

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING – 26 SEPTEMBER 2014

Statement from: Councillor Mrs P A Bradwell, Deputy Leader and Executive Councillor for Adult Care and Health Services, Children's Services

CHILDREN'S SERVICES

A Record Year for DofE

The Duke of Edinburgh's (DofE) Award announced record-breaking figures for 2013/14 as awards topped the 100,000 mark for the first time with 108,288 young people achieving their Bronze, Silver or Gold Awards, whilst new starters peaked at 240,796, both up by 10% on the previous year. To support this growth, more organisations, including Local Authorities, secured a licence to run the DofE, increasing a phenomenal 33%. As the DofE approaches its 60th anniversary, its growth in popularity is testament to its relevance to young people today. The employability benefits of the programme have never been so valuable as more young people compete to secure a job. DofE Award holders stand out from the crowd as they can demonstrate skills beyond academic results that are sought-after in the workplace, such as communication, team-working, commitment and drive. The DofE is on course to realise its ambition of 300,000 young people starting their DofE each year by 2016. Continued expansion of licensed organisations and centres, and the recruitment of volunteers to sustain this, will positively shape the futures of more young people, support local communities and contribute to a better society at large.

Early years settings celebrate achieving Inclusion Quality Mark (IQM)

On 8th July the Birth to Five Service hosted a celebration event for early years settings which have achieved the Inclusion Quality Mark (IQM). The IQM award provides a summative validation of current practice and the settings who have achieved the IQM award have a strong commitment to maintaining and improving their inclusive practice. The early years award was piloted in Lincolnshire and runs alongside the national school's award. The Birth to Five Service hopes that this is the start of a working relationship with IQM as the early years award is extended across the country. Settings who have achieved the award are:- Building Blocks Kindergarten, Bourne, Great Wood Farm Early Years Centre, Grantham, Little Treasures Day Nursery, Skegness, Maple Leaf Day Care, Digby, Mulberry Bush, Stamford, Swineshead Preschool, Boston, Kidzone Preschool, RAF Cranwell and The Bluecoat School Nursery and Stamford. Five Birth to Five Service Consultants participated as IQM Early Years Assessors: Sarah Lane, Paula Parker, Kate Powell, Janice Reid and Louise Whitwell.

Lincolnshire Media Education Awards

The Lincolnshire Media Education Awards were launched to celebrate and recognise pupils and students from schools across the county including nursery, primary and secondary schools. Lincolnshire County Council's Children's Services is sponsoring

the awards, organised by the Lincolnshire Echo. The winners were announced on 2nd July.

Leaving Care

Lincolnshire County Council has a corporate parenting responsibility for children who leave care (Care Leavers). The purpose of a Leaving Care Service is to ensure that Care Leavers are provided with comprehensive personal support so that they can achieve their potential as they make their transition to adulthood. Two of our main priorities for Care Leavers are to ensure they find, and remain in, suitable accommodation and to engage them in employment, education or training opportunities. The Lincolnshire Leaving Care Service has been contracted out to Barnardo's since 01/04/2007. The contract could not legally be extended beyond 01/04/2015 without the risk of challenge, therefore an extensive commissioning review was undertaken. A decision to re-tender for the Leaving Care Service combined with two other care leaver related services, the Work Preparation Programme and provision of Supported Lodgings, was approved by the Executive on 01/04/2014. The outcome of the tender process was a successful bid by Barnardo's to continue providing the service from 01/04/2015 for a further 3 years, with an option to extend for a further 2 years if required.

OfSTED Update

Primary

At the end of July 2014, although it had been anticipated that the focus on schools judged satisfactory or requiring improvement would be challenging for our schools, 85% of Lincolnshire primary schools are now judged to be good or better, with 12% judged outstanding. The percentage of good or better primary schools has risen since the end of the autumn term 2013 when this figure was 81%. When compared with the national figure (latest data available 30/06/14) of 81% good or better and East Midlands' figure of 80%, this demonstrates a strong level of success in inspection outcomes for Lincolnshire schools. However, we do recognise the need to now focus on supporting and challenging good schools in their move to outstanding.

