

Lancashire County Council

Corporate Parenting Board

**Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday, 8th September, 2016 at 6.00 pm in
Cabinet Room 'C' - The Duke of Lancaster Room, County Hall, Preston**

Present: Members

| | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| County Councillor Sue Pryn (Chair) | - Lancashire County Council |
| County Councillor Margaret Brindle | - Lancashire County Council |
| County Councillor Ian Brown | - Lancashire County Council |
| Councillor Bernard Dawson | - Lancashire County Council |
| County Councillor Miss Kim Snape | - Lancashire County Council |
| Catherine Lynsey Evans | - representing Adoption - Fostering Forum |
| Kat | - LINX Representative |
| Sam R | - LINX Representative |
| Gavin | - LINX Representative |
| Sam W | - LINX Representative |
| Paige | - LINX Representative |
| Mary-Beth | - LINX Representative |
| Kris | - LINX Representative |
| Michelle | - LINX Representative |
| Bradley | - LINX Representative |

Co-opted members

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Debbie Ross | - Designated Nurse for CLA, representing CCG |
| Kate Baggaley | - Barnardos |
| Ionie Calderbank | - Barnardos |
| Susan Towers | - Agency - Residential |
| Angela Epps | - Agency Fostering |

Other Attendees

| | |
|------------------------------|--|
| Kirsty Clarke | - Lancashire Children's Rights Society |
| Andy Smith | - Children's Social Services, LCC |
| Maria Lewis | - Youth Offending Team, LCC |
| Sam Gorton (Clerk) | - Democratic Services, LCC |
| Superintendent Andrea Barrow | - Lancashire Constabulary |

1. Introductions and Apologies

All were welcomed to the meeting and apologies were received and noted from County Councillors Lord and Beavers, Dr Nicola Bamford, Diane Booth, Tony Morrissey, Annette McNeil, Debbie Duffell, Mark Twiname, Mia Leyland and Audrey Swann.

2. Notes of the Meetings and Matters Arising from 16 June 2016 and 4 August 2016

The minutes were agreed as an accurate record and there were no matters arising from them.

3. What our Elected Members have been doing (15 mins)

CC Pryn

CC Pryn and CC Brown had carried out a Reg 22 visit recently. Following this, there had been some quite negative meetings with regards the use of CAMHS (Child and Adult Mental Health Service) between Mental Health Officers and Senior Officers from LCC. There is a Pan Lancashire initiative to provide help for all mental health issues for young people.

There is a Care of the Most Vulnerable Workshop to be held on 27 September 2016. If any County Councillors wishes to attend, then let CC Pryn know. Key professionals across Lancashire will be attending. CC Pryn will be feeding in with regards to needing more therapies and support in residential settings, which is more than what CAMHS are offering.

Debbie Ross reported that Health are also expanding the number of therapies offered for vulnerable young people and that self-referrals are now accepted from young people.

CC Pryn queried an Activity Day that she had heard about, and was disappointed that the Board had not been informed about it. Following this it was requested that Sam Gorton source more information and let CC Pryn know the details.

Action: Sam Gorton to follow up further with Tony Morrissey/Georgine Lee.

Kate Baggaley confirmed that the Council Tax exemption letter is now finalised and ready to be sent to the District Councils.

CC Brown

Reported that the Reg 22 visit he carried out with CC Prynne was very interesting and that he was continuing to work on issues around mental health.

CC Brindle

Reported back with regards the follow up on Housing with Burnley Borough Council. There was no specific training given on dealing with care leavers, it was on the job training. CC Brindle felt that this was not satisfactory and also that there was no specific leaflet or guidance on leaving care for young people. This was a big gap that needs looking at.

Action: Officers are producing a leaving care pack which will be presented to the Board.

4. LINX (Lancashire's Children in Care Council) (60 mins)

In Care out of Trouble Report

LINX presented the attached PowerPoint which outlined their response to the recommendations at Appendix One in the Report as requested by the CPB at the meeting on 16 June 2016. Following on from the slide which shows what LINX wanted, their request was that a Police Representative be on the Board. It was noted that there was a Co-opted Member Police role in the Terms of Reference, however, in the past when this had been discussed the young people requested that they did not feel comfortable with a Police presence, so the Board welcomed that they would now like Police representation at the meetings in future.

Action: Sam Gorton to liaise with Superintendent Andrea Barrow to find a Police Representative to attend future meetings.

LINX then led with an activity (attached), where the Board worked in groups and were presented with scenarios, and then each scenario was added to which changed the opinions of the outcomes and what led to them. The groups were asked how they would deal with the different issues (as attached). The scenarios were based on experiences young people had had in care in Lancashire. Kate reported that young people had stated they had not experienced any discriminations from the Police because they were in care and that they reported positive experiences when dealing with the Police. The Board and Superintendent Andrea Barrow welcomed the positive comments made by the young people.

What LINX have been doing

LINX gave a detailed account of what they had been doing since 4 August 2016. Details can be found on the Powerpoint attached.

Kate reported that LINX had been working really hard with the Fostering Service and what they had been doing was detailed in the Bingo game that the Board played and is attached.

Feedback on CPB Report

Young people raised a number of concerns with regards the Performance Report, and it was requested that Sam contact Chris Greenwood who provides the report to address the issues raised.

Action: Sam to send the Performance Report to Chris Greenwood to address the concerns raised by LINX and for Chris to feedback to LINX.

Andy Smith, Children's Social Care addressed the query around why the Contact Centre had received more contacts though less referrals had been made. He stated contacts and referrals are the same, they are both dealt with in the same way. There are around 30,000+ contacts a year with around 1000 going through to Social Workers. Around 3000 a month should be dealt with at the early help stage which is dealt with by MASH (Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub).

Andy also gave some feedback from the recent Ofsted Monitoring visit. Six cases had been sampled from Section 47 and Care Leavers and the findings were that significant progress was being made and the processes that are in place are on the right track, however there is still room for improvement, but no children have been left at risk.

