking

We are unable to benchmark against other local authorities as this measure includes children residing with their parents.



**Open Report on behalf of Heather Sandy,
Executive Director - Children's Services**

Report to:	Corporate Parenting Panel
Date:	11 March 2021
Subject:	Long-term Mental Health of Children in Care in England Research Project

Summary:

The purpose of this report is to provide an overview of the Long-term Mental Health of Children in Care in England research project to date and planned future phases.

Actions Required:

Members of the Corporate Parenting Panel are invited to consider the report and comment on the research project into the mental health of children and young people in care.

1. Background

The research project is funded by the Economic and Social Research Council and is being led by Bristol University.

The initial research was conducted in two parts. The first part involved the research team utilising data held by the Department for Education. The second part focused on obtaining information from children aged between 11 and 17 who are in care through the completion of a survey. Local authorities were invited to participate in this part of the research of which 19 authorities signed up. On conclusion of the research, regional and local level reports were to be published. Local authorities would then be able to use the research findings to improve practice.

In Lincolnshire, the survey was sent to the social workers of the children and young people identified as part of the cohort. Social workers were asked to support and encourage their looked after children and young people to complete the survey. It became apparent that the survey and its format were not accessible and/or appropriate for all children and young people identified within the cohort due to their additional needs or current circumstances. Social workers were asked to apply their professional judgement in this scenario.

The survey closed on 11 December 2020 by which point 25 children and young people had completed the survey.

The research team has now secured funding to extend the data collection to two additional data collection points in Spring and Autumn 2021. This will enable the research team to track the mental health of the same group of children and young people over an 18 month period and through the Covid-19 pandemic. It is anticipated that a local and national report will be available after each collection point.

2. Conclusion

It is anticipated that having a greater understanding of the mental health of children and young people in care on a local level and from a national perspective will assist frontline workers in developing positive relationships with looked after children and promote service improvement.

There are no additional cost implications for participating in the research.

3. Consultation

a) Risks and Impact Analysis

There are no adverse risks associated with involvement in this research project.

4. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Research Project – Information Document
Appendix B	Initial Survey Questions

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 Carey Gordon, who can be contacted on 07766 366380 or by e-mail at carey.gordon@lincolnshire.gov.uk

LONG-TERM MENTAL HEALTH OF CHILDREN IN CARE IN ENGLAND (ADCS REFERENCE: RGE200212)

INFORMATION FOR LOCAL AUTHORITIES

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE RESEARCH?

The aim of this research, which is funded by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC), is to contribute to our understanding of how mental health of children in care varies over time. It also aims to explore how these patterns of mental health are influenced by children's care experiences, individual and school-related factors. This information should be useful for local authorities and other service providers. Further details about the study can be found here: <https://gtr.ukri.org/projects?ref=ES%2FR006482%2F1>

ETHICS

We have gained ethical approval for this research from the ethics committees at the Faculty of Social Sciences and Law at the University of Bristol, and approval from the Association of Directors of Children's Services (ADCS) research committee. We will also comply with Research Governance requirements of specific local authorities taking part in this research.

HOW IS THIS RESEARCH BEING CARRIED OUT?

This research has two parts. In the first part, we aim to access national data held by the Department for Education on children in care to analyse data routinely submitted by each local authority to establish long-term mental health trajectories of children in care. However, it is difficult to use administrative data alone to explore the factors that influence children's mental health. Therefore, in the second part of the study, we are supplementing the administrative data with data from an online survey of children in care in local authorities. We are contacting you to ask for your help with carrying out this online survey.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE SURVEY

- We have created an online survey for 11-17-year-old children in care. We will ask those who have been in care for at least one year to complete the survey.
- It will ask children in care about their mental health and wellbeing including the impact of COVID-19.
- The survey will be linked to each child by their administrative identification number, which will enable their information to be linked with national data held by the Department for Education.
- The secure survey is online and can be completed on a mobile phone/tablet/PC. We would be happy to provide paper copies if that is easier for you. It will take about 20 minutes to complete.
- All children who complete the survey will receive a £15 gift voucher.

WHAT ARE WE ASKING YOUR LOCAL AUTHORITY TO DO?

We will ask you to provide individual survey links to children aged 11-17 years in care in your local authority via their social workers at the next social worker contact. We are happy to discuss if you think the survey could be administered differently in your local authority.

WHAT IF SAFEGUARDING ISSUES ARE RAISED IN THE SURVEYS?

The research team will review all survey responses. If there is any information indicative of a child being at risk of serious significant harm, the research team will alert the children's social worker, by informing the social worker of the child/young person's ID number.

DATA PROTECTION: HOW WILL THE RESEARCH TEAM PROCESS THE INFORMATION FROM THE SURVEYS?

We would like to assure you that:

- The research will comply with the principles of the Data Protection Act 2018 and the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR).
- The participation in this study is entirely voluntary. Children are free to withdraw and ask for their data to be deleted at any time, without giving a reason.
- All survey data will be held and analysed on a secure University of Bristol server, or the Office for National Statistics (ONS) Secure Research Servers only accessible to the research team. Any paper copies, after downloading to the secure server, will be shredded through confidential waste facilities. The research lead, Dinithi Wijedasa is an ONS approved researcher.
- All information will only be seen by the research team and will be treated with the strictest confidence [with the exception of any serious safeguarding concerns].
- The surveys will be linked to each young person via an ID number. Any personal details that could be used to identify young people will be removed from the surveys. No identifiable information will be used when we report our findings in future publications, reports or presentations.
- Anonymised survey data will be deposited at the University of Bristol Research Data Storage Facility and the UK Data Service.

