



County Offices
Newland
Lincoln
LN1 1YL

8 June 2023

Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee

A meeting of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee will be held on **Friday, 16 June 2023 at 10.00 am in Council Chamber, County Offices, Newland, Lincoln LN1 1YL** for the transaction of the business set out on the attached Agenda.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Debbie Barnes'.

Debbie Barnes OBE
Chief Executive

Membership of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee
(11 Members of the Council and 3 Added Members)

Councillors R J Kendrick (Chairman), W H Gray (Vice-Chairman), A J Baxter, S A J Blackburn, A W Briggs, Mrs J E Killey, C Matthews, N Sear, T J N Smith, M A Whittington and R A Wright

Added Members

Church Representative: Mr M Kyle

Parent Governor Representatives: Mrs M R Machin and 1 Parent Governor Vacancy

**CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE AGENDA
FRIDAY, 16 JUNE 2023**

Item	Title	Pages
1	Apologies for Absence / Replacement Members	
2	Declaration of Members' Interest	
3	Minutes from the last meeting held on 21 April 2023	5 - 14
4	Announcements by the Chairman, Executive Councillor for Children's Services, Community Safety, Procurement and Migration and Chief Officers	
5	Team Around the Child in Lincolnshire Annual Report 2022 <i>(To receive a report from Hannah Pendleton, Head of Service – Boston and South Holland Locality, and Alex Clarke, Practice Supervisor which provides an overview of the Team Around the Child (TAC) successes and the work of the TAC Consultant Team)</i>	15 - 32
6	Young Carers Annual Update 2022 <i>(To receive a report from Hannah Pendleton, Head of Service - Boston and South Holland Locality, and Alex Clarke, Practice Supervisor, which provides a summary of the work undertaken to identify and support Young Carers in Lincolnshire.)</i>	33 - 50
7	Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee Work Programme <i>(To receive a report from Tracy Johnson, Senior Scrutiny Officer, which enables the Committee to consider and comment on the contents of its work programme to ensure that its scrutiny activity is focused where it can be of greatest benefit.)</i>	51 - 58
8	CONSIDERATION OF EXEMPT INFORMATION In accordance with Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the following agenda item has not been circulated to the press and public on the grounds that it is considered to contain exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12 A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended. The press and public may be excluded from the meeting for the consideration of this item of business.	
9	Refurbishment and re-modelling of St Francis School, Lincoln <i>(To receive a report from Dave Pennington, Head of Property Development, Eileen McMorrow, Programme Manager SEND Strategy and Teri Marshall, Senior Project Manager – Corporate Property, which invites the Committee to consider a report prior to a decision taken by the Leader of Lincolnshire County Council between 19 and 22 June</i>	59 - 76

2023.)

Democratic Services Officer Contact Details

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

- Business of the meeting
- Any special arrangements

Contact details set out above.

Please note: This meeting will be broadcast live on the internet and access can be sought by accessing [Agenda for Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee on Friday, 16th June, 2023, 10.00 am \(modern.gov.co.uk\)](#)

All papers for council meetings are available on:

<https://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/council-business/search-committee-records>



**CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY
COMMITTEE
21 APRIL 2023**

PRESENT: COUNCILLOR R J KENDRICK (CHAIRMAN)

Councillors W H Gray (Vice-Chairman), R J Cleaver, Mrs J E Killey, C Matthews, N Sear, T J N Smith, M A Whittington and R A Wright

Added Members

Church Representative: Mr M Kyle

Parent Governor Representatives:

Councillors Mrs P A Bradwell OBE and S P Roe were also in attendance.

Philip Clark (Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner) attended the meeting as an observer.

Amy Butler (Head of Children and Young People's Services, Lincolnshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust) attended the meeting as an invited guest.

Officers in attendance:-Matthew Clayton (Interim Head of Capital Reform and Education Sufficiency), Andy Cook (Service Manager - Future4Me), Linda Dennett (Assistant Director - Children's Health and Commissioning), Tracey Evans (Team Manager - Youth Offending Service) Charlotte Gray (Head of Service – Children's Strategic Commissioning), Tracy Johnson (Senior Scrutiny Officer), Neal Kathel (Property Team Leader, Corporate Property), Amy Lawson (Team Manager - Youth Offending Service), Heather Sandy (Executive Director - Children's Services), Martin Smith (Assistant Director for Children's Education), Alison Toyne (Project Manager – Corporate Property), Jess Wosser-Yates (Democratic Services Officer)

42 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE / REPLACEMENT MEMBERS

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors S Blackburn and J Tyrell.

43 DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTEREST

There were no interests declared at this point in proceedings.

**CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
21 APRIL 2023**

44 MINUTES FROM THE LAST MEETING ON 3 MARCH 2023

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the last meeting held on 3 March 2023 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

45 ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE CHAIRMAN, EXECUTIVE COUNCILLOR FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES, COMMUNITY SAFETY AND PROCUREMENT AND CHIEF OFFICERS

The Chairman attended the Lincolnshire Music Service's Showcase Concert at Lincoln Cathedral on Friday 14th April 2023 with the Vice Chairman and other Committee members, and praised the musical talent of young people across Lincolnshire.

The Executive Councillor for Children's Services, Community Safety, Procurement and Migration also attended the Concert and echoed sentiments expressed by the Chairman. She also informed the Committee that the Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (OFSTED) were inspecting Children's Services for two weeks and thanked all officers involved with the inspection.

The Executive Director – Children's Services added that some officers were absent due to the inspection.

46 UPDATE ON COMMUNITY RESPONSE TO HIGH LEVEL MENTAL HEALTH NEEDS

The Committee considered a report by Charlotte Gray, Head of Service – Children's Strategic Commissioning, which provided an update on mental health (MH) services for children and young people (CYP) across Lincolnshire, with a particular focus on the community crisis response to high level MH needs that was introduced in 2020 following the closure of Lincolnshire's CYP inpatient unit, Ash Villa, in 2019. Amy Butler, Head of Children and Young People Services from the Lincolnshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (LPFT) was also in attendance for this item. The following matters were reported:

- MH services for CYP were mostly provided by LPFT and were commissioned by Children's Services on behalf of Lincolnshire's Integrated Care Board (ICB).
- LPFT assessed and referred CYP to the East Midlands 'Provider Collaborative' who sought an inpatient unit within the region.
- Currently there was no CYP inpatient unit in Lincolnshire, The East Midland's Provider Collaborative partly funded the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) Crisis and Enhanced Treatment Team (CCETT) which aimed to prevent CYP being admitted to inpatient units. The CCETT also offered community-based support for CYP after leaving inpatient care.
- 97% of complex MH referrals avoided a hospital admission in 2021 due to the support offered by the CCETT.

- An increase in YP accessing inpatient provision since the pandemic in Lincolnshire was observed, although the county benchmarked lower than regional and national averages.
- Lincolnshire's urgent and emergency response rate benchmarked above the national average during the pandemic.
- Challenges to MH services were experienced locally and nationally due to increased demand following the Covid-19 pandemic; referrals to the CCETT had increased by 24% and across all services, and CYP were also requiring support for longer which contributed towards a reduced rate of discharge.
- The ICB had directly responded to cited pressures by increasing investment and consequently, waiting times had reduced by 36% from May 2022 to February 2023. Additionally, there was a 42% reduction of CYP waiting over 12 weeks from referral to treatment.
- Some Lincolnshire CYP had to travel outside of the county to access specialised inpatient services even when Ash Villa was operational, and Ash Villa also provided services to CYP from other areas.
- The region had increased inpatient beds for CYP with eating disorders due to heightened referrals following the pandemic.
- The CYP Mental Health Transformation Programme was underway and had a broad scope which included enhancing Lincolnshire's crisis offer and providing support to CYP within their communities.

During consideration of the report, the following comments were noted:

- Approximately 300 additional CYP in Lincolnshire required MH support at any one time following the pandemic, however referrals were gradually decreasing.
- There were increased access targets from NHSE.
- The potential impact of the closure of Ash Villa on vulnerable CYP and their families could be exacerbated by having to travel to receive inpatient treatment. The Head of CYP Services from the LPFT assured that the NHSE 'Provider Collaborative' model ensured that CYP were discussed as part of the Collaborative and sought to allocate a bed within the region.
- The Head of Service – Children's Strategic Commissioning informed the Committee that the ICB and Children's Services worked closely to commission MH support, and this gave the ability to attempt to influence NHSE around the needs of CYP in Lincolnshire.
- Children's Services had enhanced the crisis offer to reduce the demand for CYP inpatient facilities, and the importance of early intervention within communities was noted.
- In Lincolnshire, CYP inpatient numbers increased to 75.1 per 100,000 population following the pandemic which benchmarked below the national average of 89.5.
- Members questioned which external factors were causing the prevalence of MH crises in CYP. The Head of Service – Children's Strategic Commissioning noted that there were many factors, and most CYP were referred due to anxiety and emotional

disorders. There was a better awareness in society to acknowledge and respond to MH needs, which also contributed towards increased demand.

- It was clarified that the East Midlands ‘Provider Collaborative’ included Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire, and Northamptonshire. The closest specialist inpatient unit for CYP in Lincolnshire was near Nottingham city centre.
- Members highlighted the 15.7% increase in CAMHS referrals in Lincolnshire during the pandemic and questioned the impact on the workforce. It was highlighted that this increase was a rapid change during the pandemic, meaning it was impractical to upscale the workforce at the time. It was assured that additional funding was increasing the workforce and pre-existing staff were also being up-skilled.
- The Executive Director of Children’s Services highlighted that Lincolnshire had historically invested well in CYP MH provisions and led the way in developing services locally before they were part of national recommended models, such as Healthy Minds Lincolnshire.
- LPFT and Children’s Services worked well in articulating funding requirements to the ICB.
- The Executive Councillor for Children’s Services, Public Safety, Procurement and Migration clarified that the decision to close Ash Villa prioritised the care and wellbeing of CYP as the facility was dated and unable to meet NHSE requirements for MH units. In other specialist health services, patients were sometimes required to go out of area for treatment. Once CYP were discharged from inpatient care they tended to continue accessing support in Lincolnshire.
- Historically, more female CYP accessed MH services; this trend extended to inpatient services both locally and nationally.

RESOLVED:

1. That the Committee has reviewed and has been assured on the effectiveness of the community crisis response provided by the CAMHS Crisis and Enhanced Treatment Team for children and young people experiencing high level mental health needs
2. That the Committee receives a progress report on the Children and Young People Mental Health Transformation Programme at a future meeting.

47 **CARE REVIEW**

The Committee received a report from Heather Sandy, Executive Director – Children’s Services which provided an overview of the Government’s response to the Care Review published in May 2022, and highlighted the three associated consultations that were currently live, as well as providing commentary on Lincolnshire’s current position in relation to the proposals. It was reported that:

- The governments implementation Strategy and Consultation – Stable Homes, Built on Love responded to three significant reviews – The Independent Review of Children’s Social Care, the National Review into the murders of Arthur Labinjo-Hughes and Star

Hobson, and the Competition and Markets Authority (CMA) study into Children's Social Care Placements.