The children missing data is inconsistent and the reason behind this is that the Police data does not match with the Children's Social Care data.

The Chair commented that it was really pleasing that the KS4 results had increased from the previous year.

Five looked after young people had been placed in either young offender institutions or secure units. Maria Lewis agreed to follow this up and find out further information.

Action: Maria Lewis to follow this up and report back to CC Pryn.

ITV Fixers – Leaflet

Brad and Sam had been involved with creating a leaflet for care leavers called Out of Care and Going it Alone. The leaflet can be found [here](#).

The young people were thanked for their detailed reports and continuing hard work.

5. In Care Out of Trouble Report (30 mins)

Superintendent Andrea Barrow, Lancashire Constabulary and Robert Ruston, Victims Commissioning and Partnerships Manager, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) were welcomed to the meeting.

Robert spoke about the role of the OPCC and explained that they were the body that oversees the Police. Currently they are focussing on restorative justice and developing it in homes and are very keen to look at and support it in residential units across Lancashire.

Maria Lewis, Youth Offending Team, LCC informed the Board that the YOT Team have restorative justice work planned too, so the team will contact Robert and make the links.

Action: Maria Lewis to contact Robert Ruston about collaborative work around restorative justice.

Superintendent Andrea Barrow then gave a PowerPoint presentation (as attached) as to what Lancashire Constabulary is doing around Early Action and Public Service Lancashire Development.

Early Action – Prevention is the Forces way of delivering Neighbourhood policing in the future.

Looking at deep problem solving and asking the question WHY-

Why the individual has escalated to crisis?

Why have previous cries for help not lead to a sustainable solution?

Why should we as Police be interested in incidents and problems that are not crime related?

This is why Early Action is so important – 48% classed as Early Action when the problem has reached crisis and the police are called. Case studies show that many of the incidents could have been prevented with Early Action. Only 19% of incidents are crime related demand on Police.

Lancashire Police Force are leading the way in working in conjunction with other services and acting as leads for individuals and then working with the family and identifying what help is needed, so the individual and family are not seeing lots of different people over the same issues.

Further funding has been applied for to help put interventions in place.

Police do not complete Common Assessment Frameworks (CAF's) as a matter of course, but they do act as Lead Professionals for hundreds of others. As part of the Integrated Team in Preston they are looking at Police instigating a CAF, looking at a joint case management system and looking at using Liquid Logic. A CAF would be built into that and used as an assessment tool.

Superintendent Barrow also informed the Board that they are doing preventative work with other agencies around mental health issues. The Board agreed that they would like to be a part of this initiative going forward. Superintendent Barrow welcomed input on identifying vulnerable people on this from CPB and foster carers would also be a good source too.

Action: The Board were asked to let Sam Gorton know if anybody would like to be involved and that Sam would pass details on to Superintendent Barrow.

It was noted that joined up working from Service 6, LCC would be very useful especially in helping people who have been released from prison.

Action: Sam to pass contact details of Service 6 to Superintendent Andrea Barrow.

Robert Ruston then informed the Board that the OPCC are incredibly supportive around early intervention work and this is detailed in Lancashire's Police and Crime Plan [Report](#) and that the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) sees early action as a main priority.

In 2013 a Triage Programme was funded by the OPCC which was committed to reducing the number of young people entering into the Criminal Justice System (CJS).

A key piece of work is Positive Together which is community based activities which target the most vulnerable and is set up to prevent young people from entering the CJS. They work with the Community for six months with a view to them taking it forward after that.

With regards to restorative justice work is being carried out with Schools and the Youth Offending Team to look at developing this further.

The Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) Campaign has been funded by the OPCC and is keen to keep this high profile and continue to raise awareness around it. A conference will be held in CSE week and also another event is planned for parents/carers with children with learning difficulties around grooming.

Another key piece of work is around all support services for victims of crime. A recent development is that there is now a service specifically for young people and this is called NEST Lancashire and is focusing on CSE and Bullying during the autumn.

The PCC is somebody who is elected by the public and has a key role and sets the budget for the Police from the funding given from Central Government and Council Tax from the County. The PCC is the only person who can appoint and dismiss the Chief Constable and holds the Police to account after setting out key things for them to do and ensures they are carrying them out.

CC Prynne thanked Superintendent Barrow and Robert Ruston on behalf of the Board for their attendance and informative presentations.

6. IRO Annual Report (15 mins)

Andy Smith, Children's Social Care presented the IRO Annual Report. Key facts from the report were presented in the Powerpoint attached.

Following the Ofsted Inspection the number of IROs was increased from 30 FTE to 45 FTE. Caseloads were extremely high (around 130) and the focus has been to reduce caseloads which has happened. The current number as of today of children looked after is 1,754 which has increased since March 2016 where the number was 1,674.

Children with child protection plans was also increasing and from March 2016 there were 1,443 children to the number today which is 1,746.

As can be seen, figures are increasing, however, with the increase in staff, this has enabled IRO's to manage and provide good practice. Problem resolution within the service was identified as a positive way for IRO challenge to improve outcomes.

The Board asked if there could be some form of a problem resolution specifically for Care Leavers so they are able to escalate and resolve any of their concerns and Andy agreed to take this forward.

Action: Andy Smith to take forward the recommendation of a problem resolution service for Care Leavers and report back to the Board on this recommendation.

Kirsty Clarke commented that the Advocacy Service provided by Children's Rights was now available up to the age of 21 years old, and that this service had a good relationship with IROs.

7. Any Other Business

There was no other business to report.

8. Date and Time of Next Meeting

Thursday, 1 December 2016 at 6.00pm (refreshments served from 5.30pm) in the Henry Bollinbroke Room – Cabinet Room 'D', County Hall, Preston, PR1 8RJ.

9. Care Leavers Guide - An Update Report

This item was for information only. Any queries arising from this, please email hannah.peake@lancashire.gov.uk.