WHAT ARE THE POSSIBLE BENEFITS OF TAKING PART?

By helping us with this research you will be contributing to a study which aims to explore the impact of COVID-19 on children in care and establish how the mental health of children in care changes over time. Department for Education has confirmed that information from our study would be of use for policy and practice.

You will also receive:

- An individualised report on the mental health and wellbeing of children in care in your local authority.
- An opportunity to attend a peer learning seminar, which will bring together participating local authorities to discuss practice and policy implications of our findings.

We will do our utmost to ensure that the demands on local authority staff time are minimised. Thank you for taking the time to read this, and we hope to welcome you to our study soon. Please do get in touch with any queries.

PROJECT TEAM: Dinithi Wijedasa, University of Bristol (Dinithi.wijedasa@bristol.ac.uk)
Rachel Hahn, University of Bristol (Rachel.Hahn@bristol.ac.uk)
Sarah Harding, University of Bristol (Sarah.Harding@bristol.ac.uk)

For any questions about the project or further information please email any of the team, or mh-cat@bristol.ac.uk (our project mailbox)

If you wish to complain about any aspect of this research, please email dinithi.wijedasa@bristol.ac.uk

CAT Survey_master

Welcome

Thank you very much for considering taking part in the MH-CAT survey

What this survey is about

This survey is about the wellbeing and mental health of children and young people in care. It has been created by a team of researchers at the University of Bristol and it should take about **20 minutes** to complete.

It's completely up to you whether you take part. As a thank you for taking part, you will receive a £15 gift voucher via email. You need to give us an email address for this to be sent to you and select the '**FINISH**' button at the end.

We would like you to answer all the questions, but you can choose not to answer any that you do not want to or you find upsetting. Please be as honest as you can, there are no right or wrong answers. If you feel you need help you can ask your carer, trusted adult, or social worker.

What will happen to your answers?

- The research team will not be able to identify who you are as you will be given an ID number instead of your name. All the answers you give will be anonymised so no one will be able to identify you from any reports or publications.
- Your answers are confidential which means that we will not tell anyone what you have said. However, if we are worried that you or someone else is at risk of serious harm, then we will let your social worker know.
- We ask for your email address or email address of an adult that you live with so we can send you the gift voucher, this will not be stored with your survey answers.

Please [click here](#) for more information about this research. Please read this before continuing.

If you have any questions, you can email us on mh-cat@bristol.ac.uk.

If have read and understood the information about this survey and would like to continue,

please select **NEXT**.

About you

1. Please enter an email address so that we can send you your £15 gift voucher?

This could be either yours or one of an adult who you are living with. We will not use this email address to contact you for any other reason. Make sure you press the finish button at the end to receive the gift voucher

2. How old are you? (Please write age as a number)

Please enter a whole number (integer).

Please make sure the number is between 0 and 20.

3. What gender do you identify as?

- Male
- Female
- Prefer not to say
- Other

3.a. Please tell us how you identify yourself:

4. What is your ethnic group?

- White
- Mixed or multiple ethnic groups
- Asian or Asian British
- Black or African or Caribbean or Black British
- Other

4.a. Please tell us how you identify yourself:

Being in care and the place where you currently live

5. **How old were you when you first came into care?** (Please write age as a number)

Please enter a whole number (integer).

Please make sure the number is between 0 and 20.

6. **What type of placement do you currently live in?**

- Foster care (not with a relative)
- Foster care (with a relative)
- Residential care or children's home
- With birth parents
- Independent living (in a flat, lodgings, bedsit, B&B or with friends)
- With adoptive parents
- Other

6.a. Please tell us where you currently live:

7. **Roughly how long have you been living in your current placement?**

- 3 months or less
- 4 to 6 months
- 7 months to 1 year
- Between 1 and 2 years
- Between 2 and 3 years

3+ years

8. Since coming into care for the first time, how many placements have you lived in?

Please enter a whole number (integer).

Please make sure the number is between 1 and 50.

9. Do you have any brothers or sisters?

No

Yes

9.a. Do you live with any of your brothers or sisters?

No

Yes

10. Are there any other children who you live with, who are not your brothers and sisters?

No

Yes

10.a. Who are these other children?

Other children in care

Children of foster carer

11. In the last week, how many days did you go outside to a 'green space' (play areas, public gardens, woods, playing fields or sports pitches, beaches, or other types of natural open space)?

- Not at all
- 1 to 2 days
- 3 to 4 days
- 5 to 6 days
- Every day

12. In the last week, on how many days have you eaten at least one meal together with some or all the people you live with?

Please enter a whole number (integer).
Please make sure the number is between 0 and 7.

13. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
I feel safe in my placement	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I feel happy where I live	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I feel I can be myself in my placement	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I feel safe in the area where I live	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I feel that my life is better now that I am in care	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

I feel that my views are listened to when adults make decisions about my care



14. Do you have a Life Story Book (a collection of photographs and information about your past) or something similar?

- No
- Yes
- I don't know

14.a. How much do you agree with the following statement 'I find my life story book useful'?

