

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING – 12 JULY 2013

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

ADULT CARE

Budget Update

The previous Statement in February 2013 concerning Adult Care indicated a predicted budget pressure of £4.83M. I am pleased to report that Adult Care achieved a small underspend at the end of 2012/13 of £1.196M. This can be set against a backcloth in which Adult Care delivered £8.981M savings in 2012/13. The combined savings in Adult Care over the last two financial years is £21M. Notwithstanding what has been achieved to-date the use of short term DoH funds to help underpin Adult Care budget pressures continues.

There are still significant budget pressures for 2014/15 which we are working on at present.

DOH - Expression of Interest for Integration Pioneers Pilot

In May the DoH invited expressions of interest from local areas to become Integration Pioneers as a means of driving forward change at a scale and pace from which residents would benefit from integrated health and social care services. The pioneers will work across the whole of their local health, public health, social care and voluntary organisations. A joint bid was submitted on 21 June.

Sustainability Review of Services

In parallel the health and social care community in Lincolnshire have commissioned a 'Sustainability Review' of services. This recognises that health and social care in Lincolnshire must build on what works well and, change what doesn't in order to better meet the needs of local communities and address predicted financial pressures. This work will be completed by October 2013 and will provide a template for action, irrespective of whether Lincolnshire becomes an 'Integration Pioneer'.

Independent Living Team

This team has been in place since mid-October 2012 which brings together health and social care staff providing a shared approach to helping people regain their independence. This pilot combines the current Lincolnshire Community Health NHS Trust (LCHS) Community Response and Rehab Teams and our Lincolnshire Assessment and Reablement Teams (LARS). The teams are based in Louth, Skegness, Horncastle, Boston and Spalding. The outcome being that it has reduced the number of 'inappropriate' admissions, or attendances, at Pilgrim Hospital A&E department. To date, the team has supported over 2,000 people, an average of 91 new people every week with a wide range of referrals from health and social care professionals. This represents over a 50% increase in the number of people supported in the community compared to when the two services were operating separately. Combining the two services is producing a much more flexible system to

support residents of Lincolnshire. Feedback from GPs who have made referrals has been very positive as ILT has worked to support people remain in their own home. More recently, the pilot has expanded to include direct referrals from the East Midlands Ambulance Service and the early signs are that this is reducing the need for people to be taken to A&E. We will be reviewing this pilot later in the year to ascertain whether this model should be rolled out across the county.

Intermediate Care

These care services in Lincolnshire support residents in maintaining their independence and preventing unnecessary hospital admissions and supporting people to return home after medical episodes, the Independent Living Team come under this service umbrella. The funding for these services are spread across the NHS and County Council and can be based in residential or nursing homes or in peoples own homes. Adult Care and NHS commissioners need to be sure that the resources available are best managed, including where money is spent, and to do this we have commissioned a review of what we currently do and how we could be doing things better. This review report will be used to agree a joint commissioning strategy between Health and Adult Care and will be significant in managing the resources within Lincolnshire and making sure that we are supporting vulnerable adults by preventing hospital admissions, facilitate discharge and reduce their dependence on more costly services.

Dementia Strategy

The number of people in Lincolnshire with a dementia is rising and is one of the most significant influences on the resources available across the health and social care economy. Adult Care and partner organisations are currently developing a new Joint Dementia Strategy for Lincolnshire. The current strategy expires in 2014 and due to significant changes in national and local policy we are seeking to develop a new strategy. As part of the development of a new strategy we are running a public consultation to seek people's views on the current system, and potential improvements to the customer journey. The consultation opened in May and runs until 19 July. People can contribute to the consultation through a questionnaire – accessible through the Council website or in paper form on request – or through one of the workshops run by Council Officers or by one of our partners. The information from the consultation will be used to build the strategy and resulting changes to services and pathways.

Autism Strategy

Adult Care is also finalising a Joint Strategy for Adults with Autism in Lincolnshire, and are putting the finishing touches to a comprehensive Action Plan to support its implementation. The Autism Strategy has been developed in co-production with the support of the Lincolnshire Autism Partnership, a board facilitated by the Council and made up of people with Autism, Carers, providers and statutory organisations. The strategy has been developed as a result of the national Autism Strategy 'Fulfilling and Rewarding Lives', and a local consultation carried out between December 2012 and March 2013. The consultation drew 214 responses from local people and these have been analysed to draw out a number of key themes and actions which centre around improving information, advice and awareness. We will be seeking to ensure that the

Adult Strategy and Action Plan becomes integrated with Children's Services to ensure an all age pathway is in place across Lincolnshire by April 2014.

CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Birth to Five

Ofsted Outcomes

During the last Ofsted inspection framework cycle (1st September 2008 - 31st August 2012), 82% of Lincolnshire early years providers on non-domestic premises were judged good or outstanding at their first inspection following their registration with Ofsted. This is 4% above the national average. The number of Lincolnshire early years providers on non-domestic premises judged good and outstanding as at 7 June 2013 is 84%. Over a third of early years providers on non-domestic premises have improved their Ofsted outcome under the new framework. This confirms that Lincolnshire's early years settings are continuing to build on their good practice and are successfully implementing the reformed Early Years Foundation Stage.

Primary

OfSTED Update

90 primary schools and academies have been inspected since September 2012, with the majority (67) previously being graded satisfactory. Of these 67 schools, 41 (61%) are now graded good and 1 was graded outstanding. 79% of Lincolnshire primary schools and academies are now good or better; this has increased by 14% (37 schools) since September 2012. No primary schools or academies have gone into a category this academic year and no maintained schools are currently in a category.

Secondary

OfSTED Update

20 secondary schools and academies have been inspected since September 2012. Overall, the proportions of good or better schools (72%) and of outstanding schools (28%) remain above the national average for all secondary schools inspected. No Local Authority maintained schools are in a category, but unfortunately two academies were judged to be inadequate overall at their inspections this year.

30% of the schools inspected retained their good or outstanding status and a further 15% improved to either good or outstanding. Disappointingly, three academies were downgraded from outstanding to good.

East Lincolnshire Graduate Teacher Programme – Initial Teacher Training

East Lincs GTP has successfully migrated to become a school-centred provider of School Centred Initial Teacher Training (SCITT) and in doing this has been approved to accept new trainees as part of the DfE's new School Direct Programme. The new provision has involved schools taking a more active lead in what is provided for the training of school-based trainees. 38 primary trainees and 45 secondary trainees have been recruited for September 2013. CfBT is working with 21 primary schools and 21 secondary schools, including a grammar school group and a special school group.

CfBT has now trained approximately 325 trainees across Lincolnshire since 2003, the majority of whom remain in Lincolnshire schools and have gained posts of responsibility, including one secondary Vice Principal and one primary Headteacher who is starting in September 2013.

2012-13 has been a successful year with 30 primary trainees and 34 secondary trainees being successfully trained, the majority have jobs and are remaining in Lincolnshire schools.

Recruitment into shortage subjects and under-represented groups in 2012-13 remains positive with 8 Men into Primary (MiP) and 9 secondary shortage subject teachers (Mathematics, Science and Modern Foreign Languages).

School Admissions

This year 98% of parents applied online for their child's primary school place. 92.3% of parents gained a place at their first preference primary school on offer day, 16 April.

The provision planning team and schools have worked effectively with the admissions team to identify areas where primary school places are in short supply, to find ways of meeting as many parental first preferences as possible and to make sure children received offers of places in alternative local schools where the first preference was not available. The admissions team was able to work closely and effectively with Boston Pioneers Free School in its first year of operation.

96% of parents applying for their child's secondary school place used the online system with 94% of parents receiving an offer of a place at their first preference school on offer day, 1st March.

The most common reason for the refusal of a first preference application remains non-qualification for a grammar school; our advice to parents of children who do not qualify in the 11+ selection tests is to make a non-selective school their first preference and include the grammar school lower down the list if they wish to appeal to an independent school admission appeals panel against the test result.

Oversubscribed schools received more applications than last year, this pattern applied for primary and secondary despite both cohorts being slightly smaller. The number of parents offered none of their preferences fell from 169 to 132 for primary schools and from 39 to 24 for secondary schools.

Music Service

Last week Lincolnshire's Music Service was reviewed by Richard Hallam MBE – the DfE consultant on the National Plan for Music Education. The report by such an eminent professional is a great testament to the work taking place in Lincolnshire by the Music service.

