

Details of the eight activities Ahead of Plan in Q4 (January- March 2021)

Ambition: Support high aspirations

Objective: Champion educational excellence so every child/young person has a high quality education to succeed in life.

Activity: We will help schools to be skilled at supporting children with special education needs in mainstream settings, through developing and delivering strategies and where an education, health and care plan is required , undertaking this assessment in a timely and creative way. (A13)

Achievement in Q4

At March 2021 59% of all pupils with an Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan had their special educational needs met in a mainstream setting. This is above the national figure of 54%.

In Q4, 95.1% of children and young people requiring an EHC Needs Assessment had their Plan finalised within the 20 week timescale. The last published national data reported an England average of 60.4% of assessments completed within timescale.

Objective: Deliver economic growth to create and sustain vibrant communities

Activity: We will support our market towns to thrive, delivering regeneration with our partners, including through the Towns Fund and the Housing Infrastructure Fund. (A16)

Achievement in Q4

Getting Building Fund award secured for South Lincolnshire Food Enterprise Zone (SL FEZ). Stage 1 feasibility study delivered for converting some publicly-owned buildings in town centres, particularly on high streets, into multi-use facilities to increase footfall. District Council partners supported to deliver 2020/21 Towns Funds targets.

Ambition: Enable everyone to enjoy life to the full

Objective: Create accommodation options for greater independence and wellbeing

Activity: We will work with the District Councils to deliver greater accommodation choices for people who are unable to live in their own home. This will include a range of supported and extra care housing as well as influencing developers to build homes which are designed to meet the changing needs of the population. (A23)

Achievement in Q4

The strategy has been written and the service is working with District Councils to deliver accommodation choices. The building of extra care housing is on track.

Objective: Intervene effectively to keep vulnerable people safe, making sure children in care and care leavers get the best opportunities.

Activity: We will provide intensive and tailored support for young people who have complex multiple needs, maintaining them within their family where it is safe to do so. (A25)

Achievement in Q4

- 1) Life Links is an initiative that Family Group Conference (FGC) workers are utilising their skills to build networks of support for our leaving care young people from 15.9-25yrs to reconnect with family and resolve conflicts.
- 2) All teams have life story workers trained to undertake this specific task with young people and to ensure the work is done in the right way, at the right pace and at the right time.
- 3) There is a Corporate Parenting strategy designed to ensure the profile and needs of our young people remains a high priority.
- 4) Lincolnshire has a comprehensive Early Help Offer which is based upon Signs of Safety methodology; and is restorative in nature. The consistency of approach throughout all levels of safeguarding ensures accessibility and effectiveness of Early Help as part of a child or young person's plan. The processes ensure that any requests for support for Children in Care are considered in light of relationship based practice and who the right person to offer the right support at the right time.
- 5) Further investment in services to prevent a child becoming looked after has been made in the Future4me service targeted on those children who are on the cusp of care or facing a placement disruption. Foster Carers are continually trained and supported to meet the needs of all our young people, especially those with complex and additional needs.
- 6) Lincolnshire County Council is now a fostering friendly organisation which helps build our fostering capacity.
- 7) The Corporate Parenting Manager coordinates an operational group within the leaving care service which is designed to engage partners and all agencies around

the needs of our Children in Care and Care Leavers.

- 8) Lincolnshire County Council has a strategic relationship with Serco who provide mentoring and guidance to any child in care or care leaver who wants careers guidance and mentoring.
- 9) A therapeutic parenting manual has been rolled out widely following a pilot across a small number of schools. The learning from this pilot was captured through a Mobilise research project which in turn informed the manual.
- 10) The youth housing support model has been redesigned and was re launched in January 2021. This offers an enhanced level of support and transitional support to help young people move onto independence when they become an adult.
- 11) In relation to move on accommodation, a protocol exists between Children Services, Adult Services and the 7 Districts. This protocol articulates how we will all work together to support young people in all our accommodation provisions from the youth housing offer, to Supported Lodgings, through to Council housing. Care Leavers now have local connection across all 7 Districts and can access youth housing options up to the age of 25.
- 12) Care Leavers are exempt from paying council tax in all 7 Districts up to the age of 25 and this gives them a chance to save money and greater opportunity.

Objective: Intervene effectively to keep vulnerable people safe, making sure children in care and care leavers get the best opportunities.

Activity: We will continue to increase the number of foster carers, supporting them in their valuable role. In year 1 we will focus on developing foster carers with the skills to support children and young people with increased complexities and vulnerabilities. (A26)

Achievement in Q4

26 new foster carer households recruited by year end. Higher level of interest in fostering and work being undertaken to determine whether the ratio of enquiries to approvals could be improved.

Objective: Intervene effectively to keep vulnerable people safe, making sure children in care and care leavers get the best opportunities.

Activity: We will work with the LSAB to develop a multi-agency prevention strategy to protect people from harm and to promote community wellbeing. This will include the development and implementation of a 'team around the adult approach' to help improve engagement with Adults with complex needs. (A29)

Achievement in Q4

The Prevention Strategy was agreed ahead of schedule and governance for implementation has also been agreed.

Ambition: Create thriving environments

Objective: Improve the safety of local communities.

Activity: We will deliver the priorities of the Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership. (A59)

Achievement in Q4

21% reduction in Killed and Seriously Injured, but caution required due to major impact of COVID-19 restrictions.

£249,000 worth of Local Road Safety Schemes delivered.

21,876 clients attended diversionary training courses.

Ambition: Provide Good Value Council Services

Objective: Engage, listen and respond to our communities.

Activity: We will place the individual, their family and friends at the heart of their care plan through introducing and implementing strength based practice in Adult Care and Community Wellbeing. (A67)

Achievement in Q4

Activity and evaluation completed.