In the summer term there have been 16 inspections; 2 schools have been judged outstanding, 1 of these retaining the outstanding judgement from May 2007, the other moving from requiring improvement. 10 schools have been judged good with 6 of these improving from requiring improvement or satisfactory, and 1 improving from special measures. 4 schools were judged to require improvement; of these, 3 remained requiring improvement with one moving from good.

There are currently still 4 primary schools in a category of concern, 3 in Special Measures and 1 with Serious Weaknesses. A sponsored Academy solution has been arranged for all of these schools; the school with Serious Weaknesses converted on September 1st, two in special measures will convert on October 1st with one further planned for January 1st 2015. CfBT will continue their close monitoring and support role with each of these schools until conversion has been finalised.

Secondary

The last inspection in Lincolnshire secondary schools took place in May 2014. In 2014, four of our secondary schools were inspected up to May 2014. Three of the inspections were graded as good and the fourth graded as requires improvement. This equates to 70% of schools being good or better compared to a national figure of 72%, which for a selective authority is a good result. Projections for the coming year indicate that this figure could be at least equalled and possibly surpassed.

Currently, all of Lincolnshire's maintained grammar schools are graded as outstanding. Six of the selective area schools are graded as requiring improvement and one is still graded as inadequate. Recent HMI visits to these schools have provided favourable reports that they are making progress towards becoming good schools.

We continue to support and challenge the 15 schools that are graded requiring improvement or inadequate in terms of OFSTED, but it should be noted that 13/15 of these schools have below average attainment on entry. This is the most significant factor leading to the down grading of our schools and/or the seeming inertia in schools moving from requiring improvement to good. In terms of Lincolnshire academies, 35/44 are graded as good or better.

Special

Two special schools were subject to parallel inspections during the Summer Term. Both were judged "good" - on paper the same judgement as previously, but special schools have been subject to significantly raised Ofsted expectations in terms of performance over the past year. There was only one Lincolnshire special school not graded as either "good" or "outstanding" ("requires improvement"). The school's HMI monitoring has indicated good progress against its action plan. Inspection is expected now in the Autumn Term and monitoring confirms the fast rate of progress judged by the link HMI.

GCSE Results

Despite warnings of a national dip in performance levels from the government's qualifications watchdog, OfQUAL, GCSE results in Lincolnshire have held up this year. With two schools yet to declare their results, exactly 59.1% of students have achieved 5A*-C grades including English and maths. The early reported results in terms of Children Looked After is 13.2% 5ACEM

A total 14 schools achieved in excess of 90%. In Lincolnshire's grammar schools, 48.9% achieved 5 or more A* or A grades, an decrease of 0.3% on last year.

The government has been keen to emphasise the importance of as many students as possible achieving A*-C grades in a broad range of academic subjects. The percentage of students achieving the English Baccalaureate across Lincolnshire is currently showing as 29.9% for 2014 compared to 27.2% last year: an increase of 2.7%.

Overall, though, it is very difficult to compare this year's results with last year's because the government has made so many changes and there are more to come next year. This year's changes include:

- where a student has had two attempts at an exam, only the first result will count in the government's performance tables, even if the student gets a better grade second time around. The student can rightfully declare the higher grade when applying to colleges and for jobs
- there has been a shift from short tests on individual modules to an end of course exam on everything the student has learned
- less coursework can count towards the final grade
- in English, speaking and listening tests no longer count towards the final grade

A-Level Results

Provisional A-level results from 37 out of 38 sixth forms show an increase in higher level passes and twelve schools with a 100% pass rate.

