

Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee

Monday, 12 December 2016 at 14:00

County Hall, County Hall, West Bridgford, Nottingham, NG2 7QP

AGENDA

- | | | |
|----|--|---------|
| 1 | Minutes of the last meeting held on 12 September 2016 | 3 - 8 |
| 2 | Apologies for Absence | |
| 3 | Declarations of Interests by Members and Officers:- (see note below)
(a) Disclosable Pecuniary Interests
(b) Private Interests (pecuniary and non-pecuniary) | |
| 4 | Performance Reporting (Quarter 2 2016-17) - Services for Looked After Children & Care Leavers | 9 - 14 |
| 5 | Autumn Term Report for the Virtual School for Looked After Children | 15 - 24 |
| 6 | New Accommodation Provision for 16-21 Year Olds | 25 - 32 |
| 7 | Leaving Care Service Update | 33 - 36 |
| 8 | Independent Reviewing Officer Service - Six Month Update | 37 - 40 |
| 9 | Work Programme | 41 - 44 |
| 10 | Foster Carers' Items | |

Notes

- (1) Councillors are advised to contact their Research Officer for details of any Group Meetings which are planned for this meeting.
- (2) Members of the public wishing to inspect "Background Papers" referred to in the reports on the agenda or Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act should contact:-

Customer Services Centre 0300 500 80 80

- (3) Persons making a declaration of interest should have regard to the Code of Conduct and the Council's Procedure Rules. Those declaring must indicate the nature of their interest and the reasons for the declaration.

Councillors or Officers requiring clarification on whether to make a declaration of interest are invited to contact Julie Brailsford (Tel. 0115 977 4694) or a colleague in Democratic Services prior to the meeting.

- (4) Councillors are reminded that Committee and Sub-Committee papers, with the exception of those which contain Exempt or Confidential Information, may be recycled.
- (5) This agenda and its associated reports are available to view online via an online calendar - <http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/dms/Meetings.aspx>

Meeting	CORPORATE PARENTING SUB-COMMITTEE
Date	Monday 12 September 2016 (commencing at 2.00 pm)

Membership

Persons absent are marked with an 'A'

COUNCILLORS

Liz Plant (Chairman)

Maureen Dobson
Boyd Elliott
Kate Foale
Colleen Harwood

Philip Owen
Sue Saddington
Andy Sissons
Jacky Williams

Foster Carer

Sarah Maiden

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Julie Brailsford	-	Democratic Services Officer, Resources
Amanda Collinson	-	Group Manager, Childrens' Disability Services
Yvonne Cottingham	-	CAMHS, Children Looked After
Sarah Maiden	-	Foster Carer
Shelagh Mitchell	-	Group Manager, Access to Resources
Vonny Senogles	-	Service Manager, Residential Services & CAMHS
Naomi Sills	-	Fostering Service Manager
Thirza Smith	-	Manager, Clayfields House
Georgina Staveley	-	Business Support Assistant, Children, Families & Cultural Services.
Kathryn Higgins	-	Designated Nurse, Children in Care County CCGS

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 13th June 2016, having been circulated to all Members, were taken as read and were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence received.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

IMPROVING HEALTH OUTCOMES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE CARE OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

The report provided an update to the committee from the designated professionals for Nottingham Clinical Commissioning Groups on the health organisations' contributions to improving health outcomes for children and young people in the care of the Local Authority during 2015/16.

Kathryn Higgins the designated nurse for Looked After children answered questions from the committee on the report.

The following points were raised and discussed:

- The children leaving care at the age of 18 were helped through the transition period jointly by their named social worker, the GP and the LA nurse. The Health Information Pack given to care leavers during their final assessment had been designed jointly with the young people to include information about their individual and family health history as appropriate.
- The designated LA nurse post had only recently moved in to the Clinical Commission Groups (CCG's). Work on a website was currently being undertaken to include a range of safeguarding information for the CCG's and GP's.
- There was on-going work to ensure that the immunisation programme targeted the hard to reach groups. In the future data would be collected on who had been offered immunisation and who had received it.
- The challenge of trying to get data on how many children were registered with a dentist and how many were actually seen by the dentist was ongoing.

RESOLVED 2016/021

To note the content of the report.

PERFORMANCE REPORTING (QUARTER 1 2016-17) – SERVICES FOR LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN AND CARE LEAVERS

This report provided the committee with a summary of the performance of services for looked after children and care leavers between 1 April and 30 June 2016.

It was noted that the number of Looked After Children (LAC) has dropped monthly since January 2016 and quarterly since quarter 2 2015-16. The LAC rate per 10,000 of 49.1 remains significantly lower than the rates for our statistical neighbours and the England average. This was in part due to the right number of children placed in

to care being fostered or adopted and a number of children exiting care each quarter.

RESOLVED 2016/022

To note the performance of services for looked after children and care leavers during the period 1 April to 30 June 2016.

COUNTY CAMHS LOOKED AFTER AND ADOPTION TEAM – SERVICE PROVISION AND DEVELOPMENTS 2015/16

The report was presented by Yvonne Cottingham and Vonny Senogles from the County Child & Adolescent Mental Health team (CAMS). It provided an update on the work and service developments of the CAMS Services, Children Looked After (CLA) and Adoption Team. The team was a multi-disciplinary, multi-agency team and was commissioned to specifically work with children and young people who were looked after and living away from their birth parents, in the care of Nottinghamshire Children's Services.

The following points were raised and discussed:

- The 'fostering attachments' 10 week therapeutic group for foster carers and main stream residential groups had proved to be a very positive valuable training experience. Consideration was being given to charging independent foster agencies for this service.
- The service had much improved and nationally was now targeting the right people and this was beginning to show in Nottinghamshire.

RESOLVED 2016/023

To note the report.

ADOPTION SERVICE UPDATE – MARCH TO AUGUST 2016

Shelagh Mitchell, Group Manager, Children's Social Care presented the report on the six-monthly update on activity in the adoption service from March to August 2016 and future plans for the service.

The following points were raised and discussed:

- Feedback from the regional adoption meeting was that the National Adoption Leadership Board had not been embraced by lead members and concern was expressed regarding how this was going to help the adoption service.
- Adoption support continues to be an area of development for the Government. The Council had been reviewing and submitting applications for funding on behalf of adopters to purchase support packages.

RESOLVED 2016/024

That the six-monthly update on activity in the adoption service from March to August 2016 be noted.

CLAYFIELDS HOUSE RE-BUILD

Thirza Smith, a manager from Clayfields House presented the report on the Clayfields House Rebuild Project. The Scarlet Unit was the oldest part of the Clayfields site and was now suffering defects to the point where the unit was now subsiding and required a new rebuild that was now underway. The Unit was not originally constructed in the 1980's to cope with the complex needs of the young people that now resided there. The new unit would also have additional facilities to assist in observations of young people who may be at risk of harming themselves and also to become a two bedded 'step down' unit for those transitioning back in to the community.

The following points were raised and discussed:

- That good communication with local residents was essential. Regular update meetings, personal visits (when necessary) and news drops were all part of the communication process.
- Some local residents wanted the trees surrounding the site to be removed and some wanted them to stay. The Local Liason Group were concerned that some of the trees were protected and were part of the planning condition.
- There had been a huge increase in self-harming behaviours. The two 'versatile beds' would have two way mirrors for observation purposes and to screen them from the other young people in the unit. The 'versatile beds' could also be used for young people transitioning back in to the community and would allow them to have their own 'front door' and build their confidence in accessing the community.
- Youngsters who had access to the vocational unit, recently opened at Clayfields House, had to be progressing well and trustworthy.

RESOLVED 2016/025

That the information on the Clayfields House Rebuild Project be noted.

WORK PROGRAMME

The updated work programme was discussed and considered by Members.

RESOLVED 2016/026

That the Committee's work programme be noted.

FOSTER CARERS ITEMS

There were no items for discussion from foster carers.

The meeting closed at 2.35pm.

CHAIRMAN

12 September 2016

12 December 2016

Agenda Item: 4

REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE**PERFORMANCE REPORTING (QUARTER 2 2016/17) – SERVICES FOR
LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN AND CARE LEAVERS****Purpose of the Report**

1. The purpose of this report is to provide the Committee with a summary of the performance of services for looked after children and care leavers between 1 July and 30 September 2016.