- The strategy sought to shift away from formal interventions with families towards effective multi-agency support and early help.
- Changes would be implemented through a series of pillars over the next few years by a small proportion of selected local authorities before the strategy extended to the whole country:
 - Pillar 1 ensured the right support at the right time so children could thrive with their families.
 - Pillar 2 implemented a decisive multi-agency child protection system which included the education sector.
 - Pillar 3 strived to unlock the potential of family networks and provide relevant support.
 - Pillar 4 focused on putting love, relationships, and a stable home at the heart of being a child in care (CiC).
 - Pillar 5 provided a valued, supported and highly-skilled social worker for every child who required one.
 - Pillar 6 sought to ensure the system continuously evolved and improved and made better use of evidence and data.
- The first four pillars would form part of the Family First for Children Pathfinder Programme that would see three pre-selected local authorities put on, and a further nine would be selected through a formal bidding process.
- It was assured that a lot of the government's recommendations were already implemented in Lincolnshire.
- Three consultations were being ran as part of the strategy – Stable Homes, Built on Love, Children's Social Care National Framework and Dashboard and Agency social workers.

During consideration of the report, the following was noted:

- Assurance was provided that the principles and values adopted in Lincolnshire towards CYP consistently aligned with the government's recommendations, although their implementation would require some legislative change and a different way of working with partners and funding.
- LCC and Children's Services were attempting to influence proposals through the Association of Directors of Children's Services (ACDS).
- Members suggested the mandating of the education sector into the multi-agency child protection system (Pillar 2) could prevent vulnerable children exposed to abuse from falling through the gaps. It was assured that schools in Lincolnshire adhered to and exceeded statutory safeguarding responsibilities. Operation Encompass already involved schools as a partner in instances where a child was present in domestic violence, and schools provided good informal responses to support the child.
- Following the tragic deaths of Arthur Labinjo-Hughes and Star Hobson, Children's Services saw the involvement of schools as beneficial in preventing vulnerable children from falling through the gap.

- In instances where children were homeschooled, Operation Encompass ensured the Police factored this into the risk assessment in the referral made to Children's Services, who then made the decision whether the case needed to be referred to safeguarding services.
- LCC and partners were keen to bid for the rollout of the Family First for Children Pathfinder Programme.
- The aim to 'simplify and streamline' social care legislation for children with special educational needs or disability (SEND) was questioned; the Executive Director – Children's Services highlighted that the legislation in place did not adequately help SEND CYP, local authorities or schools. It was noted a detailed response would be circulated following the meeting.
- Members highlighted that pre-school aged children may not be as known to police. The Committee was informed that involvement before birth occurred with doctors and midwives, and the health visiting service oversaw very young children and signposted potential concerns to Children's Services. The Executive Director – Children's Services noted that reports were assessed to highlight necessary potential changes, but the work of Children's Services consistently carried risk. Despite this, the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Partnership (LSCP) was assured by the work and processes of Children's Services.
- The Assistant Director – Children's Health and Commissioning informed Members that the police notified the health visiting service for issues pertaining to young children not in school. This information went on the child's record meaning police were aware of potential issues before they visited the home.
- Pillar 2 of the strategy included an 'increased role for education in local safeguarding arrangements' and it was questioned whether all parties would be able to access the same database and information on children. It was clarified that schools, police and Children's Services accessed different information on a child and their families - the Pillar focused on being able to streamline identifying a child in a certain way. Health, social care, and police staff would work in a locality from the same safeguarding system, including schools, although further detail from the government was anticipated.
- Members considered the possibility of unaccompanied asylum-seeking children in the county who were not known to authorities. The Executive Director - Children's Services gave assurance that she was confident children under 16 were not going missing in the county; those aged 16-18 often alerted authorities if they intended to move, and Children's Services would offer them support in doing so.

RESOLVED

1. That the Committee has reviewed the Government's proposed response to the Care Review
2. That the Committee's comments be taken into account in the Council's response to the three consultations by 11 May 2023

48 HMIP INSPECTION REPORT AND OUTCOME - LINCOLNSHIRE YOUTH OFFENDING SERVICE

The Committee received a report from Andy Cook, Head of Service – Future4Me and Youth Offending, on the outcome and findings from the recent inspection of youth justice services in Lincolnshire undertaken by His Majesty’s Inspectorate of Probation (HMIP) in January 2023. Tracey Evans and Amy Lawson, Team Managers for the Youth Offending Service (YOS), were also in attendance for this item. The following matters were reported:

- The inspection commenced on 9 January 2023 and involved sending information to inspectorates in advance and focused on assessing partnership arrangements and the strategic management board; the inspection also included organising focus groups with key partners to demonstrate the multi-agency approach undertaken in Lincolnshire.
- The national approach to inspecting YOS by HMIP currently consisted of four domains that were assessed: organisational delivery, court disposals, out-of-court disposals, and resettlement.
- The Head of Service – Future4Me Youth Offending announced that Lincolnshire YOS achieved an overall ‘outstanding’ judgement. It was highlighted there were approximately 150 YOS nationally, with only 10% achieving an ‘Outstanding’ classification. The Joint Diversionary Panel had also received an ‘Outstanding’ judgement. The Head of Service – Future4Me and Youth Offending thanked all staff and partners involved for their hard work.
- Lincolnshire YOS had submitted an improvement plan to HMIP in response to four recommendations set out in the inspection report. Recommendations pertained to the consistency of safety and wellbeing in cases in out of court disposals, and ensuring effective management oversight in those cases, of which there was a small amount. Additionally, it was recommended to increase the number of children in education, employment, and training, which was already a clear focus of the service. The final recommendation related to ensuring the ethnicity profile of staff and volunteers in the service better reflected the cohort of children. It was assured recommendations were integrated in service action plans and were firmly embedded in the strategic management board as strategies.

During consideration of the report, the following comments were noted:

- The Executive Director – Children’s Services highlighted her appreciation on behalf of the whole service, as well as on behalf of the Executive Councillor for Children’s Services, Community Safety, Procurement and Migration.
- The Committee also congratulated the YOS and expressed thanks for all involved.
- The Head of Service – Future4Me and Youth Offending was confident the YOS were adequately supported to fulfil recommendations, and highlighted they were previously aware of all issues highlighted in the recommendations.
- The Chairman agreed to endorse a formal thanks to the YOS on behalf of the Committee.

RESOLVED

1. That the Committee has reviewed the findings and judgements from the inspection report.
2. That the Committee's congratulations to the Youth Offending Service for the 'Outstanding' judgement be recorded.
3. That the Committee receives a monitoring report in six months' time to provide assurance on the progress made with implementing the four recommendations contained within the inspection report.

49 CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME

The Committee considered a report from Tracy Johnson, Senior Scrutiny Officer, which invited members to consider and comment on the content of its work programme, to ensure that scrutiny activity was focused where it could be of greatest benefit. There were no amendments made to the published work programme, although it was highlighted that given developments with OFSTED inspecting Children's Services, there was a report expected to be published by the next meeting, to be considered by the Committee in the future.

Members questioned when the Children in Care Transformation programme would be programmed; the Senior Scrutiny Officer informed the Committee that further information was anticipated on the two new children's home before this could be programmed.

RESOLVED

1. That the Committee's Work Programme be reviewed and agreed upon.

50 CONSIDERATION OF EXEMPT INFORMATIONRESOLVED

That in accordance with Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that if they were present there could be a disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Section 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended.

51 EXPANSION OF SUTTERTON FOURFIELDS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Consideration was given to the exempt report. The Committee raised a number of questions which were answered by the Officers present.

RESOLVED

1. That the Committee support the recommendations to the Leader of the Council as set out in the report.
2. That the Committee's comments be passed on to the Leader of the Council in relation to this item.

The meeting closed at 12.12 pm

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

Report to:	Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee
Date:	16 June 2023
Subject:	Team Around the Child in Lincolnshire Annual Report 2022

Summary:

This report provides the Committee with an overview of the Team Around the Child (TAC) successes and the work of the TAC consultant team. The Team Around the Child in Lincolnshire Annual Report for 2022, which is a Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Partnership (LSCP) document, is attached at Appendix A.

Actions required:

The Committee is invited to review the Team Around the Child in Lincolnshire Annual Report for 2022 and seek assurance on the effectiveness of the TAC arrangements in place to support children and young people.

1. Background

Team Around the Child (TAC) is a system of support for children and young people who have needs that may not be wholly met by their parents and the universal services, and therefore the family and involved professionals come together as the Team around that Child to develop a plan for how to address any worries or unmet needs and work together to meet them. A Lead Professional is chosen by the family to lead this process. TAC is rooted in the evidence-based understanding that in addressing an issue early, this will prevent it escalating.

In Lincolnshire, our Early Help system is enviable, and this strength is based largely in the work being undertaken by our partners and in their ability to recognise when a child or family requires support at the earliest opportunity and develop a TAC. This allows for children and families to get the right support from those they have a relationship with already, but also prevents escalation of concern into social care.

The TAC consultant team is in place to support the work of our partners and aims to build bridges and remove barriers to ensure that the shared vision that children who need it, are getting help at the earliest opportunity.

2. Conclusion

As the annual report shows, the TAC activity in Lincolnshire continues to grow, highlighting the commitment of the wider partnership in the application of early help provision, with few requiring escalation to social care further showing that children and families are getting the right help at the right time. Feedback from families articulates the difference TAC has made in their lives and Lead Professionals and partners in general find the support of the TAC consultants to be positive.

As the data shows, most of the TAC arrangements are led by schools, and whilst this is positive, the work going forward will be to engage further with other partners with an aim of increasing their involvement with TAC. As the TAC successes and challenges are overseen by the LSCP, additional recommendations and suggestions may be made by the Partnership as a whole as to how to further improve on the work of TAC in Lincolnshire.

3. Consultation

a) Risk and Impact Analysis

Not applicable

4. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Team Around the Child (TAC) in Lincolnshire Annual Report 2022

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 Hannah Pendleton, who can be contacted on 07900 244130 or Hannah.pendleton@lincolnshire.gov.uk.

Team Around the Child (TAC) in Lincolnshire

Annual Report 2022

Table of contents

Introduction from Cllr. Patricia Bradwell OBE	2
What is Team Around the Child	3
The Early Help Pathway	4
TAC starts with a conversation	5
Number of TAC cases in Lincolnshire	6
What difference does TAC make?	7
How do we support TAC in Lincolnshire?	7
What difference do we make?	10
TAC Champions	12
Feedback from TAC Surveys.....	13
Contact Information.....	16

A message from Councillor Patricia Bradwell OBE, Executive Councillor for Children’s Services

I am really pleased to introduce this report on Team Around the Child (TAC) work in Lincolnshire. Every week, colleagues and I see evidence that the co-ordinated support that TAC provides really makes a difference for children and families. Even in the most challenging of circumstances, TAC creates a space for families where they feel people are trying to help; and at its very best TAC changes lives for the better, and for the long term.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Lincolnshire TAC Team, made up of Early Help Consultants and TAC Administrators, who work hard to support and challenge everyone who works with families in Lincolnshire to offer joined up support at the earliest opportunity.

I am also grateful to all of the wonderful Lead Professionals in Lincolnshire, from whatever agency they come from, for making change happen for our children. In particular, a big thank you to our schools who see children nearly every day, build relationships with them and their families, and continue to be the largest contributors to TAC in Lincolnshire. I hope everyone finds something interesting in this report; and please let the TAC Team know if they can do anything to support you in your work.