Richard Hallam's Main Findings statement sums everything up:

'Lincolnshire Music Service (LMS) is an **outstanding music service**.

LMS provides outstanding music leadership, achieves excellent standards and delivers high quality activities through a diverse range of opportunities for all. LMS achieves this through excellent teaching and a wide range of musical projects and programmes for the young people of Lincolnshire that complement and enhance school provision. As the lead organisation for the Lincolnshire Music and Arts Education Hub and the largest delivery partner, LMS provides outstanding leadership and both co-ordinates and delivers high quality strategic opportunities for children and young people in schools, clusters, areas and across the whole county.'

Families Working Together

In Lincolnshire we want to ensure that we create a sustainable response to the Government's Troubled Families Programme. We have been working closely with partner organisations to form a multi-agency team made up of Key Workers from a number of organisations – District Councils, Youth Offending, Educational Welfare, Police, and Voluntary Sector as well as the county council. This will ensure the right expertise to meet the challenges laid down by central Government. The Director General of the Troubled Families Unit, Louise Casey CB, visited Lincolnshire herself on 15 April 2013 and declared herself satisfied that Families Working Together has the right foundations in place to meet the programme's ambitions.

We are now more than halfway to identifying the target given to us by the DCLG in relation to the number of families we need to work with. As of now Lincolnshire has identified over 800 of the families we need to work with. We are confident we will meet our targets on schedule. Our priority is to make sure that we work with the right families – those that are struggling to overcome a multitude of issues or have complex needs; those that are proving the most troublesome to their communities; and those that are costing the most money to the public purse – not just those that meet the criteria set out by DCLG. We are now working with 500 families that meet the criteria.

Looked After Children's participation

The BIG Conversation programme is devised and led by young people from the Voices for Choices executive group (V4C) which is our Looked After Children Council. The BIG Conversation is *collaborative*, with adults and children and young people working together on issues that all agree are important. The aim of the BIG Conversation is to improve services for looked after children and care-leavers. To quote one young person, "*it's a place where change happens.*"

BIG Conversation 4 took place at Horncastle College on 21 February 2013. This regular event brings together looked after children, young people and care-leavers to work with practitioners, managers, Assistant Director from Children's Services, including Barnardo's Leaving Care Service and Elected Members.

This event saw three BIG Conversation projects being completed.

- Finalising the design of the new Care Pledge
- Agreeing the text for the new Care Leavers Charter
- Agreeing the final design and wording for the new Social Worker Agreement

People attending also voted on the best designs for new Private Fostering information leaflets and posters.

Two young people and Lincolnshire's Participation Officer will be attending the Who Cares Trust "Listen up Event" at Westminster on 10 July. The group are presenting the Coming into Care web based app, which they are hoping will be selected as one of the most innovative project in England

Foster Carer Long Service Awards

Over 75% of children looked after within Lincolnshire are placed within foster placements provided by Lincolnshire registered foster carers. This has been a trend for many years and compares favourably with the experience of other statutory neighbours where there is a far greater use of external fostering providers, Independent Fostering Agencies.

Active recruitment throughout the year has continued to maintain the number of approved foster families above 300. Foster carers are attracted to the role for a range of reasons and the County provides resources ranging from short breaks for children with disabilities to remand carers for children who might otherwise be remanded to custody and placements for parents and children together. The age profile of Lincolnshire carers reveals that carers come forward at different stages in their lives and for a host of different motivations. Although some Foster Carers remain with the service for a short period, we are fortunate to have a significant number for whom fostering becomes a way of life.

At the FAB awards held at the Lincolnshire Showground in March, over 30 Fostering awards were presented to carers who had completed a minimum of 15 years' service. The awards for Foster Carers complemented the well-established event that showcases the achievements of children looked after, recognising that these achievements are influenced by the encouragement and support of foster carers and their families. Introduced by Councillor Brailsford the presentation ceremony was a fitting tribute to those who have dedicated a considerable amount of their lives to supporting vulnerable children in a practical and often most fulfilling way

Duke of Edinburgh Award - Gold Award Presentation at St James' Palace – 13 March 2013

Forty-six young people collected their certificates on 13 March at St James's Palace in the presence of HRH the Duke of Edinburgh. They were joined by Debbie Barnes, Executive Director of Children's Services, and Stuart Carlton, Assistant Director of Children's Services. This Award reflects the hours of training, volunteering and dedication these young people have given towards achieving their Gold - not forgetting the many hours that the volunteers give each year supporting hundreds of young people to achieve their goals. A total of 3458 volunteer days were given supporting young people through their Expedition section alone in 2012. The 2013 Expedition season is looking very positive so early in the year; already 1054 Volunteer days have been recorded involving 1640 young people.