Information and Advice

2. The Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee agreed to receive quarterly performance reports on key indicators for looked after children (LAC) and care leavers on 14 September 2015. This report provides an update of the regular set of performance information, whereby the most up-to-date information is reported for each measure, unless otherwise indicated.
3. Performance information is set out in **Appendix 1**. Key indicators are aligned against the outcome statements in the Looked After Children and Care Leavers Strategy 2015-18. This strategy identifies six outcomes to be achieved, and these are listed below:
 - 1) Looked after children and care leavers are happy and healthy
 - 2) Looked after children and care leavers are safe
 - 3) Looked after children and care leavers achieve their potential
 - 4) Looked after children and care leavers are prepared for adulthood
 - 5) Looked after children and care leavers are listened to
 - 6) Looked after children and care leavers build positive relationships.
4. Progress is expected across all outcomes over the course of the three years. In order to ensure that the associated planned activity is realistic, deliverable and focused, an Annual Action Plan has been developed, which is currently under review by the LAC Strategy Group and the Children in Care Council, to ensure that the key priorities remain relevant and deliverable.

Key Operational Data

5. At the end of Quarter 2 2016/17, a total of 792 children were looked after by Nottinghamshire which is the fourth consecutive quarterly drop. September actually saw the first rise in numbers on a monthly basis since January 2016. Quarter 2 has seen an increase in the number of children admitted into care since last quarter. The LAC rate per 10,000 of 48.7

remains significantly lower than the rates for our statistical neighbours and the England average as at the end of 2015/16, which were 59.8 and 60 respectively.

	2014-15			2015-16				2016-17	
	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
Numbers of children in care (as at Quarter end)	851	856	851	855	875	867	839	798	792
LAC Rate per 10,000	52.3	52.6	51.9	52.6	53.7	53.1	51.1	48.9	48.7
Number of children admitted into care	82	94	100	103	100	87	77	64	75
Number of children discharged from care	90	95	109	92	82	90	104	91	70
Number of care leavers (as at Quarter end)+						302	224	219	226

+Accurate care leavers data was only collected on a quarterly basis from Q3 2015-16 onwards

	2014-15			2015-16				2016-17	
Age Range	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
Under 1	33	40	41	40	43	37	27	27	30
1-4 years	150	125	118	123	128	131	112	90	93
5-9 years	166	176	170	168	168	171	163	151	147
10-15 years	293	302	312	317	335	341	345	344	335
16+ years	209	213	210	207	201	187	192	186	187
Total	851	856	851	855	875	867	839	798	792

	2014-15			2015-16				2016-17	
Gender	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
Male	451	447	448	447	456	465	452	429	439
Female	400	409	403	408	419	402	387	369	353
Total	851	856	851	855	875	867	839	798	792

	2014-15			2015-16				2016-17	
District	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
Ashfield	211	213	212	214	214	211	202	201	192
Mansfield	175	166	175	168	182	186	184	169	186
Bassetlaw	160	156	156	158	160	154	149	142	134
Newark	125	124	129	127	130	133	123	116	116
Broxtowe	55	54	55	57	56	54	51	49	46
Gedling	52	56	56	55	67	62	63	60	62
Rushcliffe	23	28	22	23	17	18	21	20	19
Out of County/Unknown	50	58	46	53	49	49	46	41	37
Total	851	856	851	855	875	867	839	798	792

6. The increase in looked after children this quarter is virtually all in Mansfield. The age profile of looked after children has changed slightly this quarter with the proportion aged 4 and under increasing from 14% to 16%. Overall, the age profile is younger than it was a year ago. The gender profile of looked after children has changed only slightly, with slightly fewer females (down from 46% in quarter 1 to 45% in quarter 2).

Other Options Considered

7. No other options have been considered as the Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee is required to have oversight of the performance of services for looked after children and care leavers.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

8. The recommendations are made so that the Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee can effectively fulfil the role required of it.

Statutory and Policy Implications

9. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, sustainability and the environment and ways of working and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Safeguarding of Children and Adults at Risk Implications

10. Reporting on the performance of services for looked after children and care leavers will better enable the Council to ensure that children are effectively safeguarded.

Implications for Service Users

11. Reporting on the performance of services for looked after children and care leavers will better enable the Council to ensure that children and young people are in receipt of high quality services.

RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1) That the Committee notes the performance of services for looked after children and care leavers during the period 1 July to 30 September 2016.

Steve Edwards
Service Director, Children's Social Care

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

Shelagh Mitchell
Group Manager, Access to Resources
T: 0115 977 74169
E: shelagh.mitchell@nottsgov.uk

Constitutional Comments

12. As this report is for noting only, no Constitutional Comments are required.

Financial Comments (TR 17/11/16)

13. As this report is for noting only, no Financial Comments are required.

Background Papers and Published Documents

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 19.

Looked After Children and Care Leavers Strategy 2015-18

Developing arrangements for reporting performance to Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee – report to Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee on 14 September 2015

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All.

C0901

Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee: Performance Update - Oct 2016

The key indicators identified below are aligned against the outcome statements in the Looked After Children and Care Leavers Strategy. All indicators are updated with the most up-to-date information as at the time of writing the report. These six outcomes are: 1). Looked after children and care leavers are happy and healthy, 2). Looked after children and care leavers are safe, 3). Looked after children and care leavers achieve their potential, 4). Looked after children and care leavers are prepared for adulthood, 5). Looked after children and care leavers are listened to, 6). Looked after children and care leavers build positive relationships. (p) = provisional data

Update	LAC & Care Leavers Strategy Ref	Key Performance Indicator	Nottinghamshire						
			Current Value	Current Reporting Period	Best to be	Previous Value	Previous Annual Performance	National Average	Statistical Neighbours
Looked after children and care leavers are happy and healthy	1.1	Average Strengths and Difficulties Question (SDQ) Score per LAC	14.2 (p)	2015/16	High	15.4	15.4 (2014/15)	13.9 (2014/15)	14.0 (2014/15)
	N/A	Percentage of LAC with up to date immunisations	85.2% (p)	2015/16	High	80.7%	80.7% (2014/15)	87.8% (2014/15)	81.1% (2014/15)
	N/A	Percentage of LAC who have had their teeth checked by a dentist	53.1% (p)	2015/16	High	77.2%	77.2% (2014/15)	85.8% (2014/15)	78.6% (2014/15)
	1.5	Percentage of LAC who have had their annual health assessment	82.3% (p)	2015/16	High	80.7%	80.7% (2014/15)	89.7% (2014/15)	86.1% (2014/15)
	N/A	Percentage of LAC whose development assessments are up to date	27.1% (p)	2015/16	High	70.6%	70.6% (2014/15)	89.4% (2014/15)	77.2% (2014/15)
	N/A	Percentage of LAC identified as having a substance misuse problem	5.9% (p)	2015/16	Low	3%	3.0% (2014/15)	4.0% (2014/15)	4.4% (2014/15)
Looked after children and care leavers are safe	2.1	Percentage of care leavers in suitable accommodation	81.0%	2016/17 Q2	High	79.9%	79.5% (2015/16)	80.7% (2014/15)	75.3% (2014/15)
	2.3	Percentage of Nottinghamshire LAC missing from placement by individual child	8.8%	2016/17 Q2	Low	8.9%	9.2% (2015/16)	6% (2014/15)	7.2% (2014/15)
	N/A	Return Interviews completed within timescale	47%	2016/17 Q2	High	55%	55% (2015/16)	—	—
	N/A	Percentage of LAC convicted or subject to a final warning or reprimand	0% (p)	2015/16	Low	1.0%	1.0% (2014/15)	4.9% (2014/15)	5.0% (2014/15)
Looked after children and care leavers achieve their potential (annual)	3.1	Percentage of LAC achieving 5 A*-C GCSEs (including English & Maths) at KS4	13.6% (p)	2015/16	High	14.8%	14.8%	13.8% (2014/15)	13.9% (2014/15)
	3.2	Percentage of LAC achieving expected standard at KS1 in Reading	56%	2015/16	High	not comparable	—	—	—
	3.2	Percentage of LAC achieving expected standard at KS1 in Writing	44%	2015/16	High	not comparable	—	—	—
	3.2	Percentage of LAC achieving expected standard at KS1 in Maths	44%	2015/16	High	not comparable	—	—	—
	3.2	Percentage of LAC achieving expected standard at KS2 in Reading	31%	2015/16	High	not comparable	—	—	—
	3.2	Percentage of LAC achieving expected standard at KS2 in Writing	33%	2015/16	High	not comparable	—	—	—