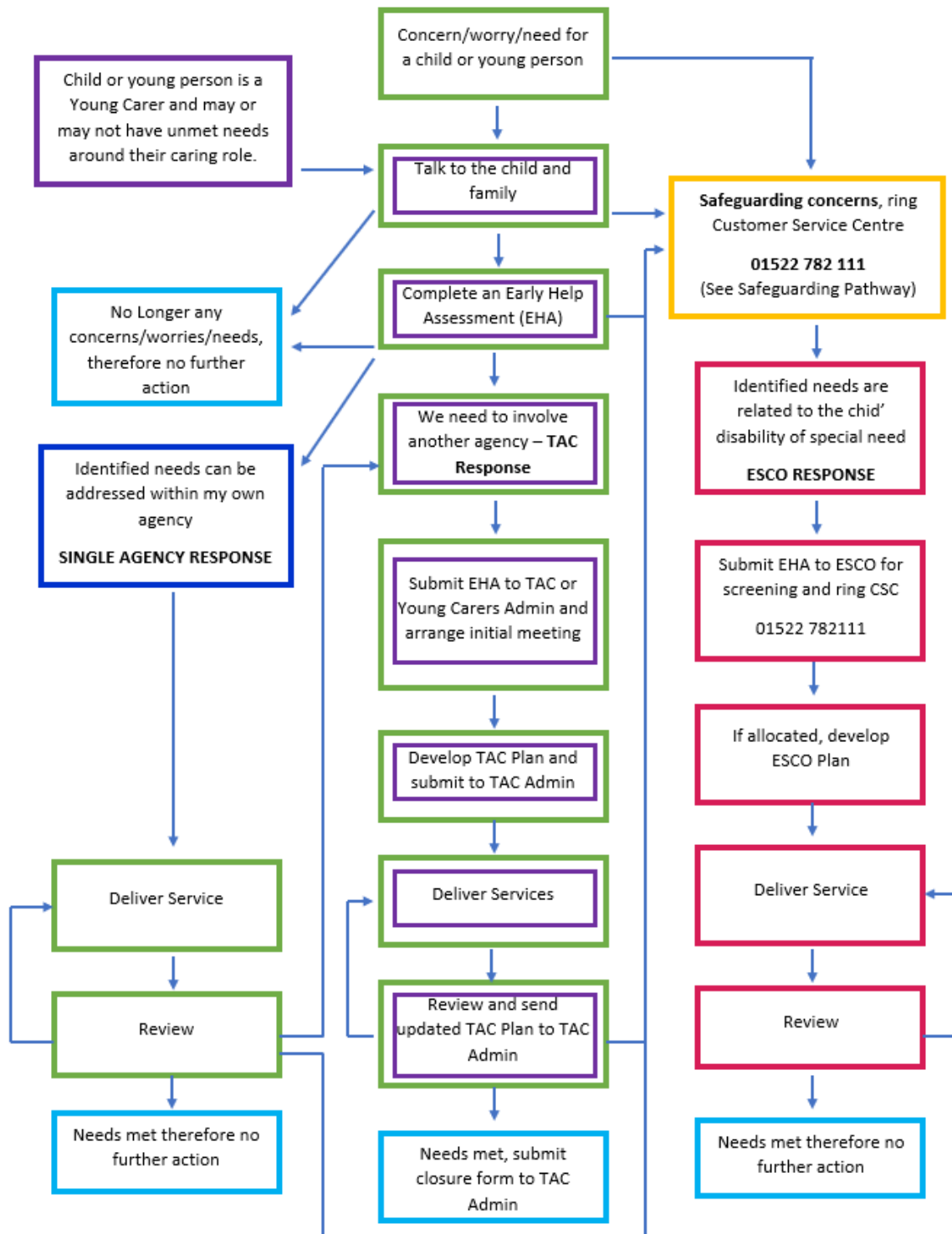
What is Team Around the Child (TAC)

Team Around the Child (TAC) offers Early Help and support for children as soon as we have a worry about them. TAC is how different people and services work together to help children and their families at any point in their lives to prevent or reduce difficulties before they become too difficult.

The TAC Journey



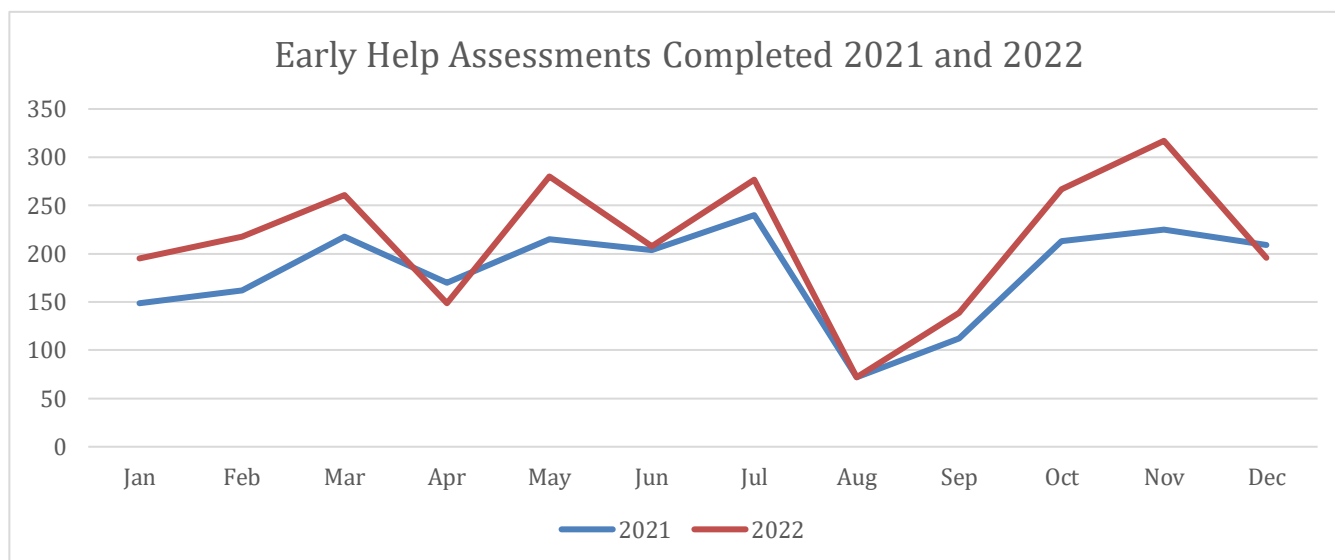
Early Help Pathway



A TAC starts with a conversation...

...we record this on an Early Help Assessment

The numbers of children, young people and families who have had a conversation with a trusted professional who has then submitted an EHA are shown below for 2021 and 2022.

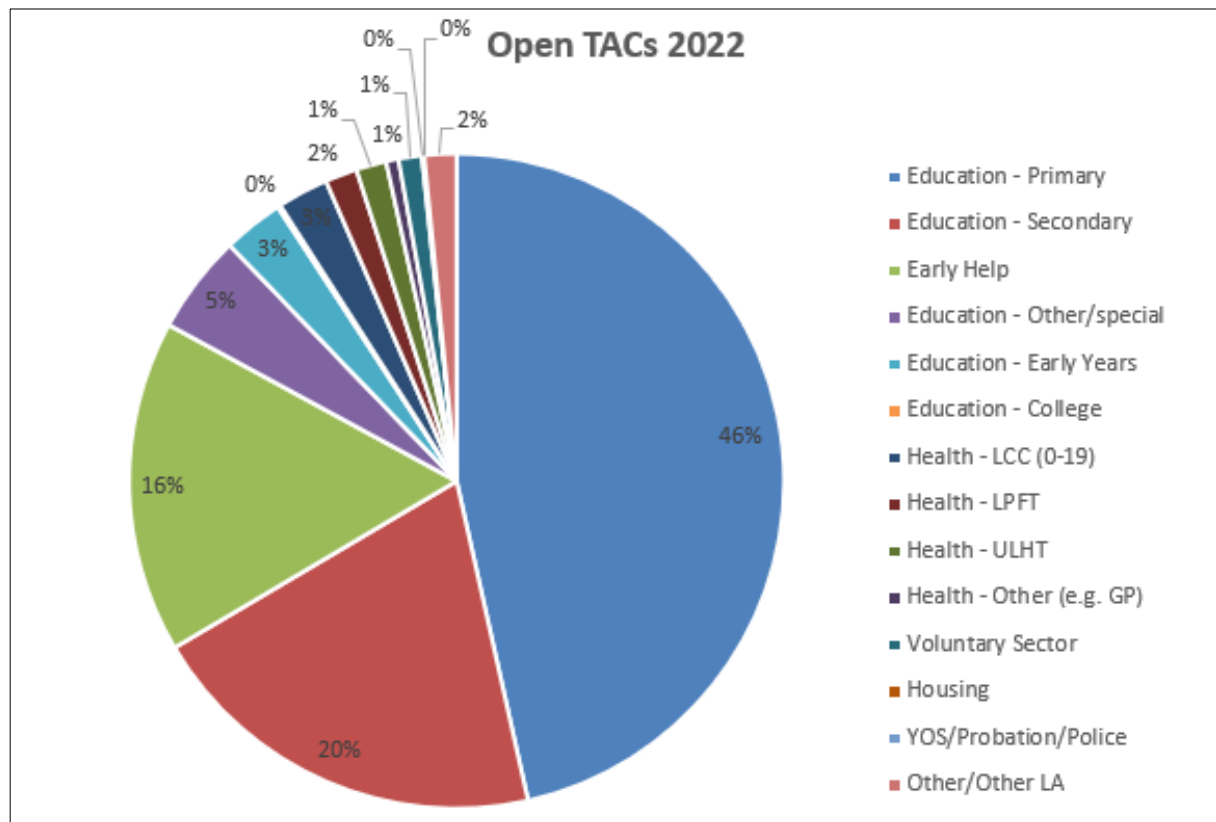
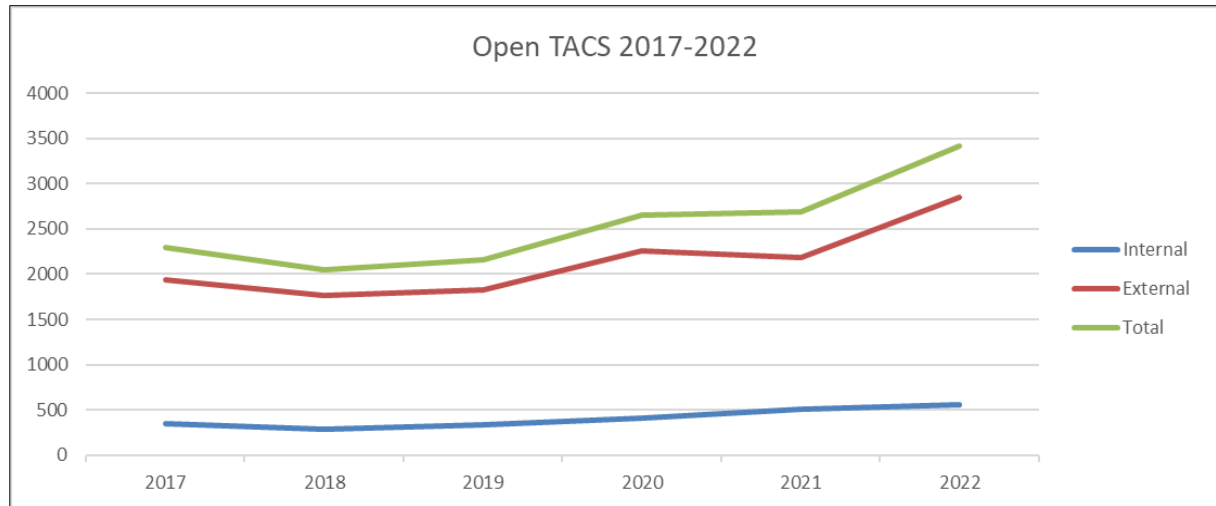


The range of different agencies that families choose to talk to us in 2021 and 2022

Agency	2021	2022
Education - Primary	946	1265
Education - Secondary	484	602
Education - Other/Special	119	121
Education - Nursery/Preschool	69	89
Education - College	10	4
Health - LCC (0-19)	156	96
Health - LPFT	126	127
Health - ULHT	71	77
Health - Other	33	31
Voluntary	49	65
Housing	14	14
YOS/Probation/Police	9	1
Other/Other LA	103	87
TOTAL	2189	2579

Number of TACs in Lincolnshire

We are proud that the numbers of children, young people and families benefitting from TAC support in Lincolnshire continues to grow; and that our partners continue to lead the majority of TACs.