IN CARE,
OUT OF TROUBLE
AN INDEPENDENT REVIEW CHAIRED BY LORD LAMING

**OUR THOUGHTS ON THE ISSUES HIGHLIGHTED
IN THIS REPORT**

There were 75,155 looked after children on
31 March 2015 in England and Wales

94% of children in care in England do not
get in trouble with the law. However
children in care in England are **six** times
more likely to be cautioned or convicted
of an offence than other children

The review's survey of local authorities found that children in care who come to police attention may have a higher risk of being convicted - as opposed to being cautioned - compared to other children



Looked after children in custody show greater levels of mental health need (as a group) compared to other children in custody

Looked after children receive less emotional and practical support and have tend to have worse outcomes in areas such as resettlement planning

In the most recent survey by the Prisons Inspectorate, children in secure training centres who said they were or had been in local authority care were:

Less likely than their peers to say that they had visits from family, carers or friends at least once a week

(34% compared with 61%)

Less likely than their peers to say that
they knew where they would be living
when they left the centre

(52% compared with 89%)

More likely than their peers to say that
they had been physically restrained
during their time at the Secure Training
Centre

(45% compared with 29%)

More likely than their peers to say that they had felt threatened or intimidated by other children while at the centre

(25% compared with 10%)

44% of looked after children in custody
are from an ethnic minority
background, which is more than one
and a half times the proportions in the
general population and the looked after
population

**THE REPORT MAKES RECOMMENDATIONS
INCLUDING RESTORATIVE JUSTICE FOR
LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN**

‘Restorative justice bring those harmed by crime or conflict and those responsible for the harm into communication, enabling everyone affected by a particular incident to play a part in repairing the harm and finding a positive way forward’

(www.restorativejustice.org.uk)



Activity



Some examples of good practice

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL

Reduced the number of Looked after Children in the criminal justice system year on year since 2011

Agencies work together and have joint working agreements

Introduction of the Youth Restorative Intervention and joint decision making between youth support service and police

LEICESTER CITY COUNCIL

Restorative Justice Programme was introduced in
2007 – 2010

Enabled staff in children's homes to manage low
level behaviour without involving the police.

An independent evaluation found there was a
substantial reduction in convictions both inside
and outside homes

HERTFORDSHIRE

23% reduction in police call outs during three years following the implementation of restorative practice in care homes by Hertfordshire County council

IDEAS FROM LINX

Police officers to visit Children in Care Councils

Each young person should have one person dealing with them so they can build a relationship up

Young people should not use 'I'm in care' as an excuse

Police could visit the foster carer support groups to reach YP in foster care

CPB to have police representation

Restorative justice is a good idea

OVER TO YOU:

**What can we do in
Lancashire?**

What would you do?

Scenario One

You are the residential home manager

1. John has beat up another young person in the residential home where he lives; the young person has bruises on his body and face.
2. An hour before this John has found out that his mum has cancelled their contact for the third time
3. A month ago John was diagnosed with autism and the support for this has not been consistent

Scenario Two

You are the landlord/landlady

1. Jessica has smashed up the rented accommodation she is currently living in and has broken a lot of the equipment that belongs to the landlord
2. Jessica is 18 and has been living alone for 6 months and doesn't see many friends or family. Jessica has begun to feel isolated and anxious
3. Jessica has struggled with sorting her bills out and doesn't feel she has had enough support to do this. Jessica received a big bill from the electricity company this morning and she doesn't have the money to pay it

Scenario Three

You are the high street store manager

1. Mark has stolen a child's toy from a high street toy store. The toy is worth about £40
2. It is Mark's daughters 4th birthday tomorrow and she has been talking about this toy that all her friends have. Mark knew he couldn't afford to buy it for her
3. Mark's girlfriend has recently moved away and left him with his daughter. Mark doesn't have any support and has recently lost his job as her kept missing days to look after his daughter

Notes from Group with scenario 1

1. Get young people some medical support.
2. What's the level of injury? How serious is it?
What's the scenario? What was the context?
3. Look into the reason behind it. Is there any other way of dealing with the situation (other than calling the police?)
4. Find out if unprovoked attack.
5. What does the injured young person want to happen? Find this out.
6. Put protective measures in to ensure it won't happen again.

Notes from Group with scenario 2

1. Speak to Jessica.
2. Contact social worker/leaving care worker.
Establish whether support for mental health is in place.
3. If no joy then ring the police.
4. Is this a one off or is it a regular occurrence?
5. Triggers – electricity bill.
6. How can things be repaired/replaced?

Notes from Group with scenario

1. Want to know how old Mark is.
If he was on his own?
Was it a special day?
Was it an accident?
Was he forced to do it?
Is he sorry?
Has he got an explanation why?
Is it the first time he has done it?
Has he got the money to pay for it?
Does he understand the actions?
Is there video evidence?
2. Want to know the age of Mark?
Does he understand his actions?
Does he have the means to pay?

Is there an appropriate adult?
Store policy?
Have they done it before?
Is the daughter with them?

3. Contact someone for support.
Not sure if you would contact the police.
Any vulnerabilities?
Appropriate adult.
Is he telling the truth?
Is the child with him?
Is the child at school or nursery?
Does the child look in an acceptable condition?

Notes from Second Group's with Scenario 1

1. Separate the two issues. Have one young person who needs help around contact but still need to support injured young person.
2. Sit both young people down. Restorative Justice.
Try to get aggressor to understand point of view of other young person.
3. Will make a report to the police and children's social care.
4. Still have to investigate this as have to as part of council procedures.
5. Police still have to investigate this to ensure no serious injuries.
6. Still need to put safeguarding plan in place.
7. Put in intervention to ensure doesn't happen again.
8. According to policy and procedure, still investigate.
9. Solution depends on level of injury.
10. Issues of mental capacity in terms of responsibility.
11. Duty of care to both young people.



What LINX Have Been Doing since August 4th.....