Update	LAC & Care Leavers Strategy Ref	Key Performance Indicator	Nottinghamshire						
			Current Value	Current Reporting Period	Best to be	Previous Value	Previous Annual Performance	National Average	Statistical Neighbours
Looked after children and care leavers achieve their potential	3.2	Percentage of LAC achieving expected standard at KS2 in Maths	29%	2015/16	High	not comparable	–	–	–
	3.3	Percentage of care leavers in education, employment or training aged 19-21	46.5%	2016/17 Q2	High	46.1%	47.3% (2015/16)	47.8% (2014/15)	42.5% (2014/15)
	3.3	Percentage of care leavers in higher education aged 19-21	4.0%	2016/17 Q2	High	4.1%	4.5% (2015/16)	6.0% (2014/15)	5.7% (2014/15)
	N/A	Percentage of LAC permanently excluded	0.0%	2014/15	Low	0.0%	0.0%	0.13% (2014/15)	0.13% (2014/15)
	N/A	Percentage of LAC with at least one fixed term exclusion	14.6%	2014/15	Low	12.6%	12.6% (2013/14)	10.3% (2014/15)	10.3% (2014/15)
	N/A	Percentage of LAC classed as persistent absentees*	3.1%	2014/15	Low	4.1%	4.1% (2013/14)	4.9% (2014/15)	4.8% (2014/15)
Looked after children are prepared	5.3	Percentage of LAC with an up-to-date Personal Education Plan	43.9%	2016/17 Q2	High	51.5%	62.6% (2015/16)	–	–
	4.2	Percentage of care leavers in suitable accommodation	81.0%	2016/17 Q2	High	79.9%	79.5% (2015/16)	80.7% (2014/15)	75.3% (2014/15)
Looked after children and care leavers are listened to	5.2	Percentage of LAC who got the chance to speak to their Independent Reviewing Officer (IRO) prior to their LAC Review	37.8%	2016/17 Q2	High	35.8%	37.1% (2015/16)	–	–
	5.4	Percentage of LAC who felt their IRO involved them in the LAC Review they attended	97.0%	Feb-16	High	100.0%	–	–	–
	5.4	Percentage of LAC who felt listened to in the LAC Review they attended	90.0%	Feb-16	High	92.0%	–	–	–
	5.1	Percentage of LAC and care leavers who have completed a Listen to Me booklet	29.4%	2016/17 Q2	High	31.0%	31.0% (2015/16)	–	–
Looked after children and care leavers build	6.2	Percentage of looked after children with 3 or more placements in any one year	8.6%	2016/17 Q2	Low	9.4%	10.4% (2015/16)	10% (2014/15)	10% (2014/15)
	N/A	Percentage of looked after children placed 20 miles or more from home	13.7%	2016/17 Q2	Low	12.9%	11.9% (2015/16)	14% (2014/15)	13.4% (2014/15)

*Data for 2013/14 is based on pupils attending a Nottinghamshire school only. Pupils attending out of county schools are not included.

12 December 2016

Agenda Item: 5

**REPORT OF THE ACTING SERVICE DIRECTOR, EDUCATION STANDARDS
AND INCLUSION****AUTUMN TERM REPORT FOR THE VIRTUAL SCHOOL FOR LOOKED
AFTER CHILDREN****Purpose of the Report**

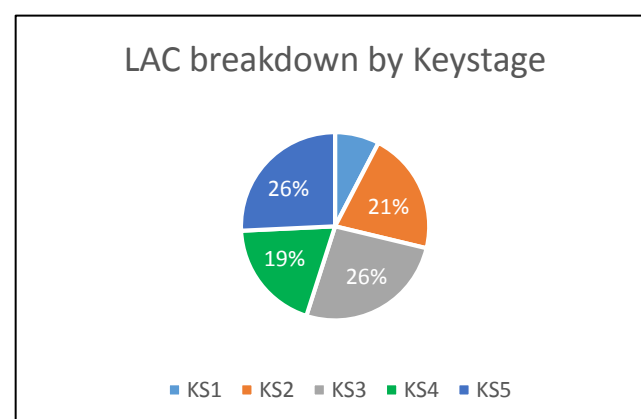
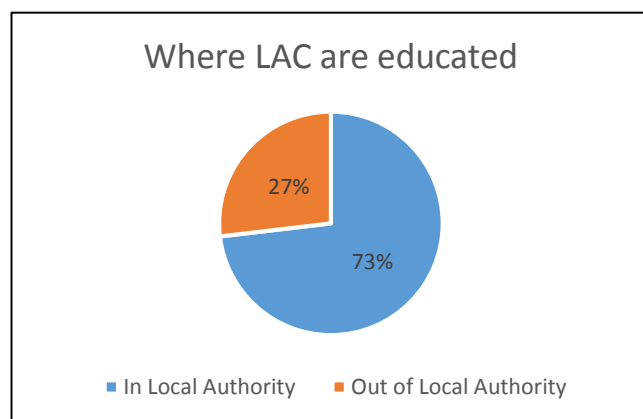
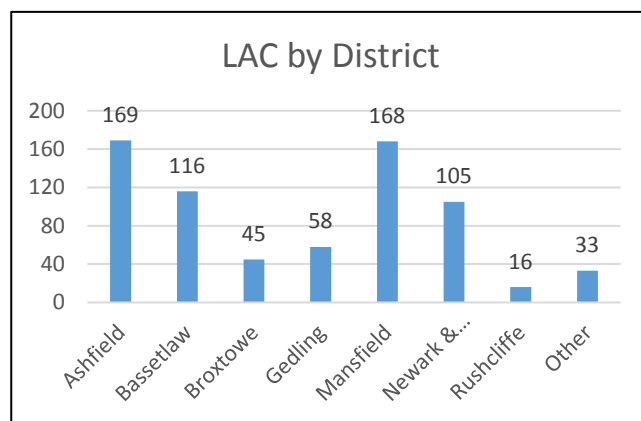
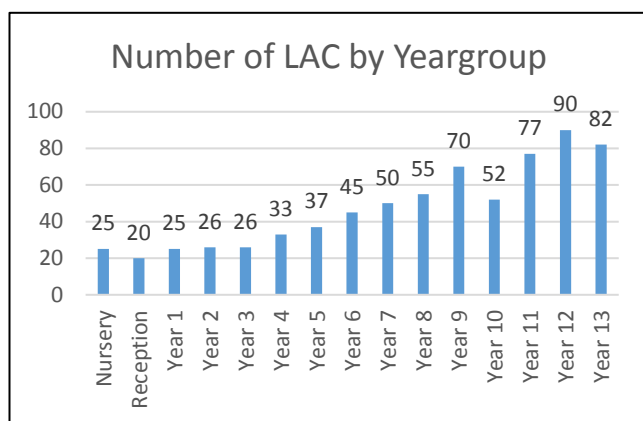
1. To update the Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee on the virtual school for the autumn term 2016.

Information and Advice**Virtual School Senior Leadership Team, School Improvement Plan and termly tracking processes**

2. The senior leadership team (SLT) met on 7 November 2016 and reviewed the 2015/16 virtual school improvement plan in the light of Nottinghamshire's provisional outcomes for Looked After Children (LAC) in 2016. Key improvement priorities and actions were identified for 2016/17. The SLT will review the virtual school's improvement plan on a termly basis alongside further validated data, when available.
3. The virtual school's data officer facilitates the collection of termly teacher assessment data along with other relevant pupil level information such as *progress towards attainment and learning targets, attendance, behaviour, attitudes to learning*. This valuable and crucial process enables the virtual school team to closely track, monitor and intervene as appropriate to ensure LAC continue to make progress and achieve their potential. The tracking information is also used productively during meetings with schools, social workers and carers to inform discussions about interventions or support that may be required for a LAC in schools or educational settings.