- Strongly disagree
- Disagree
- Neutral
- Agree
- Strongly agree

15. Have you ever run away from a placement for one or more nights?

- No
- Yes – once
- Yes – more than once

16. What type of school or college do you attend? You can ask an adult if you are not sure.

- Primary school
- Secondary school (state/academy/free school or grammar school)
- Independent school or private school (not boarding)
- Boarding school or residential school
- Post-16 College or Sixth Form
- Pupil Referral Unit (PRU)
- Home schooled or home tutored
- Other type of education setting
- I do not attend a school or college

16.a. Please tell us what type of school or college you attend:

Education

This section asks about your school or college life. We know that things might not be 'normal' at the moment because of the Coronavirus pandemic, but please try and answer these questions as best you can. If you are currently on school holidays, please think about the last school term.

17. Please tick the statement which best describes your schooling situation during the coronavirus pandemic:

- I stopped going to school/college because of the Coronavirus pandemic
- I went to school/college for some days
- I went to school every weekday

18. Thinking about your current schooling situation during the coronavirus pandemic, how much do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
I felt worried that not going to school will affect my future	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I liked being home schooled/not going into school	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I felt safer because I was not at school	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

19. Thinking about schooling generally, how much do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
I like going into school	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I feel safe at school	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I think going to school will help me in the future	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

20. Generally, how often have you missed school without letting an adult know, even if for only for a half day or single lesson?

Daily
 Weekly
 Monthly
 1 to 2 times a year
 Never

21. Please state how much you agree with the statements about your teachers:

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
My teacher(s) really try to help me	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I can talk about my problems with my teacher(s)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

22. Have you ever been excluded from school or college?

- No
- Yes

22.a. In which way(s) were you excluded? Tick ALL that apply

- Fixed term / temporary exclusion / suspension
- Permanent exclusion / expulsion from school or college

23. How many times have you had to change schools because of a change in placement?

Please enter a whole number (integer).

Please make sure the number is between 0 and 25.

24. Do you have access to a computer tablet or laptop to do your school work at home?

- No
- Yes
- I don't have to do school work at home

People and support

25. Please state how much you agree with the statements about your carer(s) By carer we mean the main adults who care for you e.g, foster carers, residential carer(s), parents

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
My carer(s) really try to help me	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I get the emotional help and support I need from my carer(s)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I can talk about my problems with my carer(s)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
My carer(s) is willing to help me make decisions	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I trust my carer(s)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

26. Please state how much you agree with the statements about your social worker:

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
My social worker really tries to help me	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I get the emotional help and support I need from my social worker	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I can talk about my problems with my social worker	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

My social worker is willing to help me make decisions	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I trust my social worker	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

27. Currently, how do you feel about the level of contact you have with your social worker?

I would like more contact

I have enough contact

I would like less contact

28. I have at least one adult in my life who I can trust

No

Yes

29. Do you have one or more friends?

No

Yes

30. Please state how much you agree with the statements about your friend(s):

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
My friends really try to help me	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I can count on my friends when things go wrong	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I have friends with whom I can share my joys and sorrows	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I can talk about my problems with my friends	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

31. Have you ever wanted to talk to someone or receive support with your mental health?

- No
- Yes

32. Who did you talk with or receive support from? (Please select **ALL** that apply)

- I did not ask for support
- I asked for support but didn't get any
- Parent(s)
- Friend(s)
- Carer(s)
- Social worker
- Counsellor or therapist
- A telephone helpline, text service or an online service (e.g. The Mix, Childline, Big White Wall)
- Someone at a local charity, drop-in centre or youth club
- I was admitted to a hospital
- Other

32.a. If you selected Other, please tell us:

33. If you were accessing mental health support just before the coronavirus pandemic has your access changed since the social distancing measures/'Coronavirus' pandemic?

- I wasn't accessing support immediately before the pandemic
- I no longer have access to mental health support
- It is less often than before
- It is more often than before

34. In the last month, have you felt you need to talk to someone or receive

support with your mental health?

- No
- Yes

35. Who did you talk with or receive support from? (Please select **ALL** that apply)

- I did not ask for support
- I asked for support but didn't get any
- Parent(s)
- Friend(s)
- Carer(s)
- Social worker
- Counsellor or therapist
- A telephone helpline, text service or an online service (e.g. The Mix, Childline, Big White Wall)
- Someone at a local charity, drop-in centre or youth club
- I was admitted to a hospital
- Other

35.a. If you selected Other, please tell us:

Contact with birth family

36. Are you in contact with your birth family?

- No
- Yes

36.a. Who are you in contact with? Tick **ALL** that apply

- Mother
- Father
- Sister(s)
- Brother(s)
- Grandfather/grandmother
- Other

36.a.i. If you selected Other, please tell us who:

37. How do you feel about the level of contact you have with your birth family?

Your thoughts and feelings

This section asks you about your thoughts and your feelings. As with the rest of the survey, please be honest as we are interested in how you feel. There are no right or wrong answers.