LINX's young person led Parenting Board Meeting took place in August

Agenda issues included:

- **council tax exemption for care leavers**
- **Young Inspectors case study**



LINX Young Inspectors have been awarded with their Diana award for 'Champion Volunteer' by CC Tomlinson





Young Inspectors visited Lancashire County Council Fostering Services in Central area in August and are currently writing their recommendations



Young Inspectors have finished writing their revisit report to a private residential unit in Lancaster



6 new members of LINX attended the primary day in Pendle



**15 looked after
children have
joined LINX in the
quarter leading
up to July**



Four members of LINX attended the contract monitoring meeting at county hall and fed back on the participation contract run by Barnardo's



**Work with Uclan on
Stories 2 Connect With
continues, with young
people collecting stories
from other young people
with experience of foster
care**



**A member of LINX
attended a national
meeting in London with
the Children's
Commissioner to discuss
engagement with social
workers**



Members of LINX met with the Barnardo's Corporate Audit and Inspection Unit to discuss how they could include young people in their inspection work



Three members of LINX attended the Care Leavers Forum at Urban Exchange in Preston



Three members of LINX attended a conference at Woodlands and provided training for social workers on participation



Members of LINX met up with Knowsley Children in Care Council to share good practice, new ideas and joint working for the future



**Members of LINX
engaged in 'speed
interviews' for social
workers, support
workers and independent
reviewing officers in
Lancashire**



**Members of LINX
volunteered at
Barnardo's Regional
150th Summer Fayre at
West Regional Office in
Liverpool**



**The LINX Facebook group
continues to grow and
we now have over 30
members**





Members of LINX attended the Lancashire Participation Network Meeting

LINX heard how young people were influencing the work of the Lancashire fostering and adoption team



**To help you to learn
about the work LINX
have been doing with
Fostering Services in
Lancashire we are going
to play a game of.....**

LINX BINGO



LINX BINGO

LINX's involvement with Lancashire County Council Fostering Service 2016

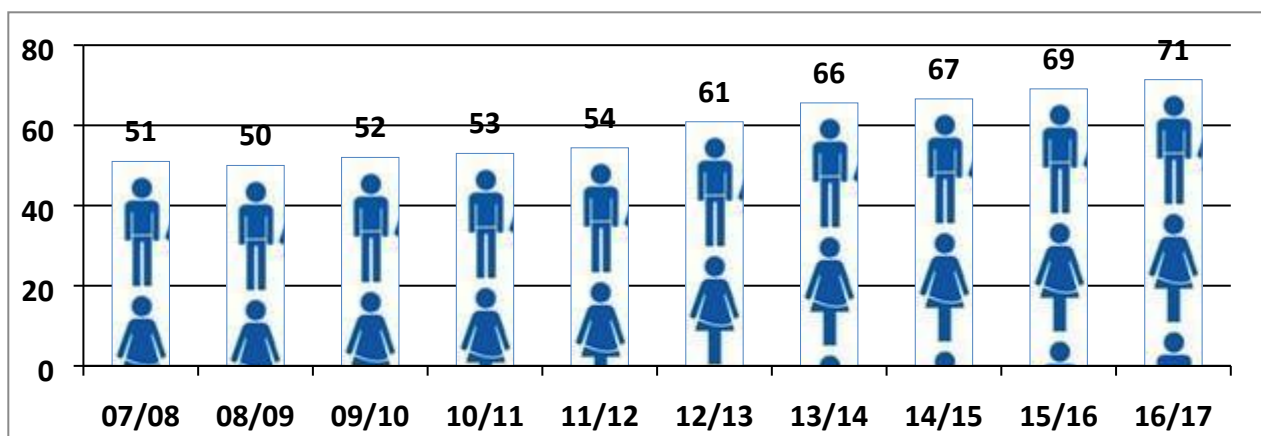
| | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| <p>'Speed interviews' for supporting social workers</p> | <p>'Sam's Story' film being used in training for foster carers, applicants and staff</p> | <p>Consultation forms have been amended following suggestions from LINX</p> | <p>LINX newsletter is distributed to all foster carers and fostering staff</p> |
| <p>LINX have provided the fostering service with a social worker job description that is included in all advertisements for social worker posts</p> | <p>LINX attended the fostering panel development day and contributed to panel members learning and development</p> | <p>The fostering panel now used a list of questions put together by LINX</p> | <p>LINX attended and helped to present 'Caring for Teenagers-tackling the barriers training' at Woodlands</p> |
| <p>LINX are writing a welcome letter for all children entering care</p> | <p>1 member of LINX is receiving training to become a member of the fostering panel</p> | <p>'Sam's Story' and a series of questions is being provided to all staff within the fostering service</p> | <p>LINX Young Inspectors have begun their inspection process of Lancashire County Council services</p> |
| <p>LINX are providing feedback on what children should be asked following an unplanned end to their placement</p> | | | |

CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD PERFORMANCE REPORT, SEPTEMBER 2016

ACTIVITY FOR CHILDREN LOOKED AFTER AND CARE LEAVERS

NUMBER OF CHILDREN LOOKED AFTER

- As at the end of August 2016, there were **1,754** children looked after in Lancashire.
- For every **10,000** children and young people in Lancashire, **71.4** are currently looked after.
- The current number of children looked after further increased in August and is higher than 12 months ago (Aug 15 - 1523)
- There are **more** children looked after in Lancashire than in England where 60 out of 10,000 are currently looked after and more than in Lancashire's statistical neighbours (62 out of 10,000).
- There are **less** children looked after in Lancashire than the North West (82 out of 10,000).



COMMENTS:

- ❖ Lancashire's number of children looked after further increased in August after a brief reduction in April. There have been big increases in the number of looked after children over the last two years. The rate further increased in 2015/16 to 69 per 10,000.
- ❖ Lancashire's number of children looked after is higher than that of Lancashire's statistical neighbours and the national average but lower than the average of other North West local authorities.
- ❖ Lancashire's statistical neighbours are Bury, Calderdale, Derbyshire, Kent, Northamptonshire, Nottinghamshire, Sefton, Staffordshire, Stockport & Stockton-on-Tees..