Numbers on roll and composition of Nottinghamshire's Virtual School

4. The number of LAC in each key stage, year group, residence and educational location is shown below. The current total for LAC at statutory school age in Nottinghamshire's virtual school is 516 (compared to 559 in 2015-16). The profile of the virtual school in 2016-17 is broadly similar to its profile in 2015-16 with the exception of the Year 9 cohort where there appears to have been a noticeable increase in LAC numbers. All information below is correct as of 26 October 2016.



Commentary on 2016 outcomes for LAC

5. This commentary is based on provisional, un-validated outcomes for Nottinghamshire's looked after children in 2016. National or regional outcomes for LAC are yet to be published.
6. This data is based on the Nottinghamshire 903 cohorts from 2016, defined as children looked after for at least 12 months as of 31 March of the relevant year.
7. Care should be taken when comparing key stage outcomes of Looked after Children due to small cohort sizes.
8. There have been a number of significant changes to key performance measures over recent years including the introduction of new Key Stage 4 performance measures and the removal of National Curriculum levels for Key Stages 1, 2 and 3. Hence, comparisons cannot easily be made with previous years' data.

Key Stage 1 (KS1): Percentage of LAC meeting Age Related Expectations (ARE)

The 2016 cohort is based on 16 pupils. Each pupil equates to 6.25 percentage points.

National (England)		2016
	Maths	Not Available
	Writing	
	Reading	

Nottinghamshire	Maths	44
	Writing	44
	Reading	56

East Midlands	Maths	Not Available
	Writing	
	Reading	

9. In 2016, KS1 pupils were assessed against the new more challenging curriculum, which was introduced in 2014. Results are no longer reported as levels; interim frameworks for teacher assessment have been used by teachers to assess if a pupil has met the new, higher expected standard. This report presents attainment based on teacher assessments.
10. In terms of KS1 LAC outcomes in 2016, 7 out of the 16 LAC achieved the expected standard in mathematics and in writing (44%), 9 out of 16 pupils achieved the expected standard in reading (56%) and 7 out of 16 achieved the expected standard in all 3 areas (44%). It should be noted that 1 of the 16 LAC was assessed at not only reaching the expected standard in all three subjects but also achieved higher than the expected standard which is described as 'working at greater depth'.
11. Of those who are educated in Nottinghamshire schools, 5 out of 11 LAC (45%) achieved ARE in reading, writing and maths, compared to those educated out of county, of whom 2 out of 5 (40%) achieved ARE in reading, writing and mathematics.

Key Stage 2: Percentage of LAC meeting Age Related Expectations (ARE)

The 2016 cohort is based on 42 pupils. Each pupil equates to 2.4 percentage points.

National (England)		2016
	Maths	Not Available
	Writing	
	Reading	
	Combined	

Nottinghamshire	Maths	31
	Writing	33
	Reading	31
	Combined	17

East Midlands	Maths	Not Available
	Writing	
	Reading	
	Combined	

12. The 2016 Key Stage 2 assessments are the first which assess the new, more challenging national curriculum, introduced in 2014. New tests and interim frameworks for teacher assessment have been introduced to reflect the revised curriculum. As with the KS1 results, due to new performance measures, these results cannot be compared to previous outcomes.
13. Thirteen out of the 42 LAC achieved ARE in mathematics and reading (31%) and 14 LAC achieved ARE in writing (33%). LAC outcomes were therefore broadly similar across the 3 individual subjects but only 7 out of 42 students achieved ARE in reading, writing and maths combined (17%). This remains an area for improvement for 2016-17.

Key Stage 2: Value Added Measure

National (Eng)	KS2 Value Added Measure	
		Not Available
	Maths	
	Writing	
	Reading	

Nottinghamshire	Maths	+1.97
	Writing	+0.15
	Reading	+1.35

East Midlands	Maths	Not Available
	Writing	
	Reading	

14. New progress measures at the end of KS2 aim to capture the progress that pupils make from the end of key stage 1 to the end of primary school. They are a type of value added measure which means that pupils' results are compared to the actual achievements of other pupils nationally with similar prior attainment. These scores give an indication of whether, as a group (LAC in this case), pupils in the school made above or below average progress in a subject compared with pupils with similar starting points in other schools.
15. Based on the provisional, un-validated data it would appear that the Nottinghamshire LAC cohort for 2016 has made positive gains in terms of the value added from KS1 to KS2.

Key Stage 4 (KS4): Percentage of LAC meeting Age Related Expectations (ARE)

The 2015 cohort is based on 66 pupils. The 2016 cohort is based on 51 pupils. Each pupil equates to 2 percentage points.

16. The KS4 dataset is currently based on returns from individual schools (in and out of county) for our 2016 KS4 LAC 903 cohort rather than from a national statistical first release of data.

Key Stage 4 (KS4): LAC A*- C grades in both English and mathematics

17. At Key Stage 4, the current information is considered provisional and subject to change. The previous headline indicator of 5+ A*-C GCSEs including English and mathematics has now been removed. The closest comparator currently available is based on the percentage of LAC achieving A*-C grades in both GCSE English and mathematics.

National (England) % A*- C in both English and mathematics	2015	2016
	15.9%	
Nottinghamshire % A*- C in both English and mathematics	16.7%	13.6%
East Midlands % A*- C in both English and mathematics	12.6%	

18. 13.6 % of LAC pupils achieved A*- C grades in both GCSE English and mathematics in 2016 compared to 16.7% in 2015 which represents a small decline based on a smaller cohort of entry.
19. It is worth noting that in terms of individual outcomes for LAC in English GCSE and mathematics GCSE, the English outcomes improved from 21.4% in 2015 to 27.1% in 2016, and the mathematics outcomes improved from 19.6% to 25.4% in 2016. The caveats about cohort sizes continue to apply.

Key Stage 4 (KS4): Attainment and Progress 8

20. Attainment 8 is the new measure based on the cumulative score derived from grades achieved across up to 8 subjects across 3 sections; English & mathematics, 3 English Baccalaureate subjects (Sciences, Languages & Humanities) and 3 other approved qualifications. The average Attainment 8 score for the LAC cohort was 25.3 in 2016.
21. A Progress 8 score compares students to those with the same prior attainment at KS2. Based on un-validated provisional data, the Nottinghamshire LAC cohort achieved a

Progress 8 score of -1.04 meaning that on average, the LAC pupils achieved 1 grade lower per subject than others with the same prior attainment at KS2.

Reflections on the new KS4 measures in 2016 and next steps for the virtual school as a result of this evaluation.

22. Further analysis of results at individual pupil level indicates that LAC who make the greatest progress are those who have been in both a stable placement and consistent school setting since their transition from primary school.
23. In terms of examination entries, in 2016 the average number of qualifications entered by Nottinghamshire's LAC was 6.04 which is a strong increase on qualifications entered in 2015 (4.6 entries per LAC pupil). In addition, there has been a 13 percentage points increase in the number of LAC pupils entered for a GCSE in both English and mathematics (from 47% in 2015 to 60% in 2016).
24. The new Progress 8 measure places more emphasis on ensuring pupils have access to and are able to study a broad curriculum based on up to 8 subjects, including English and mathematics. Nottinghamshire's LAC Achievement Officers will continue to work closely with schools to ensure appropriate curriculum offers and accreditation pathways are in place for our KS4 cohorts.
25. Nottinghamshire's virtual school team will continue to ensure targeted visits are in place to provide challenge and support to schools or settings where tracking data suggests there are possible barriers to achievement for a Nottinghamshire LAC. The virtual school improvement plan will also identify key priorities and actions for improvement in agreement with the virtual school senior leadership team.