Partnership commitment to TAC is strong, particularly from our education providers, as shown in this chart above.

What difference does TAC make to families?

We know that **63%** (1004/1586) of TACs closed because goals have been achieved and outcomes for children and young people have improved.

We also know that only **10%** (162/1586) of children who had a TAC had concerns escalate to the point that they needed intervention from Children’s Social Care.

Below are a range of comments from children and families about their TAC.

“Team around the child has been a life saver. All the tools we have been shown and given have helped immensely. Obviously, there are limitations as to what can be done but there is nothing that seemed too much trouble. We are very grateful for all of the help and support we have been given.”

“I find that the children listen to me more now, and they can sometimes play with Chloe if I need a break. They can do things together without it ending up in a fight or shouting. The children are not getting into trouble at school either. Nothing else that could have helped or improved working with the TAC.”

“It has been useful and I would definitely recommend TAC to others. Its’s been great to get advice and tips for Jason to have opportunities to talk to other people because he doesn't always tell me. There isn't anything that we would improve. Things are so much calmer and positive in the house. Its less stressful.”

“The one thing that made the biggest impact was the support in general that the TAC team gave us. Nursery were also very supportive in the support they offered Joe within Nursery and the communication between us all. The TAC journey has been very positive for us all. We will take forward what we have learnt, it is our new habit as a family. We know the support will always be there if ever need it again. Yes, I'd recommend the TAC process to anyone requiring support and we are very grateful for the help and support we have received.”

How to we support TACs in Lincolnshire?

The TAC Team in Lincolnshire consist of Early Help Consultants and TAC Administrators (pictured below)



We offer support to all professionals around their responsibilities in supporting children and young people through joined up early help. The team promote the importance of undertaking an assessment as soon as worries emerge for a child or young person; and support with the initiation of Team Around the Child (TAC). We highlight the benefits of working in this way, so that the child or young person is supported by having a coordinated plan and a team of people that are committed to helping them. Consultants follow up with all new Lead Professionals to support them with undertaking the role and answering any queries they may have.

Case discussions are offered to support professionals' knowledge and confidence whilst offering advice and guidance.

The team operate a duty system where a professional can contact the consultant on duty and ask any questions they may have relating to any aspect of early help in Lincolnshire. This may range from advice regarding the paperwork, support with creating worry statements and goals or assisting the professional with any safeguarding queries they have.

Professionals are encouraged to access the workshops and forums the team offer and these are themed; for example, questioning and professional curiosity, worry statements and goals, support networks. The workshops allow for discussion and shared learning.

The forums are an opportunity for multi-agency networking and updating knowledge around specific agencies and the support that is available to both children and families. All of the workshops and forums can be found on the Enable booking system. <https://safeguardinglincolnshire.vc-enable.co.uk/Events>

Resources such as the TAC Handbook and guidance documents are available on the following website www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/tac. Any aspect of TAC consultant support can be accessed by emailing earlyhelpconsultants@lincolnshire.gov.uk

Paula Whitehead – Team Manager	
Early Help Consultant Team	TAC Admin Team
Jane Impey - Senior Project Officer	Hannah Sherman – Business Support Project Officer
Tracey Nicholson—Senior Ealy Help Consultant	Rachel Stokes – Young Carers
Michelle Conway— Senior Early Help Consultant	Katie Stokes – Lincoln
Kathie Robson—Reducing Parental Conflict	Katherine Rowson – Boston and West Lindsey
Sally Stanfield—Young Carers	Stephen Brewster – North Kesteven
Charlotte Britt—Lincoln and West Lindsey	Elizabeth Goodeve – South Kesteven
Faye White—Lincoln and West Lindsey	Debbie Smith – South Holland
Ann Wright—North and South Kesteven	Jason Liu – East Lindsey
Ruth Stephenson—North and South Kesteven	
Linda Munro—East Lindsey	
Hannah Randell—East Lindsey	
Eric Kasi—Boston and South Holland	
Amy Burchett—Boston and South Holland	

What difference do we make?

This year we have:

- Identified and offered support to 411 new Lead Professionals
- Conducted 539 case discussions or supervisions
- Delivered 8 Forums, attended by 355 people
- Delivered 32 workshops to 282 people
- Had support conversations 389 with Lead Professionals
- Offered ad hoc support, advice and guidance on 1,328 occasions

Comments from Professionals

“Thank you for meeting with me this morning. I have found it very beneficial to get an idea of how to be a TAC Lead professional and really appreciate the time and detail you went through. I feel like I can now hold a TAC meeting without feeling like I am overwhelmed. You were clear with how to question

and write details within the TAC paperwork and also gave some key advice on what information to gather moving the TAC forwards. It feels more comfortable that we will have another meeting once I have had my first TAC meeting as a lead professional to discuss any further developments I need to make. Again thank you for your time and I will speak to you soon.”

“Just wanted to say thank you for your support and reassurance yesterday. I genuinely appreciate the constructive and supportive feedback that you shared. I have reflected on our conversation and feel more confident and eager to support and challenge as a Lead Professional and be more curious and ask the appropriate questions to ensure that that the needs of the families are met. I have taken on board all the meaningful advice and look forward to speaking to you again soon.”

“Thank you so much for all of your support yesterday and these extensive notes. I really appreciate your help with everything, it really helped to start the meeting fresh with some newly worded worry statements and it was definitely the most positive meeting we have had with the family.”

“The support I received from the Early Help Consultant was very helpful. On a score of 1-10 ,I would give 9 with 10 being high. When I first spoke to Eric I had concerns and did not know what to do for the best. I was put at ease and given questions to ask mum and told what to do next. When having the conversation with Mum I felt more prepared because of the support I had been given. I now don’t feel worried and know I have done what I should. One of the best things I can take away from all this was the questions that I needed to ask.”

“I also always find the advice of my early help consultant helpful and at times, thought provoking- in fact it was a conversation with her a couple of years ago on a different TAC that made me realise that whatever is going on for a family at TAC, it always has to come back to the impact on the children- so my success in leading this TAC is borne out of that advice from her.”

“You’re always brilliant at asking me just the right question to lead me on to where I need to go next!”

“Thank you for a really productive session. I found the exercise very useful as it helped me reflect on the positive impact a TAC can have on a family... The session was collaborative and informative and has given me some useful pointers”

“Your help was amazing. I have also used your advice to start a further two EHAs with the confidence of knowing my paperwork is effective. Thank you!”

TAC Champions



In September 2022 we started our TAC Champion initiative. The aim is to celebrate examples of good practice from Lead Professionals supporting Lincolnshire children and families during the TAC process.

This can be through:

- A single piece of work that demonstrates that a positive and meaningful impact has been achieved
- Ongoing involvement in a TAC that is clearly supporting the child, young person and/or family to achieve their goals
- Professional development of a new or experienced Lead Professional

We know that many of our Lead Professionals understand the importance and benefits that a TAC can bring to families in need of early help or those stepping out from Social Care. We would like the ‘TAC Champions’ programme to identify, recognise, and celebrate the support given by our Lead Professionals to those families.

Below are some comments from letters sent to Lead Professionals explaining why they had been nominated:

“What is clear throughout this TAC is that you used challenge and support to help parents make positive changes to benefit the children. You ensured that the children were central to the TAC, encouraged development of family network, captured the voice of the children and included this in TAC actions.”

“What is clear throughout this TAC is that you took time to understand the needs of the family, and the pressures on them. You supported mum and dad to understand the benefit of TAC and led at the pace the family needed which has ensured positive outcomes for the children.”

“What is clear throughout this TAC is that you used challenge and support to help mum make positive changes to benefit the children. Working restoratively with mum you made appropriate adjustments to worry statements and goals which the children also understood. You ensured that the children were central to the TAC, encouraged development of a support network, and recognised the children as young carers.”

Lead Professional Surveys

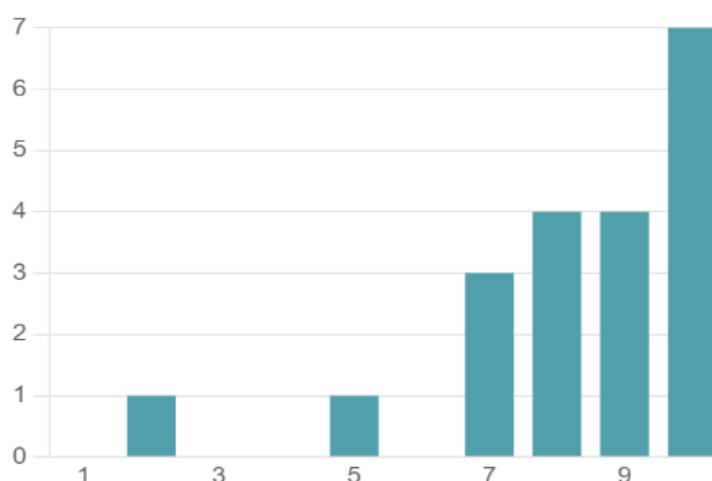
We conducted two surveys towards the end of 2022, the first designed to gain feedback from those professionals that had been selected for a **Support Conversation** and the second survey was targeted at ‘**New**’ lead professionals (those that had never been or had not been the LP for over 12 months)

Overall, the comments and scaling marks were positive and indicates the support offered is both needed and valued by our external partners.