SERVICE ACTIVITY

Service activity helps to explain the rise in the number of children looked after in Lancashire:

- The contact centre has received **less** referrals than in previous years, although **more** contacts.
- A referral is information received regarding a child that is deemed to require social care involvement. A contact is any information received that doesn't lead to a referral.
- The social work teams have moved from initial and core assessments to a new single assessment from 1st April 2014.



| | Previous Performance | | | | | Current Performance |
|--|----------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------------------|
| | 11/12 | 12/13 | 13/14 | 14/15 | 15/16 | 2016/17 (YTD Ave.) |
| Contacts <i>per month</i> | 1284 | 1525 | 750 | 1575 | 1788 | 1845 |
| Referrals <i>per month</i> | 1175 | 1370 | 1679 | 868 | 958 | 862 |
| Initial Assessments | 9891 | 11288 | 11865 | - | - | - |
| Core Assessments | 5019 | 5901 | 5724 | - | - | - |
| Single Assessment started <i>per month</i> | -- | -- | -- | 1089 | 1253 | 1257 |

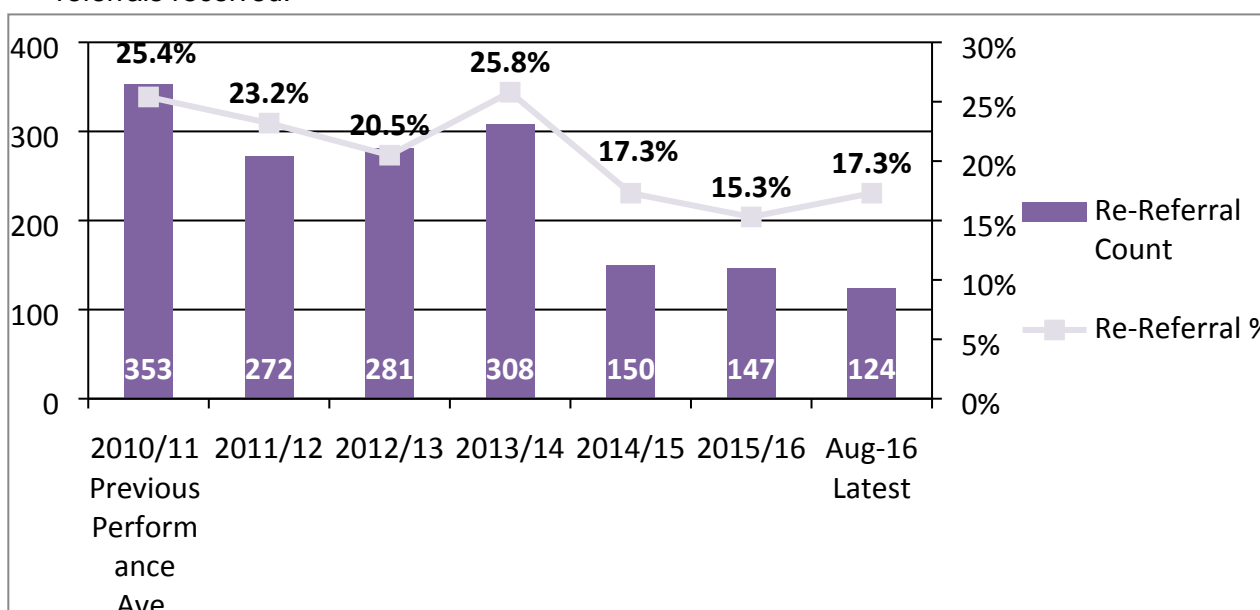
COMMENTS:

- ❖ Since the introduction of the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) in April 2013, a large number of contacts from the Police have been passed to MASH rather than going through Care Connect.
- ❖ From 1st April 2014, contacts and referrals were counted differently hence the number of contacts are not comparable to previous years.
- ❖ From 1st April 2014 initial and core assessments were discontinued and the new single assessment was introduced. The first full year shows an average of 1089 assessments were started per month. The second full year shows a 15% rise, with an average of 1253 assessments starting per month.
- ❖ A focus on early intervention could explain the rise in contacts but the reduction in referrals.
- ❖ Latest average assessments started per month (1257) are almost the same as the monthly average experienced in 2015/16 (1253).

RE-REFERRAL RATE

A number of referrals that the authority receives are re-referrals; that is a child or young person has been referred to Children's Social Care once and is being referred again.

- Re-referral rates have historically declined which was considered good performance
- Average re-referral rate for 2015/16 decreased to **less than 16** re-referrals out of each 100 referrals received.



COMMENTS:

- ❖ The re-referral rate has been calculated differently since LCS went live in 2014/15 hence the large decrease.
- ❖ The re-referrals rate for referrals that lead to a single assessment was **17.3%** in August 2016 a reduction from a recent high of **19.6%** in June 2016.
- ❖ Re-referral rates have stayed below **20%** for over 12 months.