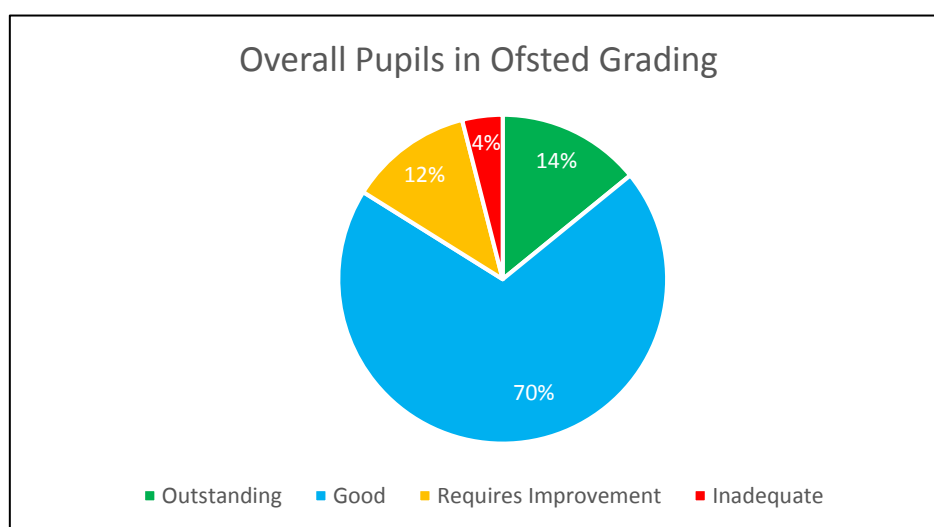
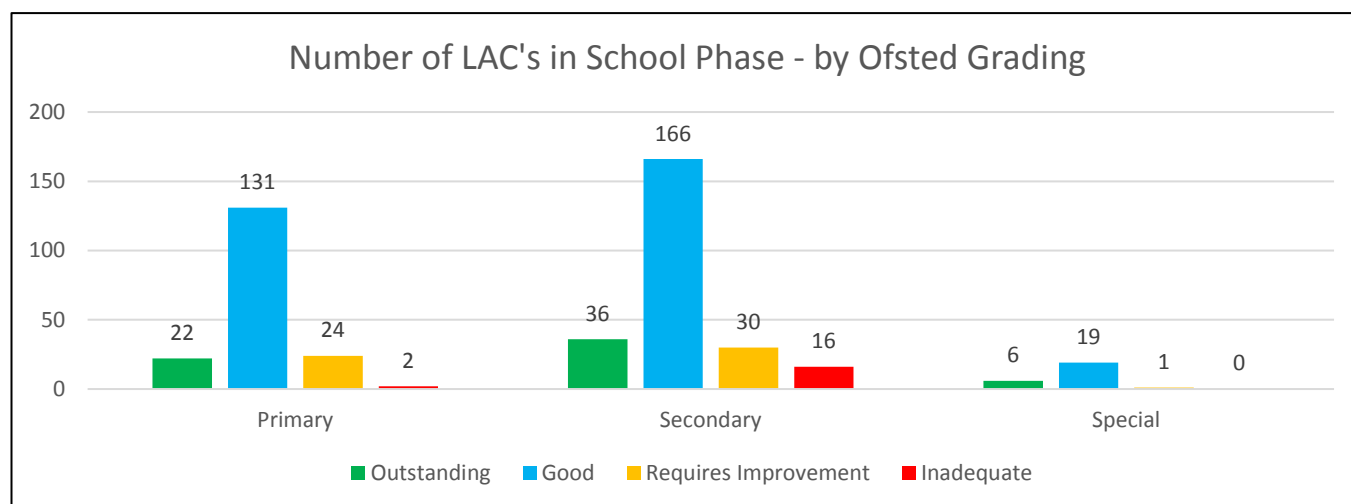
Attendance

26. Internally collected data shows that overall attendance for LAC in the academic year 2015-16 was 96% compared to 96.8% in 2014-15. The national and East Midlands attendance percentage for 2014-15 was 96%.

NEXUS project

27. Nexus is a project supported by the Association of Children's Services Directors which aims to create a consistent, national evidence-based system to assist with reporting the educational outcomes of LAC children. It is hoped that in the future, this will enable local authorities to assess, monitor and report on the educational achievement and progress of children in care (both nationally and locally, and at both an institutional and individual level).
28. Nottinghamshire's Performance, Intelligence and Policy Team and the virtual school data officer will be taking part in this project as it develops. The project will allow local authorities to monitor, collate and compare a wide range of key factors known to contribute to the low educational outcomes of children and young people in care such as time in care, placement changes and school changes.

LAC placements in schools according to Ofsted Grading



29. Wherever possible, the local authority adheres to the statutory guidance as set out in 'Promoting the Education of Looked After Children' (July 2014), which advises that all looked after children should be placed in good or better schools.
30. It is not the Local Authority's practice to move a LAC from their school if that school moves from an 'outstanding' or 'good' Ofsted category as this can be unsettling and detrimental to the LAC's progress and well-being.
31. The Virtual School Data Officer and Achievement Officers closely monitor and scrutinise all data for pupils not attending good or outstanding schools. A LAC Achievement Officer is allocated to all of those LAC placed in schools that are not yet judged to be good or outstanding. Social care colleagues also work closely with virtual school staff to facilitate termly personal education plans for the LAC.

Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Pupil Premium (PP)

32. Close working between the virtual school and the early childhood and early help service has ensured that a system is now in place to distribute and monitor the use and impact of EYFS pupil premium. The PP funding will be released on a termly basis following the return and scrutiny of each LAC's required personal education plan (PEP).
33. Data on outcomes will be shared by the early childhood and early help service with the virtual school to enable robust tracking of those LAC at risk of not reaching a good level of development. Where this is identified, specialist teachers from the early childhood and early help service will support settings to use the pupil premium funding effectively to improve provision and educational outcomes for LAC.

East Midland (EM) Virtual School Heads' Network

34. Ofsted representatives regularly attend the meetings of this network to develop close links between Her Majesty's Inspectorate (HMI) and virtual schools in the East Midlands (EM) region. An informative input was provided by an inspector during the EM network meeting in September 2016. This enabled regional colleagues to discuss the activities and findings of Ofsted when inspecting schools in terms of the provision and outcomes for LAC.
35. HMI for social care is also keen to continue to work with the EM network. A further meeting will be arranged in the coming months to maintain a dialogue with HMI colleagues conducting residential homes inspections. Good practice will be a focus of these discussions to create information sharing on the work of virtual schools to support these most vulnerable young people.

Social Care Links

36. The co-ordinator of the virtual school recently attended the looked after children's social work team's meeting to update colleagues on Nottinghamshire's LAC outcomes for 2016, the use and impact of pupil premium funding and to promote the effective use of personal education plans.
37. The co-ordinator has also met with student social workers to inform them of the role of the virtual school. This will feature regularly as part of student social workers' professional development.

Attachment Aware Schools

38. The virtual school continues to work with a number of partnerships of schools to develop good practice across the County in supporting the needs of children and young people with attachment difficulties. This project is now well underway in the North Ashfield, Gedling, Newark, Worksop and Mansfield areas of the county. Both primary and secondary schools are taking part in the training which is being delivered by Kate Cairns Associates.
39. All the training has been very well evaluated. The virtual school will work with educational psychology colleagues to look at the impact of the projects as each area completes the six courses they are undertaking.

Letterbox Club

40. The virtual school has once again purchased the letterbox club for years 1, 3, 5 and 7. Evaluation of this current year will be gathered in the coming months. A new development for 2016 will be the production of a purple parcel which is targeted at the early years' age group. This parcel is designed to encourage parents/carers to read and share literacy opportunities with their child. The virtual school will be purchasing this parcel for all early years' looked after children.

Achievement Event

41. This popular, well-regarded event will once again take place in July 2017 at the Albert Hall in Nottingham. The evaluation of the 2016 event received very positive evaluations from all the LAC involved. Our guest speaker, Simon Weston, was very well received by young people and adults alike. The first year of the 'John Stollery Award' was also well received and we look forward to this being a continued part of the achievement event.

Good News

42. Book tokens continue to be sent out to looked after children for a host of reasons including achieving 'Star of the Week', receiving the most points for positive behaviour and supporting other students in activities and lessons.

Other Options Considered

43. No other options have been considered.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

44. This report is for noting only.

Statutory and Policy Implications

45. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (Public Health only), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults, service users, sustainability and the environment and ways of working and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1) That the update on the virtual school for the autumn term 2016 be noted.

Marion Clay

Acting Service Director, Education Standards and Improvement
For any enquiries about this report please contact:

Janeen Parker
Acting Team Manager of the Virtual School
T: 01623 434149
E: janeen.parker@Nottinghamshirecc.gov.uk

Sue Denholm
Co-ordinator of the Virtual School
T: 01623 434149
E: sue.denholm@Nottinghamshirecc.gov.uk

Constitutional Comments

46. As this report is for noting only, no Constitutional Comments are required.

Financial Comments (TR 17/11/16)

47. As this report is for noting only, no Financial Comments are required

Background Papers and Published Documents

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

Summer term report of the virtual school for looked after children – report to Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee on 13 June 2016.