The following are some examples of the questions and responses received from the **New Lead Professional Survey**:

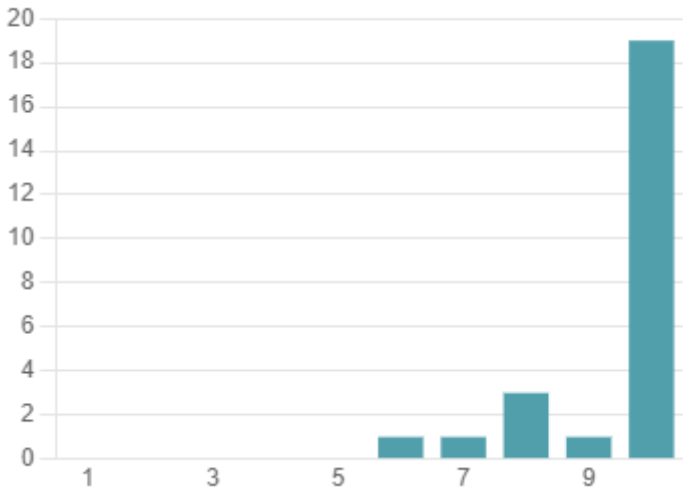
Only 7 out of 20 respondents knew about the support available to LP’s prior to the conversation, we hope to change this going forward by promoting our services to all agencies working with families.

75% respondents scaled how useful they found the conversation between 8 & 10



The following are some examples of the questions and responses received from the **Support Conversation** Survey:

We asked on a scale for colleagues to tell us how they felt during the Support Conversation (10 being very supported and 1 being not supported at all) **92%** rated between “8 - 10” for this question.



73% indicated their practice had changed since their Support Conversation

88% would recommend a Support Conversation to a colleague

What professionals told us...

“I have more professional curiosity and feel empowered to guide the conversations more”

“I think my practice has improved and my confidence has increased”

“It is a very supportive conversation, not a criticism which makes you feel better.”

“It’s a good idea to gain insight and support. I found the whole experience very positive and reassuring.”

“It was a really bespoke conversation and really helped me develop my knowledge of the role”

“I wasn't aware of the consultation and found it really helpful to understand more about the expectations of being LP for a TAC.”

“It was very useful for me and gave me confidence to know what I could do as the Lead Professional at the next TAC I led”

“I've had fantastic support from my consultant, they answer e mails promptly and a wealth of knowledge.”

“The consultant was brilliant and gave me lots of information and advice on how meeting should run and all about scaling etc.”

“I work with another safeguarding officer who has ran lots of TAC meetings and she has given me lots of support and guidance. Coupled with the information and advice from my consultant I felt well informed and comfortable with being the lead professional.”

“The conversation was not to catch me out but to help me. I was in fact doing what I should be and the pointers I received enabled me to hold more purposeful conversations” with families as a result.”

“Having this consultation lessened my anxiety in relation to being a LP for TAC also gave me more confidence that as LP you are fully supported. It was really nice to be praised and acknowledged for the work we do to support our families”

“Thank you very much for your time this morning. The information and advice you gave me for this TAC was impeccable, I will certainly be using it moving forward to help support families. In the next TAC meeting for this family I will be asking the parent the questions we discussed in order for me to close this TAC. Moving forward I will be using more of ‘Best questions’ and when coming into TAC I will be exploring closures as this can help with

understanding what the families want from their TAC. Again, thank you for the valuable information.”

Where to find help?



Website for Professionals: www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/tac

Where you will find professional resources and guidance documents.

TAC Admin: tacadmin@lincolnshire.gov.uk

TAC Admin receive EHAs, plans, closures and TAC updates, the team signpost and provide guidance on the TAC process

EHCs: earlyhelpconsultants@lincolnshire.gov.uk

Early Help Consultants support professionals who are working within Early Help and TAC.

TAC Admin Team: 01522 555828

Think TAC

Team Around the Child

We recognise that children need their own support network of family and friends to help them feel safe, happy and loved. Sometimes families need extra support from professionals. In Lincolnshire we call this 'Team Around the Child' or 'TAC'.

When a worry has been identified for a child or young person, the best place to start is by having a conversation with them, their family and/or support network about what is going on. You can record this conversation using an Early Help Assessment.

Team Around the Child is a group of people who care about a child or young person and who are willing to work together in an open and honest way to meet the needs of that child or young person.

How the TAC Team supports Professionals

TAC Administrators

- ★ Provide support, advice, and challenge to Lead Professionals on new and existing TAC cases, including pre-birth TACs. This also includes advice on best practice.

Early Help Consultants

- ★ Provide support, advice and challenge on new and existing TAC cases, including pre-birth TACs.
- ★ Facilitate workshops, forums and other learning opportunities in partnership with Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children's Partnership.
- ★ Provide additional support to new Lead Professionals taking on the role for the first time.

You can contact us at
tacadmin@lincolnshire.gov.uk
earlyhelpconsultants@lincolnshire.gov.uk
01522 555828
www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/tac

TAC helps families receive the right support at the right time from the right person

If you are a parent, carer or young person and are worried about something please speak to a professional you trust about how an Early Help Assessment and TAC could help. For more information:

Lincolnshire
COUNTY COUNCIL
Making for a better future

The 'Think TAC' poster is available for all professionals to use in their settings.

Website for Parents and Families

<https://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/keeping-children-safe/team-around-child>

Below are pictures of the TAC Leaflet available for families, the information can be accessed via the website above.



Team Around the Child in Lincolnshire

A guide for Parents and Families



What is Team Around the Child?

Team Around the Child (TAC) offers Early Help and support for children as soon as we have a worry about them. TAC is how different people and services work together to help children and their families at any point in their lives to prevent or reduce difficulties before they become too difficult.

Is my child the right age for TAC?

Yes, TAC supports children and young people before they are born until their 19th birthday. Young people with additional needs can continue to receive TAC support up to their 25th birthday.

Who will do this work with my family?

You choose who you would like to be the Lead Professional, they will support you and your child through the TAC. The Lead Professional will be someone who works with children and knows your child. They may remain the same person or change if your situation changes. Together, you and the Lead Professional, invite other professionals you would like to support your family in TAC.

What questions will be asked?

The Lead Professional will talk to you about what you and your child are worried about. They will also ask who is in your child's life that make things easier. Together you will talk about what needs to happen to lessen these worries and where to start. Your child will play an active part in this and will share their feelings to them and when things begin to feel better.

How long will the TAC stay open?

The TAC will stay open while it is making a positive difference for your child. The TAC closes when all goals are met, or the child/family feel the team approach is no longer needed.

Can I bring someone with me?

Absolutely, ideally someone who knows your child well. This may be family and friends.

The TAC Journey



Useful Information

EHA (Early Help Assessment) – this is a process used to discuss your child's need and what support you want for them.

TAC (Team Around the Child) – A group of people, including you and your child, who work together to support your child.

LP (Lead Professional) – The person who is your main contact, coordinating the support and offering further advice.

Information about your family will not be shared without you agreeing to this unless there is a safeguarding concern.

Where can I find further information?

You can access all the information and paperwork within the TAC process via lincolnshire.gov.uk/tac

If you are worried and you feel a child is at risk of harm, please telephone our customer services centre, **01522 782 111**

For further safeguarding information please access the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Partnership via their website: lincolnshire.gov.uk/safeguarding

For further information around services supporting families in Lincolnshire, please visit the [Family Services Directory Website](#)

"The TAC Process helped in getting the right support. It has helped us deal with things differently. I felt listened to" (parent)

*remember to print me on the short edge



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

Report to:	Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee
Date:	16 June 2023
Subject:	Young Carers Annual Update 2022

Summary:

This report provides the Committee with an overview of the work undertaken to identify and support Young Carers in Lincolnshire. The Young Carers Annual Update for 2022 is attached at Appendix A.

Actions required:

The Committee is invited to review the Young Carers Annual Update for 2022 and seek assurance on the measures being undertaken to identify and support young carers in Lincolnshire.

1. Background

A Young Carer is someone who is under the age of 18 and who provides support and care to a friend or family member, who, due to illness, disability, mental health need or drug or alcohol dependence, requires support to meet one or more of their own needs.

The support a Young Carer offers to their family is invaluable, though we do know that it can be isolating and some of the support they offer can be unrecognised by those outside the family. Identifying who may be a young carer is not always easy, as it requires a parent or carer to highlight the caring role that is happening and there could be many reasons why a parent would be reluctant to do so.

In Lincolnshire, we work hard with our partner agencies to understand and recognise when a child or young person is a young carer and to listen to their voice about what their life is like and how others can help their family as a whole.

2. Conclusion

As the annual report highlights, Young Carer activity is strong in Lincolnshire, and we have an ever-growing proportion of our partner agencies who are recognising when a child or young person is a young carer and want to support them more and more. We are working

to identify young carers at the earliest opportunity and looking to celebrate the support these special young people provide within their family systems.

Looking forward, we would want to further build on our relationships with other partner agencies to increase their understanding and confidence in recognising and speaking to a family about their young carer.

3. Consultation

- a) Risk and Impact Analysis**
Not applicable

4. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Young Carer Annual Update 2022

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 Hannah Pendleton, who can be contacted on 07900 244130 or Hannah.pendleton@lincolnshire.gov.uk.

**Young Carers
Annual Update
2022**

Table of contents

- Introduction by Cllr. Patricia Bradwell OBE3
- Priority Updates4
- Young Carers Survey6
- Identification of Young Carers7
- Where are Young Carers Identified8
- Age8
- Gender9
- Who Young Carers are Caring for9
- Reasons people need care10
- Young Carer Card.....10
- Young Carer’s Voices.....11
- Working with Schools.....14
- Partnership working and co-production.....15
- Priorities for 2023.....16
- Where to get help or find out more.....16



A message from Councillor Patricia Bradwell OBE, Executive Councillor for Children's Services

I continue to be honoured to play a small part in ensuring young carers in Lincolnshire are identified, supported, and celebrated. We should never underestimate the amount of time, energy, and love that they give to their loved ones to make sure that they are cared for however challenging the situation may be.

I am moved every time I hear about some of the circumstances these amazing young people face and am proud of the people who are so committed to helping them.

In this report you will see the range of people who are identifying young carers and supporting them through activities, listening and whole family help.

Our Early Help Workers and Schools do some amazing work and continue to lead the way in the support on offer. Health Services, Adult Support Services and Voluntary Organisations continue to be key partners in helping us to continue to improve.

And of course, we want our improvements to be informed by the young carers themselves, so I am grateful to Sally Stanfield and the Young Carers Participation Group for giving a voice to young carers. I hope you enjoy reading this report, and whatever your role, find a small way to help young carers in the coming year.

2022 has been a busy year for our Young Carers across the county, they have had to cope with many changes as the country around them began to find our new 'normal' post pandemic way of living. Many Young Carers were rightly so, worried about re-engaging in public/community activities and for some, returning to school was also a big worry. Our Young Carers Service began by combining virtual and face to face activity sessions, we have been working with lots of new schools to support them in exploring how they can best support their Young Carer students and we have done this by including our Young Carers on the journey with us, so that we made sure what we delivered best met their needs. This Annual Update will share a reflection of what life has been like for our Young Carers during the past year and share some of the highlights and plans for the future as we work 'better together'.

Priority Updates

Last Year we shared our plans and priorities for the forthcoming year and below is an update on what we have achieved so far:

1. Support our new Young Carers Participation Group to evolve and find opportunities to co-produce improved information and support for Lincolnshire Young Carers
2. Continue to support our partners in identifying Young Carers at the earliest opportunity so that they get the right support at the right time.
3. Continue to support all professionals in Lincolnshire to develop their practice in working with young carers and their families through advice and learning opportunities.
4. Support our Young Carers Participation group to lead on and plan a County Wide Young Carers Celebration Event.
5. Continue to work with colleagues in Adult Social Care to develop 'our 'whole family working' approach.

