



# Looked After Children and Care Leavers Strategy: Annual Action Plan 2016-17



<b>Strategy Outcome 1:</b>	<b>LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN AND CARE LEAVERS ARE HAPPY AND HEALTHY</b>
<b>Responsible Outcome Owner:</b>	<b>Nicole Chavaudra</b> , Senior Public Health & Commissioning Manager (ICH) and <b>Kathryn Higgins</b> , Designated Nurse for Looked After Children

<b>Priority Areas for 2016/17:</b>	Children and young people <b>have good emotional wellbeing</b>
	Children and young people <b>have support with their mental health needs when they need it</b>
	Children and young people <b>have their health needs assessed when they enter care</b>

<b>How are we going to achieve these priorities in 2016/17?</b>		
<b>Action</b>	<b>This work will be undertaken by...</b>	<b>Target date for completion</b>
Review current emotional and mental health provision to looked after children and care leavers	Children and Young People's Mental Health and Wellbeing Programme Lead	March 2017
Scope the emotional and mental health needs of refugee and unaccompanied asylum seeking children and young people	Children and Young People's Mental Health and Wellbeing Programme Lead	March 2017
Evaluate the pilot Crisis Resolution and Home Treatment Service, including its benefits for LAC and care leavers	Children and Young People's Mental Health and Wellbeing Programme Lead	December 2017
Undertake a health needs assessment of looked after children and care leavers	Public Health Registrar, Public Health	January 2017
Foster carer training in relation to young people's mental health should be developed	Appropriate service manager from CSC – <b>to be confirmed</b>	
Development of a quality assurance tool for health assessments for LAC	Designated Nurse (LAC), Designated Drs for LAC (NUH and SFH), Business Manager (Notts Healthcare)	July 2017
Development of a consistent follow up process by the looked after children health professionals when advice is given to social care to meet the emotional health needs of a looked after child or young person. This may include referring to LAC CAMHS.	Sits with providers – to be overseen by Designated Drs for LAC (NUH and SFH), Business Manager (Notts Healthcare)	July 2017

<p>Strengthened processes for initiation of health review processes by Children's Social Care through notifying the Through Care Business Support Team on the same day that the child goes into care, emphasising the need for social workers to complete initial health assessment consent paperwork before any handovers take place, and Social workers should updating Framework on the day that the child goes into care.</p> <p>Address issue of consent</p>	<p>Katie Warner, LAC Service Manager Kathryn Higgins, Designated Nurse for Looked After Children</p>	
<p>Development of Foster carer training and social worker advice to carers to include emphasis on the importance of i) carers attending/not cancelling health assessment appointments; and ii) completing/returning Strength &amp; Difficulties Questionnaire (SDQ) forms, with appropriate accountability for foster carers by social workers.</p>	<p>Naomi Sills, Fostering Service Manager Katie Warner, LAC Service Manager</p>	
<p>Performance of initial health assessment completion within timescale more effectively will be monitored.</p>	<p>Designated Nurse (LAC), Designated Drs for LAC (NUH and SFH)</p>	<p>July 2017</p>
<p>Establishment of joint performance management framework for all stakeholders involved in health assessments and review for LAC across social care, medical and nursing teams including performance management of the system-wide looked after children's health pathway</p>	<p>Nicole Chavaudra</p>	

<b>Strategy Outcome 2:</b>	<b>LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN AND CARE LEAVERS ARE SAFE</b>
<b>Responsible Outcome Owner:</b>	<b>Terri Johnson</b> , Safeguarding Children Manager (Strategic) & <b>Katie Warner</b> , LAC Service Manager

<b>Priority Areas for 2016/17:</b>	Children and young people <b>have a safe place to live</b>
	Children and young people <b>are safe from sexual exploitation</b>
	Children and young people <b>don't go missing from care</b>