STABILITY OF PLACEMENTS OF CLA: NUMBER OF MOVES

How many children looked after moved placement twice during the past year:



- Out of 100 children looked after, Lancashire targets to have less than 10 children looked after having to move twice or more during the year.
- Latest information for March 2016 shows that **6** out of 100 children looked after have moved twice or more which is good performance and within the target, albeit a slight increase from January's figure.
- This is an almost unchanged position from 14/15 performance of **6.8%** but a big improvement on 2013/14 when **9** out of 100 children looked after had to move twice or more during the year.

| Previous Performance | | | Current Performance | Target | Performance Direction? |
|----------------------|---------|---------|---------------------|--------|------------------------|
| 2013/14 | 2014/15 | 2015/16 | March 16 | | |
| 9.6% | 6.8% | 6.7% | 6.7% | 9.5% | |
| | | | | | |

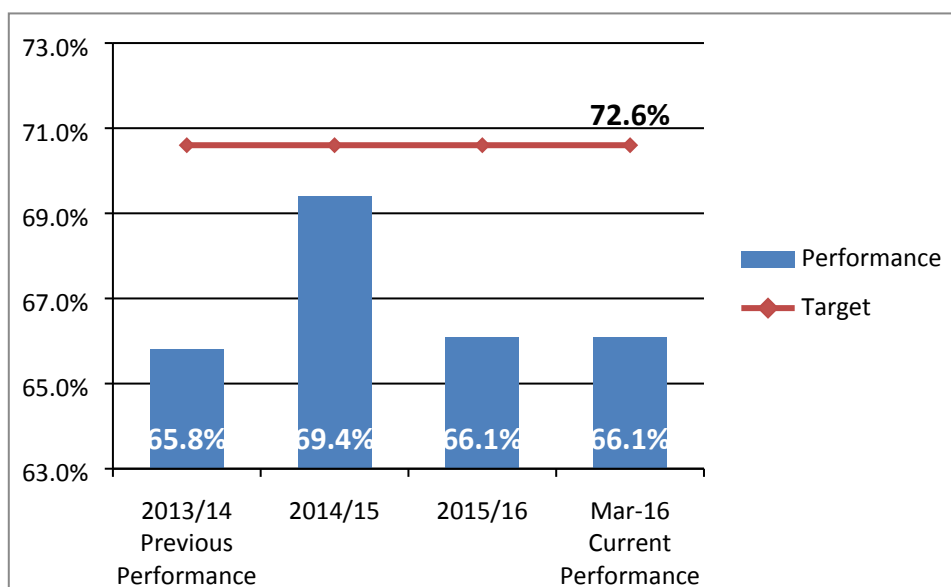
COMMENTS:

- ❖ Lancashire has carried out good placement stability work through research projects and improved processes, which has resulted in better performance and improved stability.
- ❖ Young people are happy that this is less than last year however they would like to see more research and reasons into what causes placement moves.
- ❖ Young people are happy that the number has reduced but feel that placements could be better researched to suit the needs of the young person which may reduce moves.
- ❖ Young people are happy that the figure is low and that the target has been met, however they would like current performance to further improve.
- ❖ August 2016 data not currently available due to system issues, hence March data provided.

STABILITY OF PLACEMENTS OF CLA: LENGTH OF PLACEMENTS

How many children looked after have been in their current placement for at least 2 years:

- Out of 100 children looked after, Lancashire targets to have more than **72** children looked after settled at least two years in their current placement.
- March 2016 information shows that **66** out of 100 children looked are in a long and stable placement, which is good performance, but below our target.
- Current performance matches 2013/14 performance of **66** out of 100, but is below 2014/15 performance (**69** out of 100).



COMMENTS:

- ❖ Lancashire has carried out good work on placement stability through research projects and improved processes.
- ❖ This has resulted in better performance and improved stability for children looked after.
- ❖ 2014/15 performance improved from the previous year but remains below the target of **72.6%**.
- ❖ Performance reduced in 2015/16, down to 66.1% of CLA.
- ❖ As above, August 2016 data not currently available due to system issues, hence March data provided.

CHILDREN MISSING FROM CARE

Lancashire County Council and its partners are changing processes for children missing from care, and there will be a new protocol whereby young people are not reported missing straight away in case they are just running late. Also the Police will now be able to change missing to absent on the young person's record.

Lancashire County Council worked with multiple agencies including Lancashire Police, to monitor the levels of children missing from care and the yearly breakdowns below are based on that information. However, as of 2016, Lancashire County Council are now solely using LCS to report missing figures and are no longer checking police lists, hence the breakdowns will not be provided for every category going forwards.

| | 2013/14 | 2014/15 | Q3 2015/16 |
|--|-------------|-------------|------------|
| Lancashire CLA missing | 355 | 361 | 127 |
| Number CLA from other LAs missing | 355 | 365 | - |
| Other Children known to Lancashire CSC | 408 | 764 | - |
| Other Children Missing | 1338 | 742 | - |
| Children Missing within Lancashire boundaries | 2456 | 2222 | 522 |

COMMENT:

- ❖ Over the whole year, **22** out of 100 children looked after were reported missing in 2014/15, the same figure as the previous year.
- ❖ The numbers represent the number of children looked after, and some children have multiple instances of going missing
- ❖ LINX have welcomed the changing protocols for children missing and feel this is good and that they are listened to, however are worried about those individuals that do actually go missing.
- ❖ 15/16 figures and latest quarter information has been requested.

OUTCOMES FOR CHILDREN LOOKED AFTER








Outcomes data from education is displayed by academic year rather than financial year.



Educational Attainment of Children Looked After

The key indicator used to measure attainment is the number of children and young people who get 5 GCSEs at grades A* to C including English and Maths:

- Performance for 2014/15 has been published and performance increased to 14% from 8% the previous year.
- CLA attainment remains significantly lower than attainment for all children and young people of whom almost **6** out of 10 achieve 5 GCSEs at A*-C including English and maths.

| | Previous Performance | | | Current Performance | Target | Performance Direction? |
|---------|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 11/12 | 12/13 | 13/14 | 2014/15 | | |
| Lancs | 12.8% | 12.9% | 8% | 14% | 18.0% |  |
| |  |  |  |  |  | |
| England | 14.9% | 15.5% | 12% | 13.8% | Higher |  |

COMMENT:

- ❖ In Lancashire, attainment at GCSE among the children looked after increased in 2014/15 with **14** out of **100** CLA achieving 5 A*-C including English and Maths.
- ❖ Across England in 2014/15, just under **14** per 100 children looked after achieved 5 A*-C inc. English & Maths, slightly less than Lancashire's **14** per 100.
- ❖ The young people were shocked at these statistics and suggested the following reasons as to why this may be:
 - CLA are pulled out of lessons by social workers. Meetings may also run over and as such CLA are missing too much time from their lessons. One young person missed an exam due to this and did not receive an apology which upset them.
 - The young people suggested that if staff have to visit them whilst in school, to plan better in terms of meeting the young person on a break or at lunch time. It was also suggested that it may better suit the young person better to be removed from certain lessons if they are confident or feel that they're ahead within the lesson.