The priority work plan has led to some fantastic achievements and collaborative work taking place, which all deserve their own write up – see below for more information!

1. Things have definitely moved on over the past year for our Young Carers Participation Group! They have met several times face to face, they decided they wanted to be called 'Young Carers Matter', they have been involved in several pieces of work so far including contributing to 2 TAC Newsletters that go out to all of our partners they enlisted the feedback and support from their local Young Carers Groups to include in this, they have guided us and ratified the new Young Carer 'best questions' that help professionals to have a conversation with Young Carers about their lives and the things that matter to them and they have contributed to the development of the new cards and resources to support Young Carers who care for parents/carers that struggle with substance use or have mental health issues – things

that quite often are hidden and not easily shared. This next year they are working with us to help us improve the way we reach out to Young Carers through our website and leaflets/cards – we are all really excited about future developments!

2. Identifying Young Carers as early as possible has always been something we have aimed to do, this last year we really wanted to make sure this was given priority and time to make sure changes could be achieved. A group of keen and enthusiastic members of our TAC team got together to work on this as a priority. This led to an update of the Early Help Pathway to include Young Carers, updated our messages that go out to colleagues, made sure our Young Carers mailing list included all professionals we work with, research into UK wide best practice and toolkits to add to our resources, co-produced and updated our best questions and developed improved publicity.

3. We have developed a Community of Practice which aims to bring together like minded professionals to share what they have found has worked well, improve networks and links and increase confidence in professionals to ‘think young carer’. Attendance continues to grow. We are also linking with increasing numbers of GP surgeries across the county, supporting them to explore Young Carers needs, make links with local agencies and some have also attended and contributed to our Young Carers/Young Adult Carers multi agency team.

4. Young Carers Matter did not host a Young Carers event but there were several local events that took place across the county – logistics played a huge part in this! They are however involved in the upcoming Young Carers Action Day, so watch this space.

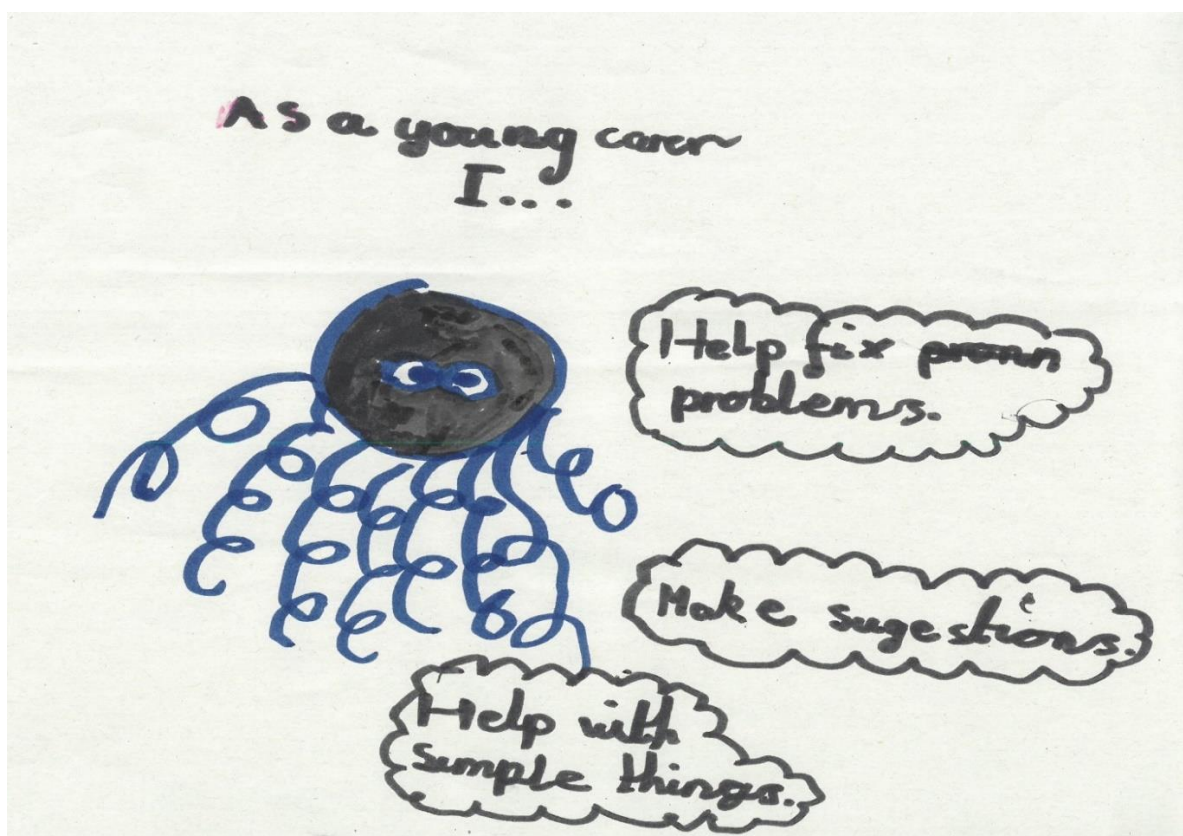
5. We continue to work with colleagues in adult care and are developing improved ways that Young Carers transition into adult support services and support colleagues in adult social care to explore the whole family’s needs



Young Carers Survey

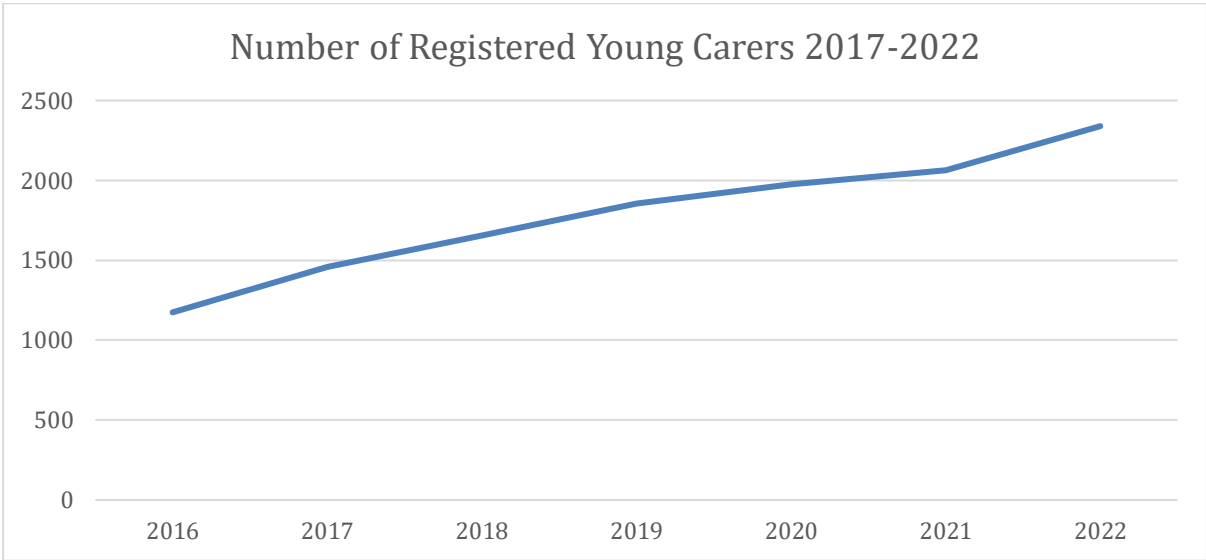
Our first Young Carers Survey took place last year, this was designed to reach out to our Young Carers and their families to find out their experience about the support they received, what services they accessed and what difference this made. There were limited numbers of Young Carers that completed it (62) but of those that did, the biggest sources of support for them were face to face Young Carers groups, Young Carers card and zoom groups. Those that responded also said the best ways in which we could continue to support them was via face-to-face groups, one to one support and that the best place to receive this was either a neutral place or in school. 45% of Young Carers said that they felt confident and over 25% said they felt very confident about their caring role and over 71% said that their school knew that they were a Young Carer and 51 of the Young Carers who completed the survey shared that they had lots of different people they could go to if they were worried.

We hope to make this an annual survey and the responses will help us to grow and shape future support and services for our Young Carers. If you are interested to read the full survey report, please visit - [Young Carers Survey | Let's Talk Lincolnshire](#) the survey is now closed but the report can be accessed via a pdf document.

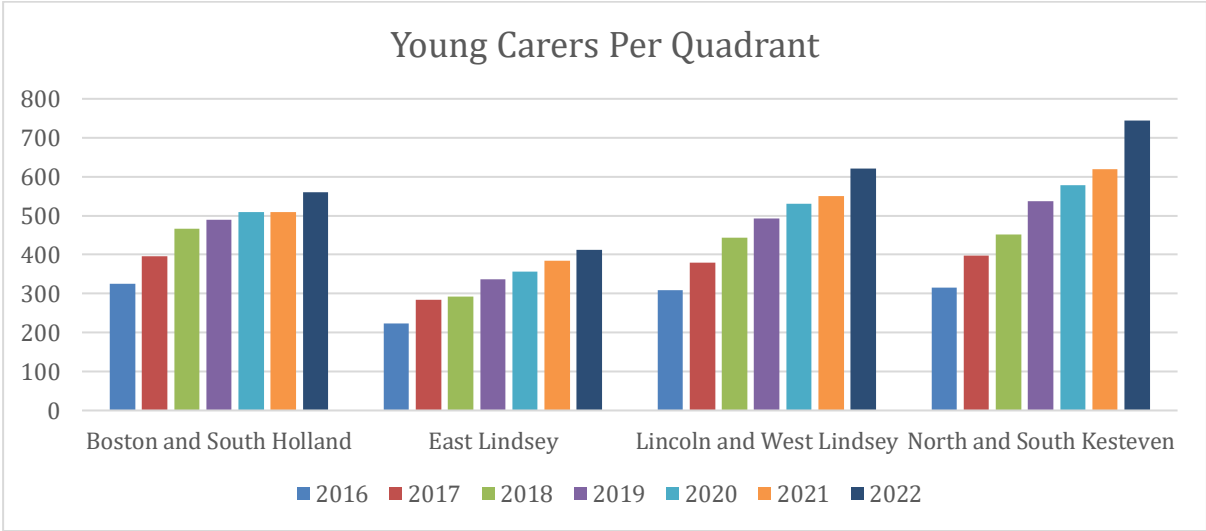


Identification of Young Carers

The best estimate regarding the number of Young Carers in Lincolnshire, using Census 2011 data and research available, is 6,000. There are currently **2339** young people registered as Young Carers in Lincolnshire, this is a large increase of 276 from the previous year, it is difficult to know whether this has any links to the covid pandemic and how this may be affecting families or indeed, if it is also as a result of an increase in numbers being identified due to the priority work we have been doing.



