



**Open Report on behalf of Janice Spencer OBE, Assistant Director of Children's Services**

Report to:	<b>Corporate Parenting Panel</b>
Date:	<b>22 July 2021</b>
Subject:	<b>Final review of the Looked After Children and Care Leavers Strategy and Action Plan</b>

**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 final review of the action plan before the new one is developed this year.

The action plan 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 LSCP and all the partners.

This report is for background information and the Panel will receive a presentation about the service area at the meeting.

**Actions Required:**

The Panel is invited to note the report and make comments on the presentation provided at the meeting.

**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 the key partners and set 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 deigned 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 Districts Councils health partners and mental health services. 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 universal across all 7 districts and Care Leavers have experienced increased support and flexibility from all partners. We have jointly funded a specialist mental health nurse in the Children in care and Leaving Care Service and are investing in the Education Training and Employment Aspirations.

A revised strategy is now under development and should be launched early 2022.

## **2. Conclusion**

Members of the Corporate Parenting Panel are requested to note the progress against the priorities and actions identified in the Children in Care and Care Leavers Strategy Action Plan.

## **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	Lincolnshire Looked After Children and Care Leavers Strategy 2018-2021
Appendix B	Final Action Plan Master

## **5. Background Papers**

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

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