

Open Report on behalf of Debbie Barnes, Executive Director Children's Services

Report to:	Executive Councillor for Adult Care, Health and Children's Services
Date:	27 January 2014
Subject:	The Lincolnshire Strategic Partnership, Children and Young People's Plan 2013-16
Decision Reference:	
Key decision?	No

Summary:

The Lincolnshire Children & Young People's Plan is the strategic plan for those services which support children and young people in the county of Lincolnshire. The Partnership vision is; *"That every child in every part of the County should achieve their potential"*

The Lincolnshire Children & Young People's Plan shows how the local authority and its relevant partners will work collaboratively and in partnership to; improve outcomes and the wellbeing of every child, young person and family in Lincolnshire.

The Plan is based on evidence taken from past performance, needs assessments, consultation with local children and families and agreed priorities between partners.

It sets the clear direction for the Lincolnshire Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership for the next 3 years.

Children and young people have been involved throughout the development of the plan and an Impact Assessment has also been produced.

Recommendation(s): The adoption of the Children and Young People's Plan 2013-16.

Alternatives Considered:

Not applicable

Reasons for Recommendation:

Adoption of the Children and Young People's Plan.

1. Background

The statutory duty to produce a Children and Young People's Plan was revoked in October 2010 and local areas are no longer required to produce a plan.

Local partnerships are now free to publish their own strategic plan as they see fit and there is no prescribed format, timings or requirements on who to consult during the preparation of the plan. Relevant partners are not under any formal duty to 'have regard' to any voluntary plan.

Relevant partners, under section 10 of the Children Act 2004 continue to be:

- District councils
- Strategic health authorities
- Primary Care Trusts
- Youth offending teams
- Police
- Probation services
- Persons providing 'Connexions' services in pursuance of section 68 of the Education and Skills Act 2008
- Jobcentre Plus
- Maintained schools
- FE and sixth-form colleges
- Non-maintained special schools
- Academies, city technology colleges and city colleges for the technology of arts
- NHS Commissioning Board
- Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCG's)

However, the Children's Trusts' duty to cooperate remains in force and Local Children's Trust arrangements are still underpinned by the 'duty to cooperate' under section 10 of the Children Act 2004 and there are currently no plans to repeal this duty. But there is now greater flexibility in how local partners may implement it.

The Government had planned to remove schools and colleges from the 'duty to cooperate' in 2011 but was persuaded to retain the duty while interested parties work through how best to implement the reforms outlined in the Children and Families Bill.

In April 2013, the Strategic Partnership came together to agree four strategic outcomes. The Partnership identified the 4 Strategic Outcomes to correspond with the Child's journey and transition into adulthood.

- Children and Young People are; **Healthy and Safe**
- Children and Young People; **Develop to their potential in their early years and are ready for school**

- Children and Young People; **Learn and Achieve**
- Children and Young People are; **Ready for Adult Life**

The Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership recognise that at various points in a child's life, they will require additional help and support. This is what we describe as our Early Help Offer. We also believe Early Intervention and Prevention is an effective way to safeguard children and young people. More information pertaining to the Lincolnshire Early Help Offer and Early Help Strategy can be found at:

<http://microsites.lincolnshire.gov.uk/children/partners/cypsp/actiongroups/early-help-offer>

2. Conclusion

That the Children and Young People's Plan 2013-16 is adopted.

3. Legal Comments:

No Comment

4. Resource Comments:

There are no immediate financial implications arising from the recommendation in this report. The financing of any future actions arising from implementation of the Plan will be considered as part of the Council's established budget management processes.

5. Consultation

a) Has Local Member Been Consulted?

N/A

b) Has Executive Councillor Been Consulted?

Yes.

c) Scrutiny Comments

The Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee considered this report at its meeting on 10 January 2014. Comments from this meeting are included below to inform the Executive Councillor when making her decision:- *(To be inserted)*

d) Policy Proofing Actions Required

N/A

6. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	The Children and Young People's Plan 2013-16
Appendix B	The Children and Young People's Plan Executive Summary

7. 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 David McWilliams, who can be contacted on 01522 554225 or david.mcwilliams@lincolnshire.gov.uk.