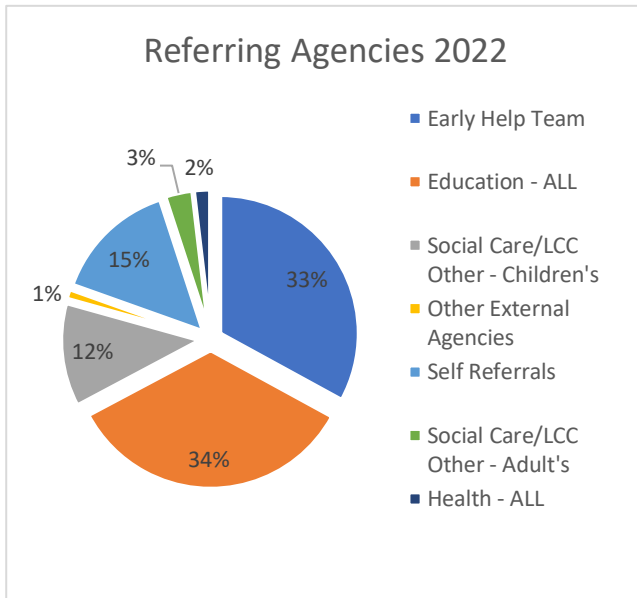
The growth of Young Carers and the spread across the county remains fairly in line with previous years with North and South Kesteven identifying the highest numbers.



Where are our Young Carers Identified?

There were 537 new young carer identifications made in 2022, Early Help Teams and the Education sector continue to identify most young carers in Lincolnshire. There has been an increase in self-referrals, which evidences growing visibility of the service to families.

246 young carers requested support from the Early Help Team in 2022.



Referring Agencies	2021	2022
Early Help Team	116	177
Education - ALL	107	184
Social Care/LCC Other - Children's	43	65
Other External Agencies	19	6
Self-Referrals	62	78
Social Care/LCC Other - Adult's	24	17
Health - ALL	31	10
TOTAL	402	537

Age

The average age of young carers at the point of identification is now just below 10 years of age, this is consistent with previous years data.

We believe that the earlier in their caring journey that young carers are identified, the more likely with the right support, outcomes are positive. Older young carers, including those who are now adults, have told us that they had been caring for quite a while before someone spoke to them about this – if indeed it had happened at all. They wished they had known that support was available.

Year	Average Age	Age Range
2017	11.01	2-18
2018	10.8	3-18
2019	10.9	4-18
2020	9.9	2-18
2021	9.9	4-18
2022	9.9	3-19

Current Young Carer Age Breakdown

Age Breakdown	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
0-5	5	24	15	10	3	6
6-11	374	478	518	545	557	440
12-17	780	829	947	1017	1081	1440
17+	299	322	376	402	422	452
TOTAL	1458	1653	1856	1974	2063	2338*

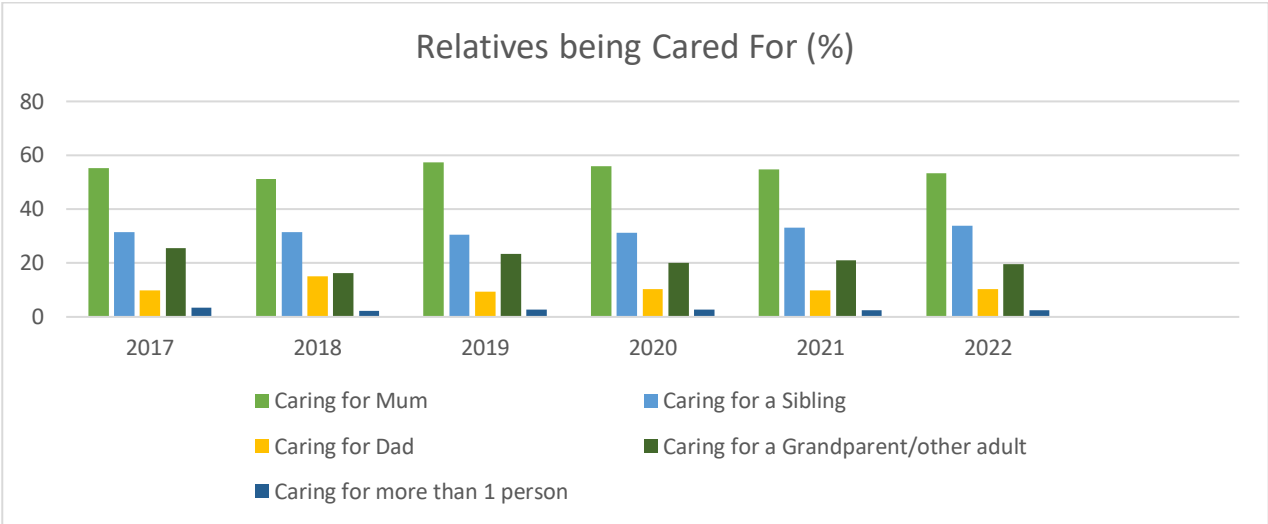
Gender

There are currently **1288 (55%)** female Young Carers and **1031 (44%)** male Young Carers. This is similar to the national average and remains consistent.

Year	Female	Male	Self-Identifying	TOTAL
2017	820 = 56%	638 = 44%		1458
2018	929 = 56%	724 = 44%		1653
2019	1037 = 56%	819 = 44%		1856
2020	1132 = 57%	842 = 43%		1974
2021	1150 = 55.5%	900 = 44%	13 = 0.5%	2063
2022	1288 = 55%	1031 = 44%	20 = 0.8%	2339

Who Young Carers are Caring For

The breakdown of who the Young Carers across Lincolnshire are caring for, appears to be fairly static with the majority known to us who care for their Mums.



Reasons people need care

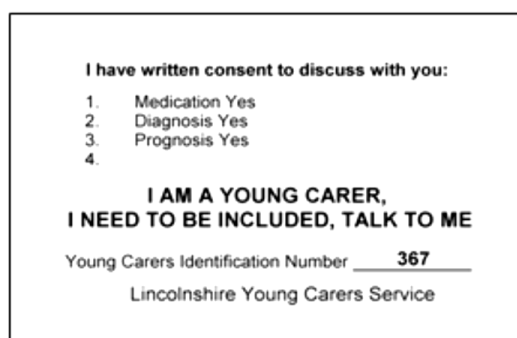
The data below shows the numbers of young carers who are caring for people with the identified conditions.

Primary Support Reason	2019	2020	2021	2022
Physical Disability	822	863	821	788
Mental Health	492	508	545	620
ADHD/Autism	283	310	360	418
Life Limiting/Long Term	79	104	156	293
Learning Disability	67	67	67	70
Other/Unknown	49	48	49	82
Substance Misuse	40	51	46	51
Sensory	23	23	19	17
Emotional/Behavioural	1	0	0	0
TOTAL	1856	1974	2063	2339

Young Carer Card

145 Young Carer Cards were requested and sent out in 2022 an increase compared to the previous year

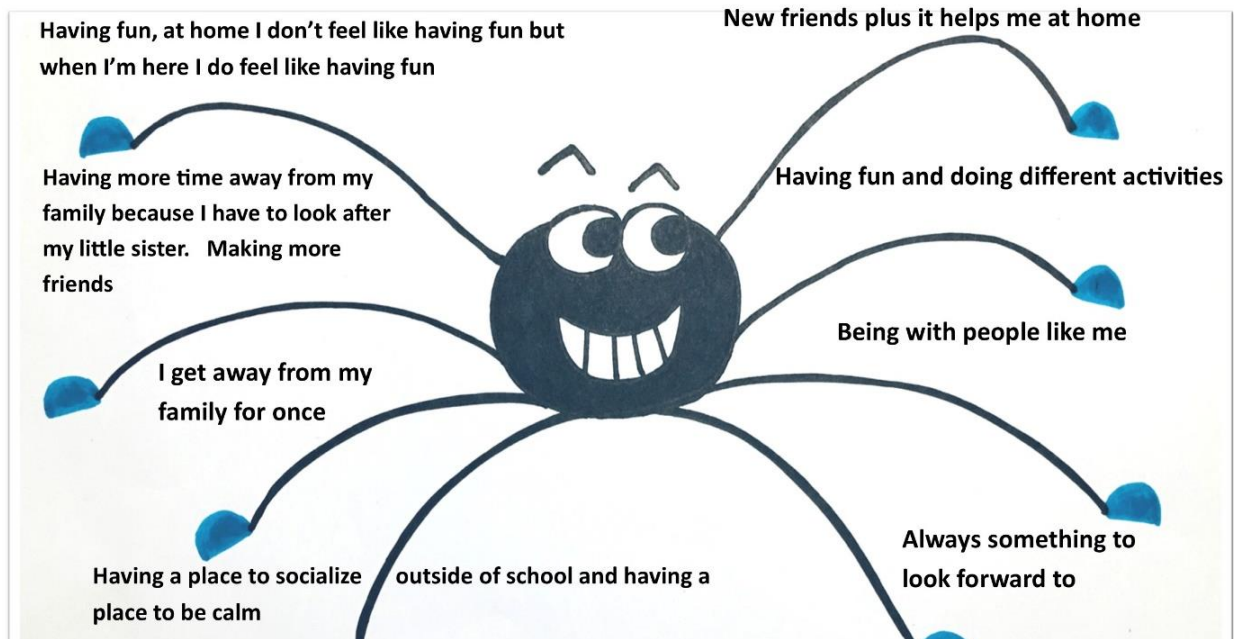
2022	145
2021	115
2020	139
2019	80
2018	30
2017	18



Young Carer's Voices



CARING SPIDER: You told us some of the things that are important to you at group





"I really like being with other young carers like me".

"For one of our Young Carers who is home schooled this group can sometimes be the only opportunity he has to see others outside of his family. His mum has told us that she would really like there to be more groups as he is growing in confidence"

"I have a fun and nice time away from caring at home as it is chaotic at home sometimes."

"Everything is great, I'm really pleased my daughter is part of the Young Carers Group. It's really helped her to have something for her only where she cannot be distracted or be put out by situations at home with her brother."

"K has come out happy and said he really enjoyed himself. It's nice to see as he's been worrying about it for a few days. So, it's nice to see his worries were eased. So, thank you."

"He seems more confident going to places without a familiar adult. He is more confident as a Young Carer now and maybe more important now his role has been recognized by his group membership."

"The Young Carers wanted to express themselves and pay tribute after the death of Queen Elizabeth, so we let them draw, write, or make a tribute however they wanted."

"All of the members are fun they have lots of fun which takes your mind off things they are kind, caring and respectful that you can enjoy yourself and not have to worry that you can basically do whatever you want time out, talking, support, people. Its sooo fun, fun food and Darrens cooking."

Working with our schools

Boston and South Holland Young Carers

Christmas baking with the Smile Club

The last Smile club session of the term was a fun session baking and decorating Christmas biscuits.

All the equipment and ingredients were provided and the students got to take their biscuits home (some may not have made it!)



If you are or you know a young carer, please get in touch for information about our groups

BostonSHYCarersGP@lincolnshire.gov.uk

We continue to work closely with schools as key partners in providing the right support to Young Carers at the right time. Lincolnshire is a vast and often quite rural county, which sometimes means that Young Carers and their families can be fairly isolated and not always able to access a Young Carers group, or they don't necessarily want to go somewhere where they don't know people. Following the recent Covid pandemic, the way in which support was provided had to adapt, our local Young Carer Early Help Teams worked creatively using technology to continue to offer support which worked for some young people and is continued to be used where needed. However, many of our schools are really keen to explore the opportunities that they have within their own settings to develop different opportunities of providing support to Young Carers. This has led to a fantastic piece of work between our Boston and South Holland Early Help Team and Boston High School. Together they have co-produced a Young Carers group, The Smile Club so that pupils who attend the school can access support where they want it.