38. Below are some statements about thoughts and feelings. Please select which best describes your experience of each over the last 2 weeks:

	None of the time	Rarely	Some of the time	Often	All of the time
I've been feeling optimistic about the future	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I've been feeling useful	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I've been feeling relaxed	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I've been dealing with problems well	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I've been thinking clearly	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I've been feeling close to other people	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I've been able to make up my own mind about things	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

39. Here are some more statements. Please select which best describes your experience of each over the last 2 weeks:

	None of the time	Rarely	Some of the time	Often	All of the time
I have flashbacks or nightmares that affect me	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

I have difficulty sleeping	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I feel that no one understands me	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I feel that no one cares about me	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I feel that nothing will ever get better	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

40. Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire For each item, please mark the box for Not True, Somewhat True or Certainly True. It would help us if you answered all items as best you can even if you are not absolutely certain or the item seems daft! Please give your answers on the basis of how things have been for you over the last six months:

	Not true	Somewhat true	Certainly true
I try to be nice to other people. I care about their feelings	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I am restless, I cannot stay still for long	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I get a lot of headaches, stomach-aches or sickness	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I usually share with others (food, games, pens etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I get very angry and often lose my temper	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I am usually on my own. I generally play alone or keep to myself	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I usually do as I am told	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I worry a lot	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I am helpful if someone is hurt, upset or feeling ill	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I am constantly fidgeting or squirming	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I have one good friend or more	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I fight a lot. I can make other people do what I want	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I am often unhappy, down-hearted or tearful	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other people my age generally like me	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

I am easily distracted, I find it difficult to concentrate	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I am nervous in new situations. I easily lose confidence	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I am kind to younger children	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I am often accused of lying or cheating	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other children or young people pick on me or bully me	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I often volunteer to help others (parents, teachers, children)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I think before I do things	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I take things that are not mine from home, school or elsewhere	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I get on better with adults than with people my own age	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I have many fears, I am easily scared	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I finish the work I'm doing. My attention is good	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire is © Robert Goodman, 2005

41. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
How well you get on in this world is mostly a matter of luck	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
If you work hard at something, you'll usually succeed	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

42. Do you have a hobby that you enjoy and which helps you relax?

- No
- Yes

Your health

43. Over the past 7 days, on how many days were you physically active for at least 60 minutes per day? Physical activity can be done in sports, playing with friends or walking to school. Some examples of physical activity are brisk walking, running, biking, dancing, skateboarding, swimming.

Please enter a whole number (integer).

Please make sure the number is between 0 and 7.

44. On WEEKDAYS during the last week, how many hours a day of your free time did you spend using a screen (eg TV, online videos or games)?

Please enter a whole number (integer).

Please make sure the number is between 0 and 24.

45. Over the last WEEKEND, how many hours a day of your free time did you spend using a screen (eg TV, online videos or games)?

Please enter a whole number (integer).

Please make sure the number is between 0 and 24.

46. How often do you ...

Never

Have tried
once or twice

Sometimes but not
every week

Every
week

Every
day

Smoke cigarettes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Smoke electronic cigarettes (vape)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Drink alcohol	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Use illegal or recreational drugs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

47. Have you needed medical help, visited a GP or hospital in the last 12 months because of alcohol or drug use?

No
 Yes

48. Do you have a health concern or disability which affects your day to day life?

No
 Yes

48.a. How would you describe your health concern or disability? Tick **ALL** that apply

Vision (for example blindness or partial sight)
 Hearing (for example deafness or partial hearing)
 Mobility (for example walking short distances or climbing stairs)
 Dexterity (for example being able to lift and carry objects, or use a keyboard)
 Learning or understanding or concentrating
 Memory
 Mental health
 Stamina or breathing or fatigue

- Socially or behaviourally (for example associated with autism, attention deficit disorder or Asperger's syndrome)
- Other

48.a.i. If you selected Other, please tell us what:

48.b. Are you currently receiving support (from the school or any other service), to help with your needs? (select **ALL** that apply)

- No
- Yes, from school
- Yes, from another support service

49. Due to Coronavirus do any of the below apply to you?

- I have had Coronavirus (either suspected or formally diagnosed)
- Serious illness of someone important to me
- Death of someone important to me
- Someone where I currently live has had suspected or diagnosed Coronavirus
- None of above

50. If you could change anything about being in care, where you currently live, your schooling, the support you get and contact with your birth family what would it be?

51. Is there anything that could improve your mental health and make you feel happier?

Final page

Finished! Thank you very much for taking part. We will email you your gift voucher within a week.

If you have any questions, please email us on mh-cat@bristol.ac.uk

If you would like support with mental health and wellbeing, there is a [list of places here](#) which you can download or view now. You could also talk to your carer, your social worker, or a trusted adult.

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**Open Report on behalf of Heather Sandy,
Executive Director - Children's Services**

Report to:	Corporate Parenting Panel
Date:	11 March 2021
Subject:	Fostering Quarterly Performance Report - Quarter 3

Summary:

This report provides an overview of activity within the fostering service over Quarter 3.

Actions Required:

That the report be accepted as an accurate overview of the Fostering Service.

1. Background

This report presents an update on the performance of the fostering service in accordance with Standard 25 of the National Minimum Standards 2000.

2. Conclusion

The progress within the Service has been recognised and the report attached is an accurate reflection of the Service.