LIFELONG LEARNING

Skills for Work

I represent the council on the Lincolnshire and Rutland Employment and Skills Board. As part of that board's work, we have been looking into why businesses sometimes struggle to recruit young people. In order to help bridge the gap between learning and the world of work, we recently brought together a number of local employers and pupils in Market Rasen. The results were encouraging and we want to help more schools and employers work together to learn from each other.

Last year we recognised that our small businesses need support to recruit new Apprentices so we helped start up a county-wide Apprenticeship Agency (ATA). In particular, they are often concerned about taking on a new employee like an apprentice when they don't know how full their order book will be in twelve months' time. Eleven young people have now been recruited to Apprenticeship jobs who otherwise wouldn't have been without the support of the ATA.

Adult Learning

We receive around £1.8m from the Skills Funding Agency to deliver adult learning. There have been significant changes within the Skills Funding Agency as they move their objectives and funding towards local communities' priorities. We already work through a network of local training providers, and therefore I anticipate that Lincolnshire County Council is very well placed to continue to work with partners in delivering training opportunities in the right place at the right time.

One of Adult Learning's aims is around widening participation, reaching members of the community who are less likely to engage in learning new skills and working with them to build their confidence to enable them to live a more fulfilled life. One of our courses, called "Boost your esteem", has helped many learners, some of which couldn't leave their own home and start living again. We heard some very positive stories at the recent Learner of the Year awards about how this sort of course has made a real and practical change to people's lives.

PUBLIC HEALTH

Responders to Warmth June 2013

Between November 2012 and April 2013, The Responders to Warmth call centre helped over 4,000 mainly older, isolated people with energy advice, aids and repairs, connections to gas mains, help to join bulk oil schemes, emergency heating, even replacement systems. Over the last two years the scheme has provided more than £330,000 worth of repairs and installations.

We have now allocated funding to run the Responders to Warmth programme in Lincolnshire again this winter.

Helping people keep warm in winter is essential to good health. Not only does it help avoid unnecessary illness, it reduces the number of people living in miserable and uncomfortable circumstances. The people we helped in previous years said they felt

healthier and more cared for. In previous years we have applied for one-off government funding for this scheme. Work is also being done to make it more sustainable into the future, including joining up other schemes across the county with Responders to Warmth.

Lincolnshire Community Assistance Scheme

Following a national decision to ask top tier local authorities to re-provide a system of crisis loans and community care grants currently delivered by the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) Lincolnshire County Council set an agenda for officers to develop a proposal for the Lincolnshire scheme.

The Lincolnshire Community Assistance Scheme (LCAS) has the overall purpose and scope to:

1. To provide assistance to Lincolnshire residents to manage unexpected problems that will affect their health and wellbeing if they are not urgently addressed.
2. To put Lincolnshire residents who request assistance from the Scheme into contact with on-going support organisations to improve their resilience to unexpected problems in future.

Working closely with partners including: Learning Communities, Department of Works and Pension, Citizens Advice Bureau and Lincolnshire Credit Union, the scheme has received a total of 3421 applications to date.

These include:

- 1990 successful claims for items including: food parcels, white goods, furniture and clothing
- 44 people have received assistance to pay a week's rent to prevent homelessness
- 20 people have been assisted with travel arrangements including attending family funerals
- During April 9% of applicants engaged with CAB for resilience work and in May this figure increased to 20%

Child Safety Week

Events have been held jointly across the county with NHS colleagues and the British Red Cross as part of Child Safety Week.

Seventeen children in Lincolnshire aged under four are taken to A&E every day following an accident in the home. Accidents including falls, poisoning and burns are the most common reason for hospital admissions for children and young people. Many of these accidents could be prevented, so the events showed how simple safety measures can help avoid serious injuries and even death. More than 90% of parents who visited the stands in supermarkets and hospitals found the information helpful.