"The things that have been important for me is the time away I got from caring"

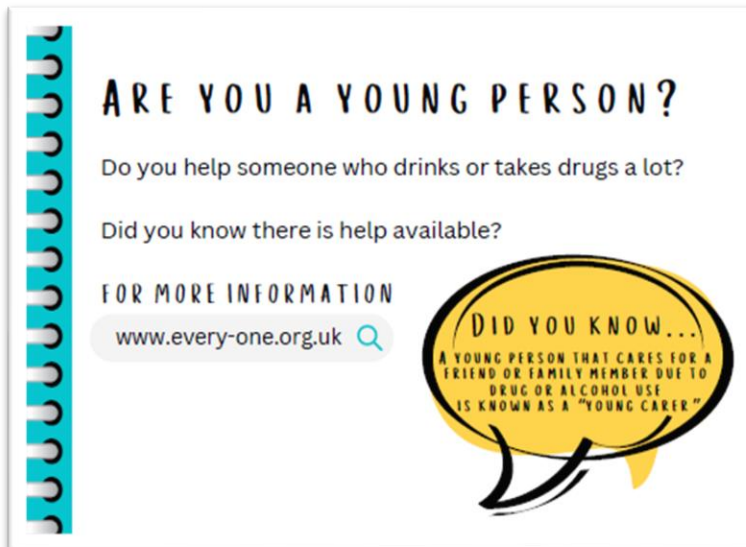
"Thank you for teaching me stuff I'll need whilst caring for my Dad"

Partnership Working and Co-Production

Our Young Carers across the County were asked to be involved in producing some post card resources to help reach out to those Young Carers who might not necessarily see themselves as a Young Carer. Those who's parents/carers struggled with substance use either alcohol or drugs, or those who had mental health difficulties. Quite often we know that young people and their families don't necessarily see this as something that requires a caring role and don't always want to share this information with schools or other professionals.

Every-One were asked to co-produce these resources based on an identified unmet need, until now there weren't any specific ways to help young people experiencing these issues understand that there is help out there.

Paula from Every-One went out to meet young carers at their groups across the locality and also did some work online, the result is an eye catching post card that hopefully will help any young person who's parent or carer uses substances or has a mental health issue know where they can get help.



Priorities for 2023

- Co-produce our public information and resources available to our Young Carers with Young Carers Matter.
- Support our schools to continue to explore opportunities to support their Young Carers in the best ways that meet their needs.
- Continue to explore opportunities to make sure Young Carers lived experiences help shape future services.
- Continue to work closely with colleagues in Adult services to make sure we are embedding whole family working practices across our workforces.
- Continue to grow and support our Communities of Practice to help them support one another and be a place to increase confidence and share good practice across our county.

Where to Get Help or Find Out More

Contact Lincolnshire Young Carers youngcarers@lincolnshire.gov.uk

or call us on 01522 553275

Or join our Facebook Page:



Useful websites:

Family Services Directory <https://lincolnshire.fsd.org.uk/kb5/lincs/fsd/home.page>

Lincolnshire Carers Service <https://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/support-carers>

Online support for sibling carers <https://www.sibs.org.uk/youngsibs/>

Kooth <https://www.kooth.com/>





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

Report to:	Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee
Date:	16 June 2023
Subject:	Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee Work Programme

Summary:

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

- Actions Required:**
1. To review and agree the Committee's work programme as set out in this report.
 2. To highlight for discussion any additional scrutiny activity which could be considered for inclusion in the work programme.

1. Background

Current Items

For reference, the Committee's items for this meeting are set out below: -

16 June 2023			
	Item	Contributor	Purpose
1.	Team Around the Child Annual Report 2022	Hannah Pendleton, Head of Service - Boston and South Holland Locality Alex Clarke, Practice Supervisor	Policy Review

16 June 2023			
Item		Contributor	Purpose
2.	Young Carers Annual Update 2022	Hannah Pendleton, Head of Service - Boston and South Holland Locality Alex Clarke, Practice Supervisor	Policy Review
3.	Refurbishment and re-modelling of St Francis School, Lincoln (EXEMPT)	Dave Pennington, Head of Property Development Eileen McMorrow, Programme Manager SEND Strategy Teri Marshall, Senior Project Manager – Corporate Property	Pre-Decision Scrutiny (Leader Decision between 5 and 22 June 2023)

Planned Items

The Committee's planned items are listed below:

21 July 2023			
Item		Contributor	Purpose
1.	Outcomes from Ofsted Inspection of Children's Social Care	Heather Sandy, Executive Director – Children's Services	Inspection Outcome
2.	Service Level Performance Reporting against the Success Framework 2022-23 – Quarter 4	Jo Kavanagh, Assistant Director – Early Help	Performance Scrutiny

21 July 2023			
Item		Contributor	Purpose
3.	New Lincolnshire Secure Children's Home Build (EXEMPT)	Dave Pennington, Head of Property Development Matt Clayton, Interim Head of Capital Reform and Education Sufficiency Dave Clarke, Service Lead - Secure Estate Rachel Freeman, Head of Service Children in Care and Residential Estates	Pre-Decision Scrutiny (Executive decision on 5 September 2023)
4.	Holbeach William Stukeley Primary School – Single class extension, hall and staffroom extension (EXEMPT)	Dave Pennington, Head of Property Development Alison Toyne, Project Manager, Corporate Property	Pre-Decision Scrutiny (Leader decision between 26 – 31 July 2023)

08 September 2023			
Item		Contributor	Purpose
1.	The Maples Short Breaks Provision - Re-commissioning	Eileen McMorrow, Programme Manager SEND Strategy	Pre-Decision Scrutiny (Executive decision on 3 October 2023)
2.	Children in Care Transformation Programme Update	Matt Clayton, Interim Head of Capital Reform and Education Sufficiency	Policy Review
3.	Service Level Performance Reporting against the Success Framework 2023-24 – Quarter 1	Jo Kavanagh, Assistant Director – Early Help	Performance Scrutiny

20 October 2023			
Item		Contributor	Purpose
1.	Update on the Building Communities of Specialist Provision Strategy	Sheridan Dodsworth, Head of Special Educational Needs and Disability Eileen McMorow, Programme Manager SEND Strategy Dave Pennington, Head of Property Development	Policy Review (Yearly Update)
2.	Youth Offending Service – Progress against HMIP Inspection Recommendations	Andy Cook, Head of Service – Future4Me and Youth Offending	Inspection Outcome
3.	Children's Services Annual Statutory Complaints Report 2022-23	Jo Kavanagh, Assistant Director - Early Help	Performance Scrutiny

01 December 2023			
Item		Contributor	Purpose
1.	Children and Young People Mental Health Transformation Programme	Charlotte Gray, Head of Service – Children's Strategic Commissioning	Policy Review
2.	Service Level Performance Reporting against the Success Framework 2023-24 – Quarter 2	Jo Kavanagh, Assistant Director – Early Help	Performance Scrutiny

01 December 2023		
Item	Contributor	Purpose
3. Lincolnshire Secure Children's Home (LSCH) (EXEMPT)	Dave Pennington, Head of Property Development Matt Clayton, Interim Head of Capital Reform and Education Sufficiency Dave Clarke, Service Lead - Secure Estate Rachel Freeman, Head of Service Children in Care and Residential Estates	Pre-Decision Scrutiny (Executive decision on 5 December 2023)

12 January 2024		
Item	Contributor	Purpose
1. Children's Services Budget Proposals 2024/25	Heather Sandy, Executive Director – Children's Services Mark Popplewell, Strategic Finance Lead – Children's Services	Budget Scrutiny / Pre-Decision Scrutiny
2. Attendance in Schools, Elective Home Education and Children Missing Education Annual Report 2022/23	Jill Chandar-Nair, Inclusion and Attendance Manager	Annual Report
3. Gosberton House Academy - New Block Extension and External Works as part of the SEND Building Communities of Specialist Provision Strategy (EXEMPT)	Eileen McMorrow, Programme Manager SEND Strategy Teri Marshall, Senior Project Manager – Corporate Property	Pre-Decision Scrutiny (Leader Decision between 22 – 26 January 2024)

2. Conclusion

The Committee is invited to review, consider and comment on the work programme as set out above and highlight for discussion any additional scrutiny activity which could be included for consideration in the work programme. A list of all upcoming Forward Plan decisions relating to the Committee is also attached at Appendix A.

3. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Forward Plan of Decisions relating to the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee

4. Background Papers

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

This report was written by Tracy Johnson, Senior Scrutiny Officer, who can be contacted on 07552 253814 or by e-mail at tracy.johnson@lincolnshire.gov.uk.

FORWARD PLAN OF DECISIONS RELATING TO CHILDREN'S SERVICES FROM 01 JUNE 2023

DEC REF	MATTERS FOR DECISION	REPORT STATUS	DECISION MAKER AND DATE OF DECISION	PEOPLE/GROUPS CONSULTED PRIOR TO DECISION	DOCUMENTS TO BE CONSIDERED	OFFICER(S) FROM WHOM FURTHER INFORMATION CAN BE OBTAINED AND REPRESENTATIONS MADE (All officers are based at County Offices, Newland, Lincoln LN1 1YL unless otherwise stated)	DIVISIONS AFFECTED
1028647	Lincoln St Francis School - Refurbishment and External Works as part of the SEND Building Communities of Specialist Provision Strategy	Exempt	Leader of the Council (Executive Councillor: Resources, Communications and Commissioning) Between 5 and 22 Jun 2023	Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee	Reports	Head of Property Development E-mail: dave.pennington@lincolnshie.gov.uk	
1029262	Holbeach William Stukeley Primary School - Single Class Extension, Hall and Staffroom Extension	Exempt	Leader of the Council (Executive Councillor: Resources, Communications and Commissioning) Between 26 Jul 2023 and 31 Jul 2023	Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee (21 July 2023)	Reports	Head of Property Development E-mail: dave.pennington@lincolnshire.gov.uk	Holbeach
1029669 New	Lincolnshire Secure Children's Home Build	Exempt	Executive 5 Sep 2023	Directorate Leadership Team Corporate Leadership Team Legal Services Finance Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee	Reports	Interim Head of Capital Reform & Education Sufficiency E-mail: matthew.clayton@lincolnshire.gov.uk	

I029533 New	The Maples Short Breaks Provision - Re-commissioning	Open	Executive 3 Oct 2023	Parents and Carers, and service users Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee	Reports	Programme Manager - Children's Services (SEND) E-mail: eileen.mcmorrow@lincolnshire.gov.uk	All Divisions
I028654	Gosberton House Academy - New Block Extension and External Works as part of the SEND Building Communities of Specialist Provision Strategy	Exempt	Leader of the Council (Executive Councillor: Resources, Communications and Commissioning) Between 22 Jan 2024 and 26 Jan 2024	Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee	Reports	Head of Property Development E-mail: dave.pennington@lincolnshire.gov.uk	

Agenda Item 9

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

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