

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING – 15 MAY 2015

Statement from: Councillor Mrs P A Bradwell, Deputy Leader and Executive Councillor for Adult Care and Health Services, Children's Services

CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Strut House

Strut House celebrates its fifth consecutive outstanding Ofsted inspection. Outstanding was achieved across all five judgement areas. At Strut House's most recent Interim inspection in March 2015 the service demonstrated continued development and Ofsted's judgement was that of outstanding plus Improved Effectiveness - which demonstrates, once again, Strut House's drive for success.

Secure Unit

Restorative Quality Service Mark (RQSM) – Lincolnshire Secure Unit has successfully gained the RSQM, a nationally recognised award in Restorative Justice. The Unit was formally assessed at the beginning of April following eighteen months of gathering evidence and developing both practice and staff training. Lincolnshire Secure Unit is only the second Local Authority Secure Children's Home in England and Wales to achieve this prestigious Award and the only Secure Children's Home who have a contract with the Youth Justice Board. Sara Adams Case Manager and Restorative Justice Champion at the Secure Unit has led on this project and has been instrumental in the attainment of this award. Sara is also in the process of training staff within the Long Term Children's Homes and assisting the Managers in developing their evidence and processes to support them in also attaining this Award.

Signs of Safety Innovation Project Update

Children's Services continue to make progress with this exciting project, having opted to take a lead role in the research aspect. This means that Lincolnshire County Council will be conducting paper and telephone surveys with children and their families to assist Professor Eileen Munro evaluate how Signs of Safety helps keep children safe. Children's Services has supported another seven members of staff to undertake the five-day residential course and continue to provide training and development opportunities on a monthly basis for all teams. Later in the year as part of the project Lincolnshire County Council will be able to train up to fifty more staff in the five-day course and give them the opportunity to become practice leads in Signs of Safety in their teams.

Foster Carers

Over 80% of Looked After Children live with Foster Carers within the County. Foster Carers represent the different communities in the County and are crucial to achieving

stability and positive outcomes for children. There are currently 340 registered Foster Carers in the County. On 8 March, as part of the FAB Awards for our children and young people looked after, we recognised the contribution and long service of many of our Foster Carers. Seventeen Foster Carers received awards from Cllr Brailsford in appreciation of their 15 years' service to Fostering for Lincolnshire. In addition, 16 carers received recognition for 10 years' service and a further 32 carers for 5 years' service to Fostering for Lincolnshire. In 2014 we established a Lincolnshire Foster Carers Association and are working closely with them to ensure that Foster Carers are recognised, valued and continue to make a difference for children in Lincolnshire.

Families Working Together

The Department for Communities and Local Government targets for Phase One of the Troubled Families Programme (TF) were to evidence that: 100% of families are identified, worked with and turned around by May 2015. Lincolnshire has identified and has worked with or is working with 100% of the 1,370 families.

Lincolnshire has "turned around" over 1000 families countywide, 79% of the total and is on track to turn around 100% by May 2015.

Lincolnshire's TF Programme compares highly with other Local Authorities nationally. Lincolnshire ranks **17th** (out of 152 Local Authorities) for "turned around" families and **9th** (out of 152) for the achievement of employment outcomes for families.

Reaching 79% of the Lincolnshire target in October 2014 guaranteed Lincolnshire early access to the second phase of the Troubled Families programme (January 2015), which began nationally in April 2015. This has allowed Lincolnshire to participate in the final stages of shaping the next phase of the programme.

In June 2013, the Government announced plans to expand the Troubled Families Programme for a further five years, from 2015-2020 with the aim of reaching an additional 400,000 families across England. £200 million has been committed to fund the first year of this five year programme.

From April 2015, Phase Two criteria will include:

- Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour,
- Non-School attendance,
- Families not in employment, risk of financial exclusion,
- Families with a Health Problem,
- Children who need help,
- Families affected by Domestic Abuse.

Families working together are currently working with partners to finalise the outcome plans which will ensure an expanded number of families will benefit from the whole family approach in the future. Plans are being worked on to ensure the learning from focusing on outcomes for the whole family, including making employment everyone's business are embedded across all teams within Children's Services and other partner agencies who work with families.