Research report from Rees Centre/University of Bristol/University of Bristol, November 2015.

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All.

C0902

12 December 2016**Agenda Item: 6**

REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE

NEW ACCOMMODATION PROVISION FOR 16-21 YEAR OLDS

Purpose of the Report

1. To provide an update on the Supported Accommodation services for 16 – 21 year olds.

Information and Advice

2. The supported accommodation pathway and provision was commissioned jointly between the Family Service, Children's Social Care and Public Health. A procurement exercise took place between February and July 2015 and the new services commenced in August and October 2015.
3. There are 257 units of accommodation and support available throughout Nottinghamshire for vulnerable young people. The service can be accessed by Looked After Children moving on from care, or as an alternative to residential settings or foster placements, 16 -17 year olds that present as homeless or are vulnerably housed, Care Leavers and 18 -21 year olds that are homeless or vulnerably housed.
4. There are four contracts: three are locality based services with 'core' and 'cluster' supported accommodation. There are 220 units throughout Nottinghamshire, and an additional seven emergency bed spaces for young people presenting in a housing crisis, for example their existing placement may have broken down or the young person has been asked to leave the family home. The fourth contract is a county wide Host Families service, this comprises of two elements of service: 20 Supported Lodging placements and ten Nightstop placements. This model is based on young people staying with a host in their home. Emergency accommodation can be provided by Nightstop hosts and longer term placements are offered by Supported Lodgings hosts following a matching process. The total cost of these services is £2,179,000 per annum.
5. The re-commissioning of the supported accommodation services has led to many improvements for the Council and the young people who require the service. The services now offer:
 - Improved access to services and a clear pathway into services
 - Improved choice of types of accommodation available
 - Parity of service provision across the three localities
 - Standardisation of quality and monitoring systems
 - Improved value for money

6. The new Supported Accommodation pathway provides greater choice around housing options for young people via the provision of 'core' and 'cluster' accommodation. The core service has staff on site 24 hours a day and has appropriate levels of staffing to support young people presenting with a range of complex needs. In addition to the core service, there are cluster units of accommodation throughout the County, some of which are self-contained but the majority of which are shared accommodation. These units have visiting support to the level required by the young person.
7. In most cases a young person will require a core setting initially, but following a period of stabilisation the young person will have developed sufficient independent living skills to be placed into cluster accommodation. Once the young person has demonstrated sufficient independent living skills to manage their own tenancy, a 'Ready to Move assessment' will be completed and the young person will be supported to bid for properties or apply for private rented accommodation. Tenancy support will be offered by the provider to help the young person set up their new tenancy and successfully maintain it.
8. The Supported Accommodation Pathway has been recognised as a model of good practice by leading experts on Youth Homelessness and has been cited in 'Provision of Accommodation for young people aged 16-18 leaving Secure Estate in the East Midlands'¹ as an example of what is working well.
9. Between 1st April and 30th September 2016 the Family Service received 314 referrals for Supported Accommodation. Of those referrals received, 127 young people accessed either emergency accommodation or entered into the service. The table shows a breakdown of the referrals received during the last quarter and the outcome for the young people. No young people aged below eighteen years are left homeless. Those shown as "remaining on the waiting list" are awaiting planned moves. Those aged over eighteen can also apply to District Councils who have statutory responsibility in relation to adult homelessness.

¹ Anna Whalen Provision of Accommodation for young people aged 16-18 leaving Secure Estate in the East Midlands, November 2015

16+ Supported Accommodation - Qtr 2 2016-17						
Referrals		Outcome				
Presenting groups	Number	Remain on waiting list	Mediated	Deemed not to be homeless	Placed by Family Service	Unable to be placed by Family Service *
16-17 (excluding LAC)	78	29	10	11	23	5
16-17 LAC	38	25			8	5
18+ (excluding Care Leavers)	33	18		2	12	1
18+ Care Leavers	39	10			23	6
Total	188	82	10	13	66	17

*Reasons include: unmanageable risk, capacity issues, or the young person refused the offer.

During the last quarter no child entered the formal care of the local authority (i.e. became a looked after child) because they were unable to be placed by the Family Service.

10. The providers are validated annually against a Quality Assessment Framework, and the focus of this year's work has been on safeguarding. All providers have met the minimum quality standards, and there are examples of excellent practice.
11. The new contracts have seen the implementation of a new system for monitoring outcomes for young people. Providers are required to measure service user outcomes by using an outcome star. The outcomes star enables providers to give a detailed picture of the changes taking place within a service by measuring more precisely where service users are when they arrive in a service and where they are at a later point in time in relation to ten key aspects of their life. Work to develop a reporting tool to monitor progression will commence following the Mosaic and BRMI change freeze.
12. Over 90% of the young people moving on from the service moved on in a planned and positive way. Many have returned to family or friends, or have taken up a tenancy with a local housing authority.
13. The Council has just produced its Prevention of Youth Homelessness Plan 2016-2020, as part of the development of the plan, service users were consulted about their views on accessing the service, the support they receive and their longer term housing options. Their views about accessing the service and the support they receive were positive and have been displayed in the charts in Appendix 1. Young people told us that on the whole they thought the assessment process was okay or good, the time they had to wait for an offer to be made was good, their first impression of the service was good and the support they receive is very good.
14. There are three key areas the Prevention of Youth Homelessness Plan seeks to address, these are:
 - To prevent young people from becoming homeless

- To operate a successful support and accommodation pathway
- To advocate for the needs of vulnerable young people for longer term housing options

The plan identifies the key challenges for each area and a strategy action plan has been drawn together to address these challenges and drive service improvements. The plan will be taken to the Children's Trust Board in November and the Children and Young People's Committee in December. The Youth Homelessness Forum, a multi-agency meeting including the participation of all the District and Borough Councils, have oversight of the delivery of the action plan.

Other Options Considered

15. None, the report is for noting only.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

16. This report is for noting only.

Statutory and Policy Implications

17. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, sustainability and the environment and ways of working and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1) The content of this report is noted.

Steve Edwards
Service Manager, Children's Social Care

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

Beth Downing
Service Manager – Homelessness and Commissioning
T: 0115 8041811
E: beth.cundy@nottsccl.gov.uk

Constitutional Comments

18. As this report is for noting only, no Constitutional Comments are required.

Financial Comments (SS 23/11/16)

19. As this report is for noting only, no Financial Comments are required.

Background Papers and Published Documents

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

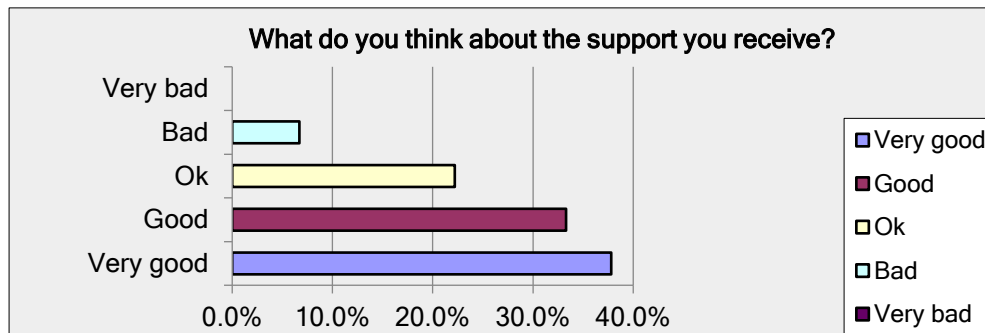
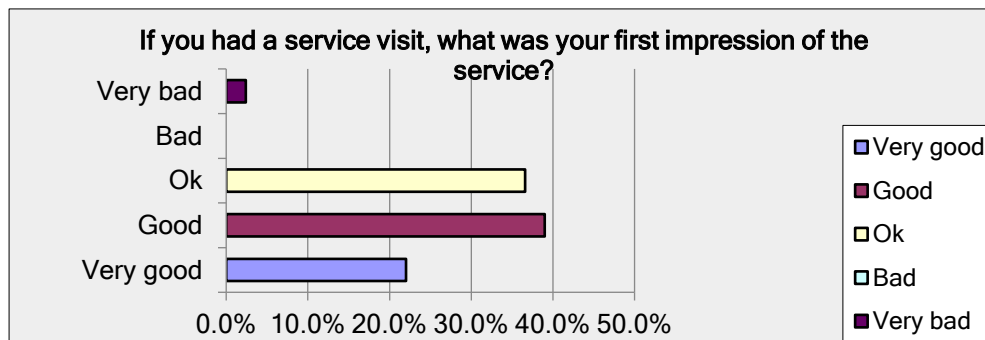
None