- The stress of placement moves, which sometimes require a change in school, was also highlighted. Due to the nature of schools covering parts of the curriculum at different times of the year, those moving schools may miss vital parts of the syllabus.
- Young people would like additional tutors to be made available in children's homes and for those children that are fostered. Looked after children should be entitled to additional support where school moves occur.
- ❖ Young people believe the target performance for CLA achieving 5 GCSEs at A* - C should be 100%. They feel that children undertaking other courses would mean that this wouldn't be attainable, therefore those completing other courses and qualifications should also be included.
 - Whilst the above is a good idea to include the results obtained by children undertaking alternative education, this performance indicator is calculated in this manner as it is a national indicator and all authorities are required to provide information on those achieving 5 GCSEs, including English and Maths.

ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL BY CHILDREN LOOKED AFTER

Attendance at school is expressed as a percentage of all possible school sessions attended by all children looked after:



- Attendance in primary school was above target in 2013/14 with all children looked after only missing **4** out of every 100 sessions in school
- Attendance in secondary school was better than last year, with all children looked after missing **5** out of every 100 sessions possible in school.
- There are two sessions possible each school day; a morning session and an afternoon session. If a child is absent for a lesson in either they are deemed as absent.

| | Previous Performance | | | Current Performance | Target | Performance Direction? |
|-----------|----------------------|-------|-------|---------------------|--------|------------------------|
| | 10/11 | 11/12 | 12/13 | 13/14 | | |
| Primary | 96.3% | 96.2% | 97.0% | 97.2% | 96.0% | 😊 |
| | ↗ | ↘ | ↗ | ↗ | ↗ | |
| Secondary | 92.5% | 94.3% | 92.0% | 95.0% | 96.0% | 😞 |
| | ↘ | ↗ | ↘ | ↗ | ✘ | |

COMMENTS:

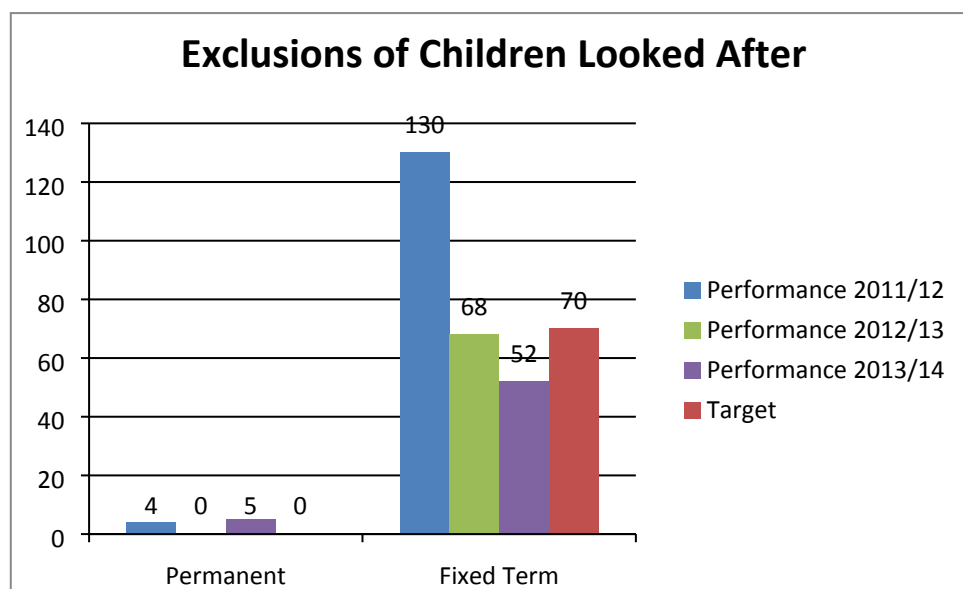
- ❖ Young people feel that the lower performance for secondary school pupils are a reflection of the increased age of these pupils and the free will exerted by those who are older leading them to miss school. The stress of placement moves and of being in care were also cited as reasons for non-attendance, particularly in those secondary school age children and young people.

- ❖ Young people feel that they should be able to choose what they do at school, for example, completing exams or doing practical courses and perhaps going to college earlier than usual to start these courses.
- ❖ Young people believe CLA could be marked as absent from a lesson if they are attending a CLA meeting instead, which is not necessarily the young person's fault. If the young person does not attend for the morning/afternoon, this would be classed as an absent, but potentially authorised, session.
- ❖ Young people feel that sometimes young people withdraw themselves from lessons if they are not able to cope and speak to their designated teacher or someone they feel comfortable talking to.

EXCLUSIONS FROM SCHOOL OF CHILDREN LOOKED AFTER

Exclusions from school are included as a pure number of children looked after either permanently excluded or on fixed term exclusion:

- In the last year there were **5** permanent exclusions of children looked after, an increase from 0 the previous year.
- In the last year there were **52** fixed term exclusions of children looked after, down from **68** the previous year – both lower than the target of **70**, which is good.
- The number of fixed term exclusions has fallen again and is well within the targets set by the Corporate Parenting Board. However, there were a number of permanent exclusions within the last year which means, unlike last year, the target of zero permanent exclusions has not been met.



COMMENTS:

- ❖ Young people would like there to be more research into the reasons for fixed term exclusions. Are schools aware of other factors in the young persons' lives that may be affecting their behaviour at school? If so, are schools offering the right support for those young people?