Schools Update – Lincolnshire

Phase	Outstanding	Good	Requires Improvement	Inadequate
All through	-	-	100%	-
Nursery	60%	40%	-	-
Primary	13%	75%	11%	0%
PRU	-	-	-	100%
Secondary	26%	46%	24%	4%
Special	30%	70%	-	-
Total	17%	70%	12%	1%

Comparison Tables

Local Authority	% of schools Good or Outstanding	% of school Outstanding	% of school Good	% of schools Requires Improvement	% of school Inadequate
Lincolnshire	87%	17%	70%	12%	1%
Stat Neighbour Avg	80%	15%	65%	18%	3%
National	81%	20%	61%	17%	2%

Figures taken from Performance Assurance Quarterly Ofsted Report – March 2015

- Currently 87% of schools in Lincolnshire are good or outstanding, compared to 81% nationally.
- 84% of Lincolnshire pupils attend good or outstanding schools

ADULT CARE

Care Act

The 1st April saw the implementation of the first stage of the Care Act which is in relation to Care Reforms. The Act has repealed and replaced previous Social Care legislation and brings onto the statute books the principles of personalisation, promoting wellbeing, safeguarding, and prevention in addition to market oversight. These principles have informed the way we have worked in recent years so that the building blocks of this new legislation are generally familiar. In preparation for the implementation of the Care Act, Adult Care have ensured that the services being provided are compliant with this new legislation. The Act has required us to develop our assessment and planning processes to incorporate a new national eligibility threshold and to make changes to recording tools and procedures to ensure compliance with the new guidance. We have worked with the Social Care Institute of Excellence to deliver a training programme to assessment practitioners across the Council and partner organisations to support their staff. The second stage of the legislation in relation to funding reforms will be implemented in April 2016 and planning for this is ongoing.

Integration with Health

My colleague Cllr Woolley will say something about the Better Care Fund, but I want to underline how much effort has been expended in recent years to ensure vulnerable adults receive a seamless service from health and social care and that it delivers value for money. Adult Care already has integrated mental health and learning disability services, we also have an integrated community equipment service and, more recently, we have pursued a policy of integrated reablement services for older people. These foundations support the work of Lincolnshire Health and Care (LHAC) and clearly indicate how, by working together with appropriate health partners, we can secure better outcomes.

Older People and People with Physical Disabilities

This has been a positive year for services for older people and those with a physical disability. The number of individuals being admitted to long term residential care has decreased for the first time in three years and this is testament to the work that is being undertaken to offer community support services that allow people to remain in their own home. As we enter the new financial year we have commenced a recruitment drive with the intention of strengthening our teams to meet the demands of implementing the Care Act and increasing our speed of response to hospital discharges. There has been real success in attracting the interest of social workers and occupational therapists who wish to work in the County which is in contrast to the difficulties other authorities often have in attracting professionally qualified staff. Joint working with health continues to develop across the County with Neighbourhood Teams established in all areas where health and social care professionals come together to plan jointly to support some of the most vulnerable people in our community. This is a model of working that we intend to see developed more fully as we move forward.

Winter Pressures

This winter, unprecedented demands on our acute hospital services were experienced. The East Midlands Ambulance Service experienced a 25% increase in calls. Other health sectors were similarly impacted. Calls to the non-emergency 111 service increased by 11%, and there was a 19.4% increase in out-of-hours health services. Overall this resulted in increased delays (patients or delays) for the acute hospitals of 15%. Adult Care has increased capacity by working additional hours, including weekends. Despite the extra pressure on hospitals, delays for patients attributable to social care remain relatively low – for example in January just 5% of all hospital delays were attributable to social care.

All-Age Autism Strategy for Lincolnshire 2015 - 2018

The All-Age Autism Strategy for Lincolnshire was formally launched at a special event held in Lincoln on 2 April 2015 to coincide with World Autism Awareness Day. The event was both well attended and well received, with an overarching theme to celebrate the strengths of autism and highlight the creativity of people in Lincolnshire who are on the autistic spectrum. This included people with lived experience of autism talking about aspects of their life, performances and submissions of artwork and poetry, and opportunities to ask people on the spectrum questions about autism on a one-to-one basis via human libraries.

This is the first local autism specific strategy that has been developed for people in Lincolnshire and is in response to the national strategy for adults with autism, "Fulfilling and Rewarding Lives," published by the Government in 2010, and their strategy refresh, "Think Autism," released in 2014. However, the strategy for Lincolnshire goes a step further than the national remit, by introducing principles and improving services for people with autism of all ages, rather than adults only. This decision was made as we acknowledge that the transition from childhood into adulthood can be a difficult time for people with autism and we want to help ensure that support and services available make this journey as seamless as possible.

Now that the strategy has been developed and launched, the hard work will commence to deliver the ambitious action plan contained within the document. The Lincolnshire Autism Partnership, whose members were key stakeholders in its development, has been strengthened and re-launched and will be responsible for overseeing the implementation of the strategy over the next three years, with key working groups established to deliver this work.

CQC – A New Start

In October 2014 the Care Quality Commission – the national regulator for home based and residential social services introduced its new style of inspection. There are now 5 outcomes that providers are inspected against, these are: caring: safe: effective: responsive: and well-led. The overall effect is a tougher system for inspection with an easier to understand performance rating.

These areas, used by CQC, fully align with the definition of quality that we use in Adult Care and the national measures used to measure social care performance - ASCOF. We work closely with CQC to share information and the CQC inspection ratings form part of our overall approach to gathering intelligence about the quality and sustainability of services in Lincolnshire.