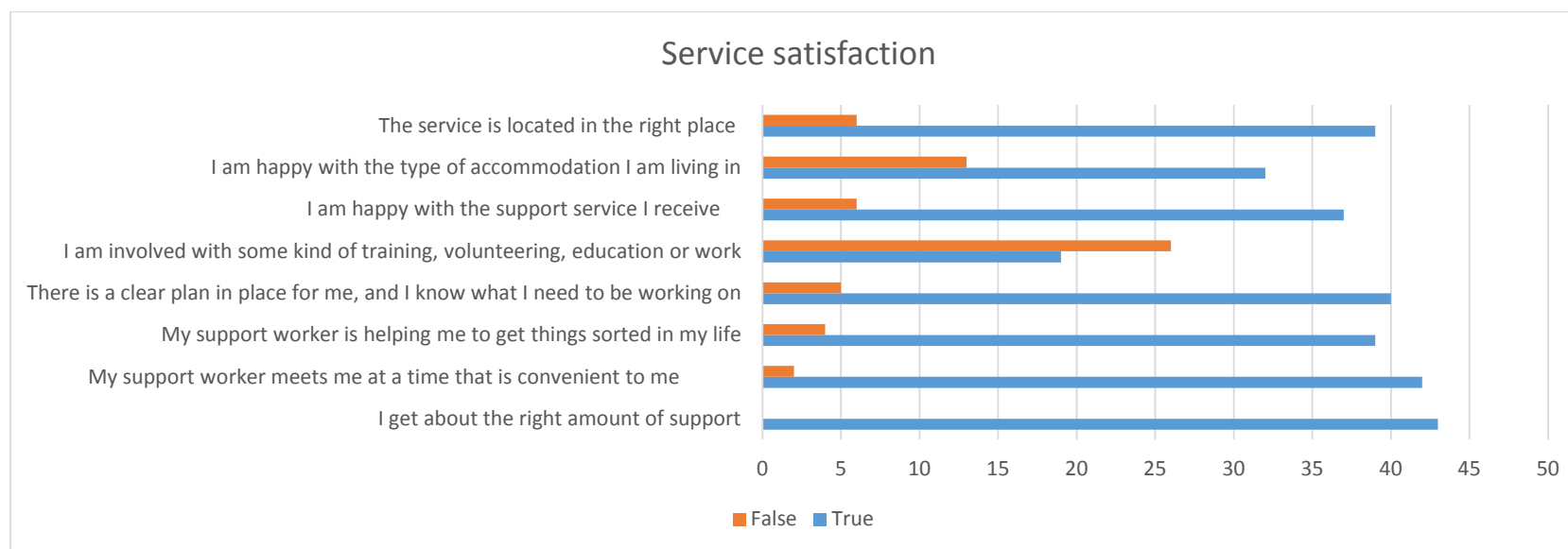
Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All

C0895

Appendix 1





12 December 2016**Agenda Item: 7**

REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE

LEAVING CARE SERVICE UPDATE

Purpose of the Report

1. To provide the Sub-Committee with an update on the Leaving Care Service. The service is part of the Throughcare Service and provides advice, support and guidance to young people who have left the care of the Local Authority and are over the age of 18 years.

Information and Advice

2. Young people may receive services from the Leaving Care Team from the age of 18 to 21 years. Should young people remain in higher education or wish to return to education, they may be entitled to services up until 25 years of age. Statutory duties regarding this group of young people are contained in the Children (Leaving Care) Act 2000 and service delivery is subject to guidance and regulations from the Department for Education.
3. There has been no change to the team structure or specification since the previous report to this Committee on 13 June 2016. The service is made up of 13 full time equivalent (FTE) Personal Advisers (not Social Work qualified) and two FTE Achievement Advisers who provide advice regarding education, employment and training. There are two teams based in Meadow House and Sir John Robinson Way covering the north and south of the county. There are two Team Managers (qualified Social Workers) and a part time Service Manager.
4. There are 315 young people open to the Leaving Care team. During the last quarter, Team Managers reported sustainable caseloads across the service. There is a slightly higher number of young men accessing the service; 52% of the total.
5. The team are working with 26 young people who were unaccompanied asylum seeking children. This represents 8% of the total number of young people open to the team. Countries of origin include Afghanistan, Eritrea, Albania and Syria. 82% of the 315 young people open to the team are White British. The remaining 10% are Black British, Asian British or Mixed Heritage.
6. The figures contained in this report are taken from the Business Objects reports dated 28 October 2016.

Education, Employment and Training

7. The team continues to work hard to support young people into education, employment and training (EET). Of the young people aged 18 years and above who are engaged with the service, 61% are involved in some form of education, training or employment activity. Post 18 education accounts for most activity with the remainder being engaged in training schemes and apprenticeships.
8. 30% of the young people who are not engaged in EET are unable to work or attend college due to illness, parenthood, custody or not being entitled to work in the UK. The remainder are identified as not engaged due to other reasons. These young people will largely be claiming Job Seekers Allowance.
9. The Achievement Advisers are building positive links with local Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) staff to support their work in ensuring young people comply with expectations in terms of their benefit claims and work programmes. We ensure that all careleavers claiming benefits are identified by DWP staff so that any additional support needs are identified. Sanctions and consequences for non compliance with benefit rules and expectations can be severe and lead to hardship. There is a key role for leaving care staff in helping young people to understand their responsibilities as well as their rights in this regard.
10. The Achievement Advisers report an increasing number of young people in care turning 18 who are not in education, employment or training (NEET) and future work in the LAC service will need to focus on EET activity for the 16 to 18 year old age group if long term outcomes for careleavers are to be improved.

Accommodation

11. The availability and affordability of suitable accommodation continues to be a challenge for young people leaving care. The Supported Accommodation model is proving to be very successful in maintaining some of the most challenging young people in transitional accommodation. The model is gaining credibility in other parts of the country and a Leaving Care Team Manager will be joining colleagues to speak about our experience of the model at a Housing Conference in London in the New Year.
12. Many young people are not ready for their own tenancy at 18. Young people who need support are very mixed in terms of need and are challenging providers with a wide range of social, behavioural and emotional needs.
13. In the last quarter, 39 care leavers over the age of 18 were referred to the Supported Accommodation Panel and 23 of these were provided with accommodation. (Source – Family Service Homelessness and Commissioning Service Manager). These are often the most challenging young people and much Personal Adviser time is spent working with housing providers to sustain these placements.
14. The need for supported accommodation is reflected in the high number of young people who have used it. 56% of care leavers will have had a period of time in supported accommodation ranging from supported lodgings, Staying Put, residential care or transitional supported living.

15. 25% of over 18 year olds are in their own independent accommodation. Housing availability and affordability is an issue with shared accommodation becoming the norm nationally for young people. District Councils are moving towards this type of offer for single people needing social housing. Young people leaving care and the professionals who advise and support them need to be prepared for the future in this respect.

16. 10% of care leavers were at home with family or living with friends. The remaining 9% are in custody, residential care or accommodation provided by universities.

Other Options Considered

17. This report is for noting only.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

18. This report is for noting only.

Statutory and Policy Implications

19. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, sustainability and the environment and ways of working and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

RECOMMENDATION/S

1) That the update on the Leaving Care Service be noted.

Steve Edwards
Service Director, Children's Social Care

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

Michelle Lee
Children's Services Manager, Leaving Care
T: 01623 433433
E: michelle.lee@nottsccl.gov.uk

Constitutional Comments

1. As this report is for noting only, no Constitutional Comments are required.

Financial Comments (TR 17/11/16)

2. As this report is for noting only, no Financial Comments are required.

Background Papers and Published Documents

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

Leaving Care Service update – report to Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee on
13 June 2016

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All

C0903

12 December 2016

Agenda Item: 8

REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE INDEPENDENT REVIEWING OFFICER SERVICE – SIX MONTH UPDATE

Purpose of the Report

1. To update the Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee about some of the activities of the Independent Reviewing Officer Service from April to September 2016.

