



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

Report to:	<b>Corporate Parenting Panel</b>
Date:	<b>26 November 2020</b>
Subject:	<b>Children in Care Annual Report 2019/20</b>

**Summary:**

To provide an overview of services provided to Children in Care and their impact for the year 2019/20.

To profile the health needs of children looked after in Lincolnshire.

**Actions Required:**

To accept the annual report as an accurate reflection of services provided for looked after children.

To agree the recommendations contained within the report.

## **1. Background**

This report covers the period 1st April 2019 to 31st March 2020. The Department of Health Statutory Guidance on Promoting the Health and Well-being of Looked after Children (DCSF/DH. 2015) requires a report on the delivery of service and the progress achieved for the health and wellbeing of children in care. In addition, the Local Authority (LA) requires an annual report to provide a summary of the core activities relating to Children in Care.

This Annual Report is intended to inform Children in Care, the general public, elected members, stakeholder partners and staff of the progress and developments of the services to date. It has been jointly produced by Lincolnshire Community Health Services (LCHS) LAC/YP team, the Children in Care teams from Lincolnshire Local Authority (LLA).

## **2. Conclusion**

There has been a slight increase in the number of Children in Care in 2019/20. This increase is slightly less than that recorded nationally. Lincolnshire continues to

invest in a range of preventative services and interventions which promote the birth family and their network as the preferred place for children to grow up.

This report incorporates full year health data, which enables a better understanding of the essential characteristics of Children in Care. The partnerships across health and social care within Lincolnshire remain strong, with a determination to continue improving the effectiveness of services in order to reduce the disadvantages that these children and young people are acknowledged to experience. The associated workforce is committed and skilled in supporting Children in Care.

The health data indicates that in many areas, we continue to achieve better than the national average in meeting the health needs of our Children in Care. The health assessment questionnaire continues to provide a valuable source of data about the health profile of our Children in Care. The annual data during future years will enable comparative information to inform services and commissioning.

**3. Consultation**

**a) Risks and Impact Analysis**

n/a

**4. Appendices**

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Children in Care Annual Report 2019/20

**5. Background Papers**

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

This report was written by John Harris, who can be contacted on 07920 274866 or john.harris@lincolnshire.gov.uk.