<b>How are we going to achieve these priorities in 2016/17?</b>		
<b>Action</b>	<b>This work will be undertaken by...</b>	<b>Target date for completion</b>
Children and young people to be seen alone and away from the placement by their social worker to ensure that they are given the opportunity to raise any concerns about where they are living.	Katie Warner, LAC Service Manager and team managers / social workers	Ongoing
Social workers to work collaboratively with the fostering service and supported accommodation providers to ensure that appropriate placements are identified for children and young people and that the appropriate and relevant support is provided to placements. The LAC managers are to ensure they attend the weekly SAP meetings and that regular placement support and professionals meetings are held.	Katie Warner, LAC Service Manager and team managers / social workers	Ongoing
Social workers to link in with the Children Society CSE worker in the team and identify young people to work with her when CSE concerns are identified.	Katie Warner, LAC Service Manager and team managers / social workers	Ongoing
Social workers to ensure that the CSE tool kit/risk assessment is being completed when there are concerns in respect of sexual exploitation. Managers to ensure this is completed in a timely way and that a discussion is held with Hazel McKibbon (CSE lead CPC) in respect of holding a strategy meeting when the assessment has been completed. Social workers to ensure that these assessments are shared with the Police SEIU.	Social workers and monitored by team managers.	Ongoing
Social workers to ensure that meaningful return interviews are completed with young people in a timely manner. It is particularly important for work to be completed with young people when they first	Social workers and monitored by team managers.	Ongoing

start going missing to try and prevent this behaviour escalating to multi-missing episodes.		
Team managers to ensure that MAM's are being held when required in respect of children that go missing in line with the missing protocol.	Team managers/CSM to check this is happening.	Ongoing
LADO Audit findings to be incorporated into the LAC Strategy Action Plan (audit to be completed Jan/Feb)	Terri Johnson, Safeguarding Children Manager (Strategic)	TBC following publication of audit report

<b>Strategy Outcome 3:</b>	<b>LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN AND CARE LEAVERS ACHIEVE THEIR POTENTIAL</b>
<b>Responsible Outcome Owner:</b>	<b>Sue Denholm</b> , Co-ordinator of the Virtual School

<b>Priority Areas for 2016/17:</b>	Children and young people <b>achieve the expected standard at the end of each key stage of education (key stage 2 and key stage 4)</b>
	Children and young people <b>make good progress in school each year from their start point of entering care</b>
	Children and young people <b>remain in education or training, or move into employment after leaving school</b>
	Children and young people <b>have the best start in life</b>

<b>How are we going to achieve these priorities in 2016/17?</b>		
<b>Action</b>	<b>This work will be undertaken by...</b>	<b>Target date for completion</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monitoring and tracking to identify under performance and ensure early intervention through termly tracking data both in and out of county schools and settings</li> <li>Quality assure the PEP to identify those children and young people in need of further intervention to achieve potential from their starting point</li> <li>Ensure appropriate educational pathways are in place from year 9 onwards to ensure LAC have the opportunity to study towards qualifications that will enable them to achieve their potential and wherever possible achieve national benchmark (Attainment 8)</li> <li>Ensure pupil premium plus funding is appropriately targeted to provide evidence based effective educational interventions</li> <li>Working in partnership with all services in a looked after child's life to promote and aspire for the best outcomes</li> </ul>	Sue Denholm	Provisional outcomes dec 17/18 Report validated outcomes summer 2017/18
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monitoring and tracking to identify under performance and ensure early intervention through termly tracking data from schools and settings</li> <li>Quality assure PEP to identify those children and young people in need of further intervention to achieve potential from start point</li> <li>Challenge use of pupil premium plus where schools do not appropriately target educational interventions</li> </ul>	Sue Denholm	Provisional outcomes dec 17/18 Report validated outcomes summer 2017/18

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Partnership working with all services in looked after child's life to promote and aspire for the best outcomes</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>VS Officers work in partnership with p/16 advisor and schools to ensure quality IAG is delivered in year 11 to plan appropriately for p/16 pathways</li> <li>Ensure yp are on the appropriate pathways in p/16 according to qualifications gained in statutory education</li> <li>Joint working with p/16 advisor with at risk young people to maintain EET opportunities</li> <li>Partnership working with all services in looked after child's life to promote and aspire for the best outcomes</li> </ul>	Sue Denholm	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work in partnership with EY and C Service to ensure the EYFS pupil premium plus funding is appropriately targeted to provide evidence based effective educational interventions which increase children leaving early years with a GLD</li> </ul>	Sue Denholm, Jude Burgess	

<b>Strategy Outcome 4:</b>	<b>LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN AND CARE LEAVERS ARE PREPARED FOR ADULTHOOD</b>
<b>Responsible Outcome Owner:</b>	<b>Katie Warner</b> , LAC Service Manager & <b>Michelle Lee</b> , Leaving Care Service Manager

<b>Priority Areas for 2016/17:</b>	Children and young people <b>are supported to develop meaningful plans to help them prepare for the future</b>
	Children and young people <b>can access support to prepare for parenting at the right time</b>
	Children and young people <b>have the practical skills needed to live alone</b>