CHILDREN LOOKED AFTER IN YOUNG OFFENDER INSTITUTIONS OR SECURE UNITS

- There are a small number of children looked after placed in young offender institutions or secure units, **5** as at 31st August 2016.
- In Q4 14/15, just under 3 out of **100** children looked after were involved with the youth offending teams, whilst just over **1** out of **1000** children and young people were involved with youth offending teams.
- Based on these figures, children looked after are twenty five times more likely to be involved with youth offending teams than those not looked after.

CHILDREN LOOKED AFTER WITH AN UP-TO-DATE HEALTH AND DENTAL ASSESSMENTS

- **91** out of 100 children looked after have an up-to-date health assessment (August 2016)
- This is a similar level of up-to-date health assessments than in the previous year (2015/16 - **92**)
- **69** out of 100 children looked after have an up-to-date dental assessment (August 2016)
- This has increased slightly after reaching a new year low in July 2016 of **66.7%**.

COMMENTS:

- ❖ Lancashire is investing in the improvement of oral health through the Smile 4 Life campaign which has been running since 2010.
- ❖ This has been nationally acclaimed for its successes in raising awareness and improving oral health.
- ❖ Lancashire is currently focusing on improving the timeliness of health and dental assessments in partnership with health colleagues.
- ❖ Young people feel that they should be given a choice as to whether they want a health assessment or not. Young people should only be made to have one if there is a cause for concern. Young people feel health assessments should be different for each individual. Also, if a young person has a check up at the doctors, this should be counted as a health assessment.
- ❖ Young people also feel that health assessments need to be confidential as in the past some LINX members have had foster carers in the assessments which can be uncomfortable when they are being asked personal questions.



ADOPTION AND PERMANENCE

ADOPTION ORDERS

- **323** children looked after have been adopted over the last 3 years.
- The number of adoptions increased to **119** children looked after being adopted in **15/16**, similar to **14/15** performance of **121**, but much higher than in previous years.
- In the first quarter of 2016/17, **33** adoption orders were granted.



SPECIAL GUARDIANSHIP ORDER (SGO) OR RESIDENCE ORDERS (RO)

Special guardianship orders or residence orders are an alternative to adoption, but still provide children looked after with a permanent home:

- **149** looked after children were given a permanent home under special guardianship order during 15/16, up from **120** in 14/15.
- **10** looked after children were given a permanent home under residence order during 2015/16, a slight decrease on performance last year of **16**.
- In the first quarter of 2016/17, **30** SGOs were granted with a further **5** residence orders.

COMMENTS:

- ❖ Overall more children looked after than ever are being provided with a permanent home under adoption, special guardianship order or residence orders; **278** in 2015/16 which represents considerable success and further improvement on the previous record of **257** in 2014/15.

OUTCOMES FOR CARE LEAVERS

CARE LEAVERS IN SUITABLE ACCOMMODATION (OLD NI 147)

Suitable accommodation is regarded as suitable if it provides safe, secure and affordable provision for young people. The percentage of care leavers at age 19 that are living in "suitable accommodation":



- As at the end of July 2016, out of 100 care leavers, **84** were considered to be in suitable accommodation

COMMENTS:

- ❖ Performance as at the end of Q4 15/16 was **86.8%**
- ❖ Young people feel that the target should be 100% as everyone is entitled to be safe and secure. Young people wish to know where the others are residing to not meet this definition.
- ❖ Young people feel that when a young person leaves care, placement options should be available for the young person to consider, review and be approved before the change. Moreover, more support needs to be given around budgeting, as this could lead to problems paying for rent. Young people think that all children looked after should be involved in this process.

CARE LEAVERS IN EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT OR TRAINING (OLD NI 148)

The percentage of care leavers at 19 who are engaged in education, training or employment:

- July 2016 data suggests **41%** of Care Leavers were in education, training or employment.
- Nationally **88** out of 100 young people aged 16-24 are in education, training or employment (March 2016)



COMMENTS:

- ❖ Latest performance suggests that 41% of care leavers are in education, training or employment.
- ❖ Young people feel that this isn't good enough and more young people should be in education or training
- ❖ Young people feel that individuals, due to potentially poor school grades, need more apprenticeships and volunteering schemes to be accessible. Funding could be used as an early intervention to help young people with grades in the form of extra tuition.
- ❖ Young people feel more help could be given to help young people to find courses and employment. Assistance with writing CVs or developing ICT and/or skills were highlighted as key. Furthermore, available funds in the form of college bursaries should be more accessible as not everyone is aware of what they are entitled to financially.

CARE LEAVERS AT UNIVERSITY

- In 2011/12 there were 25 care leavers at university
- In 2012/13 there were a record 37 care leavers studying at university around the country, including 22 first year students. There were 7 graduates in 2012/13.
- Of these 22 first year students; 15 progressed to the second year, 1 completed with a one year foundation degree, 2 returned to repeat the first year, and 4 left their course.
- In 2013/14 there were 36 care leavers studying at university including 13 first year students.
- In 2014/15 there were 40 care leavers studying at university, including 10 first year students.
- 3 care leavers retook a year in 2014/15.



COMMENTS:

- ❖ There is a good level of Care Leavers at University in each of the last three years showing that Leaving Care support is there for potential students.
- ❖ However there it is concerning that 2 in 10 first year students dropped out of university, and a further 1 in 10 repeated their first year. The decision to study at University must be an appropriate choice for the applicant and suitable students need to be well supported.
- ❖ Young people feel that these figures show good progress, but there should be many more care leavers going to university.
- ❖ Young people feel that out of term accommodation needs to be more readily available as has been cited as a contributing factor in a young person's decision not to attend higher education.
- ❖ Young people believe other CLA are not aware of the support and funding available to them. The extra provisions that are available could support more young people through university. Support awareness has been spreading, but more could be done at a younger age to give young people the required information to inform their decision to attend higher education at an earlier stage.
- ❖ Currently, the staying put policy applies to Lancashire "in-house" foster carers but discussions are encouraged to occur surrounding those looked after children placed with independent fostering agencies regarding the possibility of staying put.