Following an inspection CQC now gives each outcome a rating of outstanding, good, requires improvement or inadequate and an overall rating for the service. The new style inspection are now beginning to be published and the early results in Lincolnshire as at 1 April 2015 show that of the 33 reports published 23 have an overall rating of good, 9 require improvement, and 2 are rated as inadequate. Adult Care are working with both CQC and relevant providers to help ensure necessary improvements are made.

COMMUNITY LEARNING

Lincolnshire County Council was one of the sponsors of the "Spark" engineering exhibition at Lincoln Cathedral. This was a fabulous exhibition which demonstrated the Lincoln area's strength in modern manufacturing. I know that my colleague Cllr Colin Davie and his team work closely with many of the businesses who had a display there. The exhibition had a big emphasis on careers in the manufacturing sector, and it was encouraging to see how well the young people who visited the exhibition reacted to the business displays and to the information about vocational training that was available to them.

Adult Learners' Week, which runs from 13 to 19 June, includes a variety of activities in libraries across Lincolnshire inspiring people to return to learning. In the past year, over 9,000 people have attended an adult learning course developing personal, social and employability skills. We were delighted that the latest edition of County News featured one of our learners from Gainsborough who has been able to turn her life around and gain employment as a direct result of developing self-confidence and qualifications through participating in our Adult Learning programme.

PUBLIC HEALTH

Dementia

As well as the work Adult Care are undertaking, I am pleased to report that Lincolnshire South West CCG, Lincolnshire West CCG and Lincolnshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust are working together to set up a Dementia Support Network to be trialled in different areas of the county.

A Dementia Support Fund has been established to help people with dementia, and people who care for them, to participate in a wide range of activities that will help them to maintain as good a quality of life as possible.

Growing evidence suggests that time spent in green spaces has a positive effect on people living with dementia. Yet, many people who develop dementia find it difficult to visit green spaces. Lincolnshire's Walking for Health programme, which provides over 80 weekly walks run mostly by volunteer walk leaders, is seeking to add dementia walks to the local menu of walks available throughout the county. To do this a series of Dementia Adventure training days are being run across the county to enable volunteers and staff to plan and prepare the walks.

Sessions are also being planned in a dementia friendly gardening programme.

Healthy Food Access

A partnership between Public Health and the Health Advancement Research Team at the University of Lincoln has been awarded funding from the University's Strategic Research Investment Fund to explore local issues around healthy food access. The year-long project will identify opportunities for volunteer-led schemes that utilise local food surpluses, build links with the food sector and promote community resilience.

MECC (Making Every Contact Count)

MECC is currently being discussed across all eight existing neighbourhood teams (NTs), with a view that all should be trained within the next year. Initial meetings with the NT leads have taken place, although implementation of MECC has yet to be officially agreed, however it has been received very positively. MECC and Self Care are now discussed regularly at the NT Project Group Meeting bi-weekly to ensure that it stays fresh within current planning and future thinking/working. Alongside this, discussions are ongoing with Marisco Medical Practice regarding the roll out of the MECC programme. If successful, this model could also be rolled out across the rest of the county.

Wellbeing Service

The Wellbeing Service has now completed its first year and referrals have continued to grow each quarter. So far over 3,000 people have been referred to the Wellbeing Service for an assessment of their needs.

During the quarter January to March 2015, there have been 1,191 new referrals, an increase of 39% on the last quarter. 61% of the new referrals have been for individuals aged 75 and over.

In addition to the wellbeing referrals, the Wellbeing Service providers have completed an increasing number of Adult Care Telecare equipment installations. From April 2014 to March 2015 there have been 3,637 Telecare referrals which is a 136% increase on the 2013/14 figure.

The total number of people in the county using Telecare is now over 6,000.

Take up of the Wellbeing Response Service has also continued to increase. Currently 705 people countywide signed up to receive this element of the service. There are three average peak times for a response; these are around 5.00am, 11.30am and midnight.

A first year evaluation is being undertaken looking at all elements of the service and engaging with all key stakeholders including service users and carers to get their feedback on the service. The evaluation will be completed for the end of June 2015.

NHS Health Checks

The NHS Health Check is a national cardio vascular risk assessment and prevention programme for people aged 40-74. Lincolnshire County Council commissions GP Practices across the county to provide NHS Health Checks to the eligible population. In 2014/15 53,129 invitations were sent (exceeding our target of 46,411) 29,242 assessments have been completed (55% uptake this year), this uptake is slightly down on last year (57.7%), this is due to practices now inviting the younger and fitter people as part of a five year cycle. We outperformed the national uptake of 48.6% in 2013/14, and expect to do so again in 2014/15. (National data is yet to be released).

From August 2009 to April 2013, practices in Lincolnshire diagnosed nearly 5,000 cases of vascular disease as a direct result of the NHS Health Check programme. (Latest figures will be available in May and presented in the annual report).

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