<b>How are we going to achieve these priorities in 2016/17?</b>		
<b>Action</b>	<b>This work will be undertaken by...</b>	<b>Target date for completion</b>
Quarterly reporting by managers on Pathway Plans completed and reviewed in timescales  Small sample to be taken quarterly to dip test quality of work in key areas. First year to focus on EET, emotional wellbeing, accommodation planning, family contact	LAC/.LC Team managers led by relevant CSMs	Already started in LCT LAC to start Quarter 4 and quarterly thereafter
Pathway Planning young person's views form to be developed with young people	Sam Edwards – Practice Consultant /CICC Leaving Care Subgroup	March 2017
Every pregnant looked after young person and care leaver to be referred to the Family Nurse partnership.	TM LAC/LCT	Ongoing – review 6 monthly
All LAC/Leaving Care staff to be C – Card trained	TM LAC/LCT	Within 2 years?
All young parents to be introduced to local Childrens Centre	TM LAC/LCT	Ongoing – review 6 monthly
All LAC 16 and 17 year olds to have access to the Get Ready For Adult Life materials (GRAL)	CSM LAC – Katie Warner	Ongoing – review 6 monthly?
Checklist to be developed to support Placement Planning discussions about independence for 16 and 17 year olds	CSM LCT – Michelle Lee	
Independence preparation group work programme to be developed and run by LAC/LC	Lead CSM LCT-Michelle Lee Include CICC staff, SAP staff, LAC SW, LCT PA	By June 2017



<b>Strategy Outcome 5:</b>	<b>LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN AND CARE LEAVERS ARE LISTENED TO</b>
<b>Responsible Outcome Owner:</b>	<b>Pom Bhogal, Youth Service Manager</b>

<b>Priority Areas for 2016/17:</b>	Children and young people <b>are involved in making plans and giving feedback about their care</b>
	Children and young people <b>are involved in making plans about their future</b>
	Children and young people <b>have a chance to talk to their social workers alone</b>

<b>How are we going to achieve these priorities in 2016/17?</b>		
<b>Action</b>	<b>This work will be undertaken by...</b>	<b>Target date for completion</b>
User feedback interviews to be completed at case closure for care leavers. Annual feedback to LAC Strategy group.	LC TM/CSM	3 per quarter starting Jan 2017
Explore use of technology in tools used for participation (e.g. in LAC Reviews/Pathways)	Sean Kelly / Planning & QA Team	April 2017
Review the LAC Strategy involving 100 LAC over a 12 month period, which will directly feed into the following year's action plan.	Pom Bhogal/Pav Ayoub	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2017
To facilitate 6 CiCC No Labels meetings and 6 Sub group meetings per year.	Pom Bhogal/Pav Ayoub	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2017

<b>Strategy Outcome 6:</b>	<b>LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN AND CARE LEAVERS BUILD POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS</b>
<b>Responsible Outcome Owner:</b>	<b>Izzy Martin</b> , Service Manager (Independent Chair Service)

<b>Priority Areas for 2016/17:</b>	Children and young people <b>are supported to maintain meaningful contact with their birth families (where appropriate)</b>
	Children and young people <b>who are placed at a distance are kept safe and maintain positive links with Nottinghamshire</b>
	Children and young people <b>have an understanding of safe and positive relationships</b>
	Children and young people <b>have as few changes of social worker as possible</b>

<b>How are we going to achieve these priorities in 2016/17?</b>		
<b>Action</b>	<b>This work will be undertaken by...</b>	<b>Target date for completion</b>
Ensure that the contact arrangements with family members, friends or significant connected persons is addressed in care plans and pathway plans – and is legally compliant. Also explore with the child/young person whether agreed arrangements are working and meets their needs in relation to the plan.	IROs and Social Workers	Ongoing , during statutory visits and at LAC reviews
Ensure regular contact is made with children and young people placed beyond neighbouring authorities by undertaking visits and explore use of technology in-between. Ensure the children and young people maintain links with significant others and family within Nottinghamshire.	Social Workers and IROs	Ongoing, during visits and contact outside of statutory requirements.
Ensure children and young people fully understand the role of the IRO. That their wishes and feelings are taken into account about how their review is conducted, who is invited, and recommendations agreed at the end of the review are understood along with who is responsible for progressing these.	IROs and CICC ICS service managers through audits and feedback from questionnaires	Ongoing, every quarter as part of QA process.