Despite a first drop in the national pass rate for 32 years, provisional indications from Lincolnshire schools are that there were 98.6% of A-levels passes, beating the national figure by 0.6%. The highest grade of A* was achieved in 7.8% of entries, an increase of 0.7% on last year. This compares to a national figure of 8.2% (an increase of 0.6% on last year) showing that Lincolnshire continues to close the gap. Thirteen Lincolnshire schools achieved a % of A* Grades greater than the national figure of 8.2%, with 8 of those achieving more than 10% for the percentage of A* grades. Twelve Lincolnshire schools achieved an outstanding 100% of pass grades.

Many students in Lincolnshire also follow courses that are equivalent to A-levels alongside their traditional A-levels or as an alternative to them. Although no national comparators are available at this time, initial reports from schools show that the overall pass rate has increased by 0.7% when these results are added in, with one school achieving 57.5% at grades A* or A or equivalent.

ADULT CARE

Learning Disabilities

Response to Winterbourne View

Winterbourne View was a scandal that shocked everyone from the general public to professionals working with people with a Learning Disability. Following the review a full programme of work was required to ensure changes were made to ensure that there was no one with a Learning Disability living inappropriately in a hospital and that those who required inpatient services had a clear care plan and discharge plan. The Department of Health Winterbourne View Review Concordat: A Programme for Action was published in December 2012 and formed the foundations of the work to be undertaken by Lincolnshire.

Adult Care Learning Disabilities leads on this work on behalf of the four CCG's as part of the joint commissioning arrangements in Lincolnshire. We developed a joint action plan which is currently being reviewed and have a comprehensive register of all those in inpatient care which is updated weekly and the information reported to NHS England in a comprehensive format quarterly and in over view monthly.

One of the main actions required by Norman Lamb the Minister of State for Care and Support was to ensure that all individuals who had been in in-patient care for a long period of time who were no longer appropriately placed, for example their treatment had been completed, should be discharged into a community based service by June 2014. In Lincolnshire this timeframe was met and we do not have any individuals inappropriately placed in hospital.

Adult Care Performance

Demand for services continues to grow, with 14,000 clients currently accessing services, all of which are accessing a personal budget as appropriate. This is an increase of 1,000 clients compared to the same time last year, and the vast majority of these are older people who continue to live in the community. Admissions to permanent residential care for younger adults remains low and stable. Despite relative stability of just over 1,000 admissions for older people in the last 2 years, the authority's admission rate per 100,000 population is slightly higher than the national average. The pressure will continue because by 2021, the number of people aged 75 and above living in Lincolnshire is projected to grow by 37%, compared to the national average of 27%.

The uptake of services would be much greater if our front door offering wasn't as effective as it is. Almost a third of contacts for new clients are dealt with at the point of contact and offered information and advice and are being signposted appropriately instead of progressing down the funded care route. With regard to the reablement service, over 50% of people accessing the intensive service have regained their independence and require no ongoing support from Adult Care. Also, the percentage of clients admitted to hospital after reablement has reduced to 18%, which further demonstrates the effectiveness of the intervention and reduces the pressure on acute care.

For people who have been in hospital, Adult Care has worked closely with health colleagues to reduce unnecessary delays. For two consecutive years, Lincolnshire has been one of the best performing authorities in respect of delayed transfers of care with an average of 8.5 delayed patients per 100,000 population, and 1.4 delayed patients per 100,000 where the delay was caused by Adult Care. In the last 4 months, the number of delays has reduced further still.

Operational efficiency continues to be very good with over 86% of assessments completed within 28 days. People are receiving services more efficiently with 93% of home support packages brokered within seven days of referral. Adult Care have reviewed 80% of people in the year, maintaining an excellent level of performance for the second year running, and ensuring people have the most appropriate support services to meet their needs and keep them safe. Other improvements have been

made in the department to speed up processes. This year, people have received their direct payments much quicker than they have done in previous years. 96% of direct payments provided in quarter 1 of 2014/15 have been paid within 14 days. Also, against the backdrop of an increasing number of carers requesting support, waiting times for carers' assessments have vastly reduced following extra investment in the Carers Service Team. 6,000 carers are currently supported by the authority.

People are generally happy with the care and support they receive, with 92% of clients responding to the 2014 Adult Care Experience Survey saying they were at least quite satisfied. 84% of people responding to the survey also said that the care and support services they received made them feel safe and secure. The low level of complaints received by Adult Care this year (142 compared to 211 in 2012/13 and 340 in 2011/12), also suggests that the service is improving.

Notwithstanding the consistent improvements I have already mentioned, the level of budget pressure against increased demand will mean that it will be a challenge to retain good or excellent performance in the future. This is a national phenomenon.

Health and Care Success

Lincolnshire Health and Care community entered the Health Service Journal's Value in Healthcare Award, for the work it has undertaken to reduce the number of acute admissions to United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust. The award covers redesign of Acute Care including changing culture and new ways of working.

These new ways of working comprise:

- Contact Centre
- Rapid Response
- Independent Living Teams
- Ambulatory Care

Whilst these schemes are still in their infancy, they are recognised as the forerunners to work being undertaken in the Health and Care community.

Lynne Bucknell, Adult Care's senior leader for these schemes, has confirmed Lincolnshire health and care community has been shortlisted for the award. Congratulations to all Health and Care staff who are responsible for the schemes' successes to date. The results were announced on 23 September.

Budget Update

Adult Care is currently forecasting outturn expenditure will be in line with the budget of £145.036m. There are budget pressures around:

- Continuing high cost pressures for Learning Disabilities from Children's Services as transition cases
- Ongoing discussions around the supported living provision rates

- Possible high cost pressures for Physical Disabilities from Children's Services as transition cases
- Growing pressures as a result of the Cheshire West Judgement in relation to the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards. Work to identify the cost of this pressure both this year and into future years is currently being undertaken and more detail will be available in budget monitoring reports presented to the Executive during the Autumn
- Whilst the cost of implementing the Care Act will be a 2015/16 and future year commitment, a great deal of work is being undertaken to understand the likely costs to be incurred. We are also examining the funding options proposed by Central Government to ensure we support (through the various pressure groups) a funding settlement on the Care Act that accurately reflects the costs that we in Lincolnshire will incur in future years. I am pleased to report that the Department of Health are actually modelling costs on the Care Act using modelling techniques developed within Adult Care here in Lincolnshire.

Developing and updating new strategies

My officers have been busy on the development of a number of new strategy documents that are either required by Government such as a strategy for people with autism in association with colleagues from Children's Services or require updating such as a strategy for Carers, again in association with Children's Services or for those with a dementia. All of these are coproduced which means that the people who have such conditions and their families and organisations that represent them are part of the group producing the document and/or have been consulted throughout their production. Additionally it is important to know that all of these strategies are joint with health colleagues. These will be subsumed into the four commissioning strategies that Adult Care are responsible for in due course. These are:

- Adult Specialities (including Mental Health, Learning Disabilities and Autism)
- Carers
- Adult Frailty, Long-term Conditions and Physical Disability
- Safeguarding Adults

PUBLIC HEALTH

The Market Kitchen

The Market Kitchen launched on Monday 28 July. The response to the launch was very positive and the event was attended by Councillors, partners and representatives from both the County and City Councils. Representatives from some of the groups who are interested in using the facilities also attended. It is a joint initiative with City of Lincoln Council. Lincolnshire Co-op has provided £870.00 vouchers to purchase food for the cooking sessions. The project is teaching people to shop, prepare and cook healthy, nutritious meals on a budget using fresh

seasonal food from the Market. The Market Kitchen is providing a venue for our partner agencies to promote health and wellbeing projects and provide information. Cooking sessions have already been provided for:

- Busy Days: People with learning and physical difficulties
- LEAP: Lincolnshire Employment Accommodation Project for 16 -21 year olds who have experienced social exclusion and have high support needs.
- REACH: Employability Project
- The Cedars NACRO - Crime Reduction
- EPOC are using the facility first Friday of every month to provide information and advice on the early presentation of cancer.
- Smoke Free Alliance is using the facility for two" Stoptober" events in September

The following groups have requested to use the Market Kitchen and staff are facilitating this:

- Family's Working Together
- Carers Service
- Bumps and Beyond for pregnant women with BMI over 34.
- Abbey Access getting people back into employment.
- Community Larder for those struggling to afford food.

There has been positive press coverage from Lincolnshire Echo on line and The Lincolnite. We had a feature article in Your Lincoln featured the Market Kitchen in one of its articles. Staff were interviewed live on BBC Radio Lincolnshire at the Market Kitchen during a cooking session.

The Universal Infant Free School Meal Offer

The introduction of free school meals for all infant school children from September 2014 is a government policy sourced from the National School Food Plan. The roll out of the Universal Free Infant School Meal Project has been logistically challenging for all local authorities nationwide.

School food is widely believed to hold the potential to positively influence the eating patterns of school children towards healthier diets, thereby reducing the risk of obesity and overweight, and contributing to the achievement of better long-term health. Not only does good school food offer greater health benefits for children and young people, it also increases attention in class and attainment throughout the academic year. Socially, free food in school offers parents a potential financial saving of up to £400 per child per year.

Whilst the Universal Free Infant School Meal Project is proving challenging to deliver, we are confident that 100 per cent of primary schools in Lincolnshire will have provision in line with the national offer. We have worked closely with schools and caterers over the past six months, building relationships and finding joint solutions in order to meet this important but challenging offer.

Support is available to schools to deliver this new responsibility from a range of sources including: transitional revenue funding; capital funding and practical support

and services from nationally commissioned organisations as well as the in-house Food in Schools team.

Healthy Schools Celebration event 26 June 2014

Healthy Schools continue to work across Lincolnshire schools to promote the health and wellbeing of pupils and staff through a well-planned curriculum in a physical and emotional environment that promotes learning and healthy lifestyle choices.

This interactive celebration event was supported by all the Healthy Schools Team, including the Assistant Director of Public Health Tony McGinty, who presented the 35 awards throughout both morning and afternoon sessions. Awards included: PSHE Accreditation Award, Young Carer Friendly School Award, School Council Awards (Bronze, Silver), Reaccreditation of Healthy Schools Status and Healthy Schools Enhancement.

Many school teachers, pupils and staff presented on the day to share their good practice and, more importantly, what significance these awards had on improving outcomes for their children and young people.

The Government supports the Healthy Schools initiative, recognising the importance of local programmes supporting schools to deliver on a range of local Public Health topics that can narrow the gap in health inequalities for children and young people.

Wellbeing Service

The Wellbeing Service has recently completed its first quarter of delivery. The Wellbeing Service providers, along with our Wellbeing Service Team, have worked hard to support clients in this period of transition.

The Wellbeing Service Partners are showing commendable commitment to meeting the increasing, and often complex, demands of the service.

Initially Wellbeing resources have been mainly directed towards reassessing existing service users to ensure a smooth transition into the Wellbeing Service. For the first quarter there were over 2500 assessments completed.

We have seen 886 new referrals for Wellbeing in this period. Following referral, an eligibility check for the service is made by assessing the individual against a number of triggers including bereavement, history of falls, hospitalisation and medication. Hitting four or more of these triggers leads to a face to face assessment from the Wellbeing Service provider. Of these 886 new referrals, only 43 did not meet the triggers and were subsequently signposted either directly to the Wellbeing Service Partners for the self-funding route, or to a more appropriate agency.

Prior to the Wellbeing service, this would have been 886 people signposted; we are now much better equipped to deliver services when people need them.

With the reassessments coming to an end, there will be a real push to promote the service to increase awareness of the service to the public and professionals, resulting in more referrals being made for the vital support the Wellbeing Service has to offer.