Information and Advice

2. The summary of the six monthly report, which is attached as **Appendix 1**, informs the Sub-Committee about some of the activities undertaken by the Independent Reviewing Officers (IRO) in fulfilling their role and some of the achievements made since April 2016.

Other Options Considered

3. The report is for noting only

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

4. The report is for noting only

Statutory and Policy Implications

5. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, sustainability and the environment and ways of working and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1) That the update on the activities of the Independent Reviewing Officer Service from April to September 2016 be noted.

Steve Edwards
Service Director, Children's Social Care

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

Izzy Martin
Service Manager, Independent Chair Service
T: 07833700179
E: izzy.martin@nottsc.gov.uk

Constitutional Comments

6. As this report is for noting only, no Constitutional Comments are required.

Financial Comments (TR 17/11/16)

7. As this report is for noting only, no Financial Comments are required.

Background Papers and Published Documents

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

End of year report for the Independent Reviewing Officer Service – report to Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee on 13 June 2016.

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All.

C0904

Six monthly update on some of the key issues for the Independent Review Service

Profile of LAC of Nottinghamshire

Since January this year there has been a noted decrease in the number of looked after children, from 873 to 788 in September. The rate per 10,000 continues to remain lower than the England average and that of our statistical neighbours, which were 60 and 57.8% (2014-15) respectively. Given this decrease in numbers, although there is no indication that our thresholds have altered, this will be kept under review by our operational colleagues and the IRO service managers. It should be noted that during this quarter 31% of those no longer being looked after were young people reaching the age of 18 and progressing onto independent living.

During the past 6 months between April and September 2016 IROs have chaired 1,061 LAC reviews. The percentage of children who had their looked after reviews held as set out in statutory timescale within this period is 98.2%.

Areas for Development 2016-17 as identified in the Annual Report 2015-2016

Implementation of child friendly reports from reviews

As detailed in the Annual Report 2015-16 work had been undertaken in consultation with the Nottinghamshire children in care council on producing child friendly reports from reviews 'my LAC review report'. This document is written specifically for the child and is in addition to the standard minutes. The report is considerably shorter and simplified; focusing on what the care plan is, what has gone well since the last review, how they are feeling and what they want to achieve going forward and actions required. This approach was piloted by a group of five IROs and feedback was sought from the young people who received the child friendly minutes and their comments were positive; 'brilliant' - 'good' - 'fair' and the 'detail was better than they thought'.

Given the success of this pilot child friendly minutes have been offered to children and young people aged 9 upwards from 1st September 2016 and if they do not want their own minutes this will be recorded in the Chair's report.

Further development of the 'person centred approach'

During the year, particular focus has been given to sharing practice tools and experience in a 'person centred approach' within the East Midlands regional IRO network. The aim of person centred reviews is to ensure the child is at the centre of discussions and actions. This will identify what people like and admire about the child, what is important to them and what help and support they believe they need.

Person centred planning can be particularly successful in engaging teenagers and disabled young people in reviews.

Three IROs met within the region to consider what tools could be used in respect of undertaking a person centred approach within the review meetings. The following was identified as a means of creating a more embedded process around engagement, with the main focus being on preparation;

It was acknowledged that each meeting needs to centre on the child's needs and help them to engage.

From this meeting an action plan was devised and shared with the nine local authorities within the region to enhance the use of a person centred approach in reviews. This includes a "person centred pack" which involves engagement tools that can be used with the children and young people. The action plan will be reviewed at the next Regional Managers meeting on 23rd January 2017.

Regional Workshops during this 6 month period.

Due to the success of regional training workshops for IROs during 2015, workshops have continued to be held quarterly throughout this year, with topics including the emotional wellbeing of looked after children; immigration and pathway planning and learning from serious case reviews and implications for permanence. The IROs within the region value the time to reflect their experiences and practice in relation to the topics set. These workshops continue to be well presented and feedback about the visiting speakers had been very positive.

Overall

Overall it is noted the caseloads of the IROs has remained stable over this past year and this has enabled them to be increasingly proactive including visiting some children and young people between reviews. It is also positive that the service is now fully staffed with permanent workers and as a group the IROs are becoming more involved in contributing to the development of the service.

The service continues to make a positive contribution towards good outcomes for children looked after in Nottinghamshire. Anecdotally the positive feedback from young people, parents and carers has continued. We will be repeating surveys collecting views systematically in January 17 and will be able to provide further details in the end of year report.

12 December 2016

Agenda Item: 9

REPORT OF CORPORATE DIRECTOR, RESOURCES WORK PROGRAMME

Purpose of the Report

1. To consider the Committee's work programme for 2016/17.

Information and Advice

2. The County Council requires each committee to maintain a work programme. The work programme will assist the management of the committee's agenda, the scheduling of the committee's business and forward planning. The work programme will be updated and reviewed at each pre-agenda meeting and committee meeting. Any member of the committee is able to suggest items for possible inclusion.
3. The attached work programme has been drafted in consultation with the Chairman and includes items which can be anticipated at the present time. Other items will be added to the programme as they are identified.
4. As part of the transparency introduced by the new committee arrangements, committees are expected to review day to day operational decisions made by officers using their delegated powers. It is anticipated that the committee will wish to commission periodic reports on such decisions. The committee is therefore requested to identify activities on which it would like to receive reports for inclusion in the work programme.

Other Options Considered

5. None.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

6. To assist the committee in preparing its work programme.

Statutory and Policy Implications

7. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of finance, equal opportunities, human resources, crime and disorder, human rights, the safeguarding of children, sustainability and the environment and those using the service and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1) That the committee's work programme be noted, and consideration be given to any changes which the committee wishes to make.

Jayne Francis-Ward
Corporate Director, Resources

For any enquiries about this report please contact: Assistant Democratic Services Officer -
Julie Brailsford
Tel: 0115 977 4694

Constitutional Comments (SLB)

8. The Committee has authority to consider the matters set out in this report by virtue of its terms of reference.

Financial Comments (PS)

9. There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

Background Papers

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All

CORPORATE PARENTING SUB-COMMITTEE - WORK PROGRAMME 2016-17

<u>Report Title</u>	<u>Brief summary of agenda item</u>	<u>Lead Officer</u>	<u>Report Author</u>
13 March 2017			
Performance reporting (Quarter 3 2016/17) – services for Looked After Children and Care Leavers	For information	Steve Edwards	Shelagh Mitchell
Spring Term report for the Virtual School for Looked After Children	For information	Steve Edwards	Sue Denholm
Provision, achievements and progress of the Children in Care Council and participation of children and young people looked after 2016/17	For information	Steve Edwards	Shelagh Mitchell
Adoption Service update: September 2016 to February 2017	Six monthly report	Steve Edwards	Tracey Coull
Contact Service update	Annual report for information	Steve Edwards	Denise Martin
Advocacy Service for Looked After Children	Annual report for information	Steve Edwards	Ty Yousaf
12 June 2017			
Performance reporting (Quarter 4 2016/17) – services for Looked After Children and Care Leavers	For information	Steve Edwards	Shelagh Mitchell
Summer Term report for the Virtual School for Looked After Children	For information	Steve Edwards	Sue Denholm/ Linda Foster
Looked After Children and Care Leavers Strategy 2015-18 – six-monthly progress reports	For information	Steve Edwards	Amanda Collinson
End of year report for the Independent Reviewing Officer Service	For information	Steve Edwards	Izzy Martin
Improving health outcomes for children and young people in the care of the Local Authority	Annual report	Steve Edwards	Kathryn Higgins/ Shelagh Mitchell
Fostering Service annual report	Annual report for information	Steve Edwards	Naomi Sills
Leaving Care Service update	Six monthly report	Steve Edwards	Michelle Lee
County CAMHS Looked After and Adoption Team – service provision and developments 2016/17	Annual information report	Steve Edwards	Vonny Senogles
New accommodation provision for 16-21 year	Six-monthly update reports	Steve Edwards	Shelagh Mitchell/ Beth

<u>Report Title</u>	<u>Brief summary of agenda item</u>	<u>Lead Officer</u>	<u>Report Author</u>
olds			Cundy