

**Open Report on behalf of Janice Spencer OBE,
Assistant Director – Children's (Safeguarding)**

Report to:	Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee
Date:	04 September 2020
Subject:	Update on the Looked After Children and Care Leavers Strategy and Action Plan

Summary:

The Looked After Children (Children in Care) and Care Leaver Strategy is a key document guiding the work and activity of the Council, as the Corporate Parent, as to how we will design and develop services to support young people in our care. The Strategy was written and agreed in 2018 and this is the second review of the action plan.

The action plan attached at Appendix A is designed to track the activity that is working to achieve the aspirations set out in the Strategy. This Strategy is the first of its kind to be developed on a multi-agency basis and is supported by the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Partnership (LSCP) and all the partners.

Actions Required:

The Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee is invited to review the progress against the priorities and actions identified in the Children in Care and Care Leavers Strategy Action Plan, and recommend any changes or actions for future consideration.

1. Background

The Children in Care and Care Leavers Strategy is a key document guiding the work of the authority and its partners when working with and supporting our young people. The document was written in conjunction with all of the key partners and sets out how the organisations will all work to meet the current and future needs of all our young people.

The Children in Care and Care Leaver Strategy is designed to support young people to become independent and proactive adults. The Strategy sets out the activity and our aspirations.

This report covers the action plan of activity designed to deliver against the Strategy. The report is designed to assure members of the breadth and depth of

activity taking place across Lincolnshire to support our Children in Care and Care Leavers.

It is worthy to note that a considerable amount of progress has been made in relation to the contribution from wider partners, in particular the District Councils and health partners. A clear and comprehensive health history now follows each Looked After young person, and the offer to Care Leavers from the District Councils has alleviated pressures in finding young people suitable accommodation. Council Tax relief is now universal across all seven districts and Care Leavers have experienced increased support and flexibility from all partners.

The Strategy can be found here: [Children in Care and Care Leavers Strategy](#)

A revised Strategy will need to be developed in 2021.

2. Conclusion

Members of the Committee are invited to review the progress against the priorities and actions identified in the Children in Care and Care Leavers Strategy Action Plan attached at Appendix A, and recommend any changes or actions for future consideration.

3. Consultation

a) Have Risks and Impact Analysis been carried out?

Not Applicable

b) Risks and Impact Analysis

Not Applicable

4. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Lincolnshire Looked After Children and Care Leavers Strategy 2018-2021 – Action Plan

5. Background Papers

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

This report was written by Andrew Morris, who can be contacted on 01522 553916 or andrew.morris@lincolnshire.gov.uk.