3. Consultation

a) Risks and Impact Analysis

Not Applicable

4. Appendices

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

Appendix A	Fostering Quarterly Performance Report Quarter 3
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5. Background Papers

No background papers within Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the preparation of this report.

This report was written by John Harris, who can be contacted on 01522 554109 or john.harris@lincolnshire.gov.uk.

Appendix A - Quarter 3 Fostering Report – 2020/21

The Annual Report for 2019/20 was presented to the Corporate Parenting Panel in September 2020. The Statement of Purpose has been revised and was ratified on the same day. This is the third quarterly report for 2020/21.

Introduction

In 2020/21, the Fostering service has an annual budget of £9,118,082. All Foster Carer allowances have been increased by 2% for this financial year. This has ensured that allowances continue to remain in advance of the Government recommended minimum rates. This is important as the foster care market place is more complex with a number of independent agencies actively recruiting in the area, and in order to retain our competitiveness, allowances are a significant factor. The budget also continues to afford flexibility to provide enhanced allowances to certain categories of carers such as those offering permanence or managing particularly challenging children. During the third quarter, the continuing Covid-19 crisis has required the service to continue to be flexible in its response to foster carers and the children in their care. The development of the virtual foster care community, via Caring2Learn, has created a model for the future and additional payments have been made, to both value the work of foster carers and promote placement stability. This has enabled the stability figures to remain positive but has made the choice of the right placement upon admission into care more difficult. Despite the constraints of the pandemic, recruitment has been positive with a marked increase in the number of people expressing an interest in fostering.

At the end of Quarter 3, the number of children in care had continued to rise to 679. At the same time, those placed with Independent Fostering agencies reduced to 30, three of whom were unaccompanied migrant children. The percentage of children in foster placements has remained steady at 73%.

61 children became looked after for the first time in this quarter, of these 38 were placed in foster care.

Due to the rise in the number of children placed in out of County provision and the resultant increase in costs in the past 12 months, the Council has commissioned transformation work relating to children in care. The fostering service will manage two work streams: the "offer" to Foster Carers and the introduction of a "specialist" fostering scheme.

Recruitment and Retention

The Recruitment Service continues to adjust and respond to the effects of Covid-19. Staffing issues have resulted in assessments being managed across the whole service. The team has fully embraced the use of technology to provide a full service of information sharing, initial visits and Caring2Learn (C2L) engagement.

The Preparation to Foster Courses continue to be delivered virtually via MS Teams and remain at a frequency of once per month in order to support the progression of applicants as quickly as possible. Each course is facilitated by a Supervising Social Worker (SSW), C2L worker and at least one foster care champion. Fostering

Information Events take place on a monthly basis and are held virtually. Those making formal or informal enquiries are encouraged to attend these events.

The service has continued to see an increased number of initial expressions of interest (IEI's) with 74 this quarter compared to 55 for 2019/20. There have been five new mainstream carers approved this quarter. Approvals for the full year are scheduled to be well in excess of the 16 families approved in 2019/20.

Retention of foster carers remains the most effective means of recruitment. Providing individual levels of support to our carers, and specifically those newly approved, remains crucial during this time of uncertainty. Some carers have welcomed the return of face to face support whilst others have remained happy with virtual, arm's length support. The challenge is ensuring each fostering family receives what they require, when they require it whilst ensuring Government and local guidance is adhered to in relation to Covid-19. Feedback from carers is, to the most part, very positive with regards to their feeling supported and understanding the challenges that face us all.

Marketing

Figures

The number of IEI's received this year continues to be higher than that at the same point in previous years as demonstrated below:

Financial Year	Number of fostering IEI's received			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Total
2020 / 2021	80	103	74	257
2019 / 2020	46	66	55	167
2018 / 2019	52	52	53	157

There were five households approved during Quarter 3. Therefore the total number of newly approved households approved to date for this financial year is 18. Those newly approved households in this quarter provide an additional six task centred / respite beds (nine if siblings are taken).

As of mid-January there were a further 38 applications currently in stages 1 or 2 of the process with 10 of these having a Panel date booked before the end of the financial year.

Virtual Information Events

Two virtual information events were held during this quarter as follows:

- Tuesday 20 October at 6:30pm
- Tuesday 17 November at 6:30pm

Advertising to promote the events included:

October

- Paid-for Facebook targeted advert
- Digital advert on Lincolnshire Today website
- Twitter feeds on main Lincolnshire County Council (LCC) corporate account
- Digital adverts across JPI Media websites (including mobile)

- Digital adverts across Media websites (including mobile)
- Advert in Simply Boston and Simply Spalding magazines
- Marketing e-newsletter sent to those who have shown an interest in fostering but may not yet have filled in an IEI but have signed up to receive updates.
- Int Comms piece

November

- Advert in Lincs and Wolds Scene magazines
- Paid-for Facebook targeted advert
- Lincs FM advert
- Digital advert on the Lincolnite and Lincolnshire Reporter websites (including mobile)
- Digital advert on Lincolnshire Today website
- Twitter feeds on main LCC corporate account
- Advert in Lincolnshire Life magazine and website
- Digital adverts across Media websites (including mobile)
- Int Comms piece

Other advertising

Additional advertising promoting the need for more foster carers also took place throughout December as follows:

- Digital advert on Lincolnshire Today website,
- Twitter feeds on main LCC corporate account
- Digital adverts across Media websites (including mobile)
- Advert in South Holland Advertiser

During this quarter, a long-term advert promoting the need for more foster carers also began to go out in the Lincoln City Football Community Trust Folders (distributed for a year), as well as a GP appointment card for Saxilby and Torksey Surgeries (distributed for two years).

Permanence campaign

The permanence campaign continued throughout Quarter 3 with a wide range of advertising.

Also within this quarter, the e-newsletter which is sent to approved foster carers continued to go out on a monthly basis with a sentence about each of the children we are currently Family Finding for and advising anyone interested in finding out more to speak to their SSW.

Family Finding

During the third quarter of this year, Family Finders has continued to meet on a monthly basis to consider all children with a care plan for long term fostering who do not already have a placement identified. Over this quarter, 17 children have been considered, made up of three sibling groups of two, one sibling group of three and eight single children. One new child has been referred.

During this period, four out of the 17 children have been removed from Family Finders - one child has moved to a residential children's home, one child is remaining in their IFA placement and two children in their current task centred placement. A further three children are remaining with their current task centred carers and discussions are taking place in terms of this being a longer term option.

Profiles for all children on Family Finders continue to be shared monthly with all Supervising Social Workers for discussions with existing and/or newly approved foster carers as appropriate. Anonymised profiles are also shared with prospective Foster Carers during the assessment process and are posted on social media (Facebook). Information regarding children needing long term placements continues to be shared in the Monthly Foster Carer Newsletter and has been featured in the new foster carers magazine, 'Our World' with another feature planned for the next edition in March. The next edition of 'County News' will also include a feature story on the experiences of two children currently in long term foster placements.

During this third quarter of the year, there have been no new carers approved for permanence at Fostering Panel. Of the three prospective carers who had expressed an interest in permanence during the last quarter, all have made the decision, due to various reasons, to begin their fostering careers by providing respite and task centred care, with a view to exploring permanence in the future.

There are, however, another four applicants currently being assessed who have expressed an interest in providing long term placements for children.

The next Permanence Event is being planned and will include a mixture of training and information on children seeking long term placements. This is scheduled for the Spring.

The on-going challenges in terms of the impact of the current pandemic remain a significant factor in identifying long term placements for children and it remains the case that a number of children referred to Family Finders are then remaining in existing task centred placements on a long term basis.

Training

In this quarter, due to the on-going Covid-19 pandemic, all face to face training apart from first aid has been cancelled.

Face to Face First Aid training has taken place using the trainer's venue. Seven carers have completed the training.

The monthly virtual training newsletter is being circulated.

Caring 2 Learn

21 courses were delivered this quarter. 184 attendees have taken part from Fostering Households.

Courses delivered via Zoom or Teams:

- Introducing Social Pedagogy
- Introduction to Restorative Practice
- Introduction to mindfulness, Creating Calm
- Kid skills
- Compassion fatigue and Managing Stress
- Introduction to Trauma Awareness
- Learning Home development workshops
- Supporting sleep, nightmares and night terrors
- Cornerstones In Practice
- Fostering Weekly Programme pilot (6 weeks)

E-Learning

Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Partnership (LSCP) courses are still being accessed and Foster Carers attended:

- Safeguarding
- Safeguarding refresher
- Hidden harm
- Covid-19
- Think Safe be safe
- Equality and inclusion
- E-safety

Celebration Event

The Foster Carer Celebration took place over Zoom on 16 December 2020. This was a positive event recognising the contribution and long service of Foster Carers across the County. Foster carers receiving long service awards were given a voucher and lapel badge. In addition, this year the decision was made to focus on the newly approved foster carers who were starting their journey with Lincolnshire. The virtual event was well co-ordinated and well received.

Kinship

Kinship options are always considered when a child enters care for the first time and throughout their history in care. Joint work has been completed between the Fostering Service and other teams to ensure consistency with viability assessments and the referral process. Practice Supervisors are also attending Team Meetings to provide information and support other teams regarding the kinship processes.

Quarterly Report: 1 October to December 2020

Number of Referrals	SGO	Private Law SGO	Reg.24 to SGO	Reg. 24 / Connected Person	Private Fostering
61	19	9	20	6	7

The third quarter of 2020 year continues to see an increase in demand over that of the previous year. This is particularly the case in the number of Reg. 24 placements converting to Special Guardianship Orders (SGO); increasing from eight in 2019 to 20 in 2020.

Of the 19 SGO assessments:

- 2 applicants withdrew.
- 17 are on-going.

Private Law SGO:

Nine Private Law SGO applications, with Social Worker completing Schedule 21 Report and statutory checks completed by Fostering service as these are private applications, with nine on-going and remain in Court Proceedings and waiting Final Hearing for decision to be made.

Reg. 24 / SGO placements:

- 1 ended as child moved to alternative family member.
- 19 are on-going Reg. 24 placements with a SGO also directed within proceedings.

Reg. 24 assessments in this quarter:

- 1 ended as child moved to alternative family member.
- 5 are on-going Regulation 24 assessments.

Private Fostering Arrangements as follows:

- 1 child returned home.
- 4 Private Foster Carer Assessment completed and remains Private Fostering Arrangement with on-going Children's Services involvement and support.
- 2 on-going Private Foster Carer Assessment.

Since March 2020, Covid-19 has had an impact on kinship work and the way in which assessments are undertaken. There have been some advantages and some challenges with this:

What has worked well?

- Up until 25 September 2020, workers have been given the opportunity to complete Regulation 24 assessments up to 24 week timescale. This has allowed Supervising Social Workers additional time to plan in virtual assessment sessions and some home visits whilst adhering to social distancing and safety rules. This has now reverted back to 16 week timescale for assessment completion and the number of face to face visits has increased with risk assessment in place for each visit.
- Joint Supervisions by Microsoft Teams rather than face to face have meant all relevant professionals across different service areas have been able to

participate in Joint Supervisions and Care Planning. Prior to Microsoft Teams, there were challenges in terms of travel and distance between teams. This has been a positive change with an increase in the amount of joint supervisions taking place and ease of making such arrangements.

- The team has continued to work closely with Fostering Panel in terms of ensuring applicants are presented and contribute to Panel Meetings.

What are we worried about?

- Workers have expressed one of the challenges has been relationship based practice, particularly when areas of the assessment have been of a sensitive or challenging nature and during the time when the majority of assessments were taking place virtually.
- Given the situation with Covid-19, we have seen a significant delay with Court Proceedings and therefore Social Workers are having to work and support cases for increased periods of time.

Staying Put

Quarter 3 has seen a decrease of young people in the Staying Put Scheme from 58 to 52. Of this number, one is on an apprenticeship, nine attending university, 24 are in full time further education, and five are in employment. The remainder are on the Care Leavers Apprenticeship Scheme or Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET). There has been a decrease in relation to NEET with there now being two young people who are not accessing education/training and are not employed. Of the six young people who have left the Staying Put Scheme, two were in IFA placements which did not suit them, one went to university with 51 week accommodation, one returned home to their mother's care, and two have moved to supported accommodation.

Staying Put is discussed at the first review following the young person's 16th birthday with the decision being recorded on their pathway plan; which is then followed up at each review. Discussions around expectations and finances are undertaken with the young person and foster carers with a license agreement being completed prior to them turning 18. This ensures the transition to Staying Put is smooth with young people remaining informed about the process, having support and stability to transition into adulthood. The service has continued to work with Shared Lives to ensure that all placements take into account the requirements of the Fostering Service (England) Regulations 2011.

Caring 2 Learn

The established priorities for the fostering service are:

1. Developing a community based support network for foster and residential carers.

A Community Hub approach has been developed across the County. This has included the development of multiple forums and ways for Foster Carers to access support from other Foster Carers, Children's Services Teams and Schools. This is

providing a more integrated approach to support. The forums have been developed according to feedback from Foster Carers. All support mechanisms make up a single community hub for all Lincolnshire Foster Carers. Feedback forums have now been introduced to the hub to ensure we have a platform to encourage feedback and communication with carers; this will enable us to ensure the community model and support mechanisms remain purposeful and informed by need.

The Hub originally consisted of various access points throughout the county to resolve the geographical issues faced by carers and build a strong sense of community with a consistent offer. During the current pandemic, it has been possible to explore a virtual offer that ensures carers can access their community more easily. Feedback from the foster carers strongly indicates that virtual platforms have helped carers overcome challenges to attending events, such as childcare.

The Hub largely continues to be supported by the Foster Carer Champions who have roles that cover responsibilities as 'Hub Links'. This replaced the Fostering 'buddy' system and feedback has been positive from both carers and staff.

All new carers continue to be allocated a 'Hub Link' within the first month of their fostering journey. Hub Links are allocated thoughtfully to promote relationship and connections between carers and their support network. Hub Links have also been allocated to existing carers and Special Guardians where they are experiencing challenges and require additional support. This quarter, the champions have supported 61 fostering households. This is going well but the level of support that can be offered is impacted by carers being unable to actively meet in person.

Children Service's teams are starting to consider where in the model they fit and what the support they offer to the fostering community looks like. Participation in the different areas of the hub continues to increase; all platforms despite the current restrictions remain in place. Need is monitored to ensure that the right kind of support is identified and delivered.

During the period October 2020 - December 2020, we have continued to offer only virtual forums and events. The sharp increase in those accessing virtual platforms including our training events has continued. This difficult time has clearly indicated that the sense of community and strength of a relationship based model is crucial to a developing a successful fostering service.

The Community Hub model opens the gateway to Foster Carers to be included in service forums and developing and connect with staff. Foster Carers' feedback is that this has helped them feel like a valued member of the whole team.

2. Creating and recruiting to the role of Caring2Learn Champion, a group made up of Foster Carers, Residential Support Workers, Designated Teachers and Children's staff. They will provide peer support and challenge to advocate and support good practice by bringing all services and professionals together to promote how best to support each other and our children.

The Foster Carers Champion role has been divided into three main areas: Training and development; Supporting learning and Education and Learning; and Foster Carer Hub Support. The priority for all the Foster Carer Champions remains Foster Carer community engagement and development which will be important for long term

progress. All Champions have clear performance targets around their lead area and this has certainly increased productivity. Each Foster Carer Education Champion has a clear development plan which they have developed, and with support will review.

There are 20 Foster Carers with a champion role. There are also identified champions within the Fostering, Early Help, Futures4me and Residential Teams who are supporting the project and integration within their own services. There are plans to develop these roles within other Children's Service's areas and recruit four more Foster Carers in the south and east of the county to support the development and demands within the Hub model. The Practice Supervisor is key to the maintenance and development of Foster Carer champions and their roles within the Hub.

The Social Pedagogy Champion group has developed with Caring2Learn to be a workshop around all practice, broadening its focus and inviting representatives from other service areas, schools and Foster Carers. The last workshop welcomed 62 participants. The workshops are themed and consider how theory is transferred to practice. This forum also gives those attending the opportunity to share practice and resources.

3. The development of Learning Homes and Caring Schools, which will assess, celebrate and drive good practice for Lincolnshire Looked after Children.

The toolkit for new carers which includes the standards from the Training Standards Development (TSD) has been well received. We are now starting to see these come in for assessment resulting in carers receiving a Learning Homes Award, with an expectation to resubmit a portfolio every three years to ensure on-going personal and professional development.

We currently have 43 foster homes and three residential settings that have achieved their Learning Homes Award. Due to the number of toolkits collected over recent months and the expectations that all new carers complete the award within 12 months of approval, we expect the number of awarded homes to rise significantly over the next 12-24 months. The Learning Homes Award has been achieved by three residential homes that took part in an initial pilot. The completed Residential Toolkit has now been developed and the first home to work through this is expected to submit by Easter 2021. The main development has been around the therapeutic practice to be embedded within the direct care of children within best practice guidelines.

School participation since the conference has risen to 170 providers. 46 Schools have already been awarded Caring School Awards.

Conclusion

Covid-19 has presented challenges to us all. Within the Fostering service, we have seen foster carers take themselves off line due to their own health vulnerabilities whilst at the same time we have seen others who have shown total commitment to the children in their care. As a result, placement stability in this quarter has continued to be strong. In addition, we should be heartened by the increase in interest in fostering and this is reflected in a significant increase in approvals this year. However, it has also resulted in an increase in referrals to Independent Fostering agencies. Sadly, this has not resulted in an increase in placement availability for most children and as a result, the number placed in Children's Homes has significantly increased. The

transformation work will attempt to address this by creating opportunities for improved support for foster carers, nurturing a different relationship with Independent providers and further developing the Foster Care community that Caring2Learn has so effectively initiated.

John Harris
Head of Regulated Services
Children's Services



**Open Report on behalf of Andrew Crookham,
Executive Director - Resources**

Report to:	Corporate Parenting Panel
Date:	11 March 2021
Subject:	Corporate Parenting Panel Work Programme

Summary:

This item enables the Panel 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. The work programme will be reviewed at each meeting of the Corporate Parenting Panel to ensure that its contents are still relevant and will add value to the work of the Council and partners.

Actions Required:

The Corporate Parenting Panel is asked to agree the work programme and identify any items for future meetings.

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.

Members are encouraged to highlight items that could be included for consideration in the work programme.

Work Programme

11 MARCH 2021		
Item		Contributor
1	Voices for Choices (V4C) Update Report	Ben Lilley, Team Manager (Quality and Standards)
2	Children in Care Performance Measures - Quarter 3 2020/21 (October to December 2020)	Janice Spencer, Assistant Director - Children's Safeguarding
3	Long-term Mental Health of Children in Care in England Research Project	Janice Spencer, Assistant Director - Children's Safeguarding Carey Gordon, Inspections and Special Projects Officer
4	Fostering Quarterly Performance Report - Quarter 3	John Harris, Head of Regulated Services (Fostering and LAC North)

JUNE 2021 (Date TBC)		
Item		Contributor
1	Introduction to Corporate Parenting	Janice Spencer, Assistant Director - Children's Safeguarding

22 JULY 2021		
Item		Contributor
-	Election of Chairman & Election of Vice-Chairman 2021/22	Democratic Services
1	Legal Services Lincolnshire end of year report 2020/21 (April 2020 to March 2021)	Nicola Corby, Acting Principal Lawyer
2	Regulation 44 Independent Visiting Service – Annual Report 2020/21 (April 2020 to March 2021)	Carolyn Knight, Quality and Standards Manager
3	Independent Reviewing Service Annual Report 202/21 (April 2020 to March 2021)	Carolyn Knight, Quality and Standards Manager
4	Children in Care Performance Measures - Quarter 4 2020/21 (January to March 2021)	Janice Spencer, Assistant Director - Children's Safeguarding

5	Leaving Care Service Annual Report 2020/21 (April 2020 to March 2021)	Lisa Adams, Service Manager, Barnardo's Leaving Care Services
6	Voices for Choices (V4C) Update Report	Ben Lilley, Team Manager (Quality and Standards)
7	Corporate Parenting, Children in Care and Care Leaver Strategy Priorities Action Plan Update	Andrew Morris, Corporate Parenting Manager

Items to be Scheduled:

- National Approach to Council Tax Relief / Exemption for Care Leavers
- Initial Health Assessments - An Evaluation of the Nurse Led Model

2. Consultation

a) Risks and Impact Analysis

Not Applicable

3. 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 07552 253814 or by e-mail at tracy.johnson@lincolnshire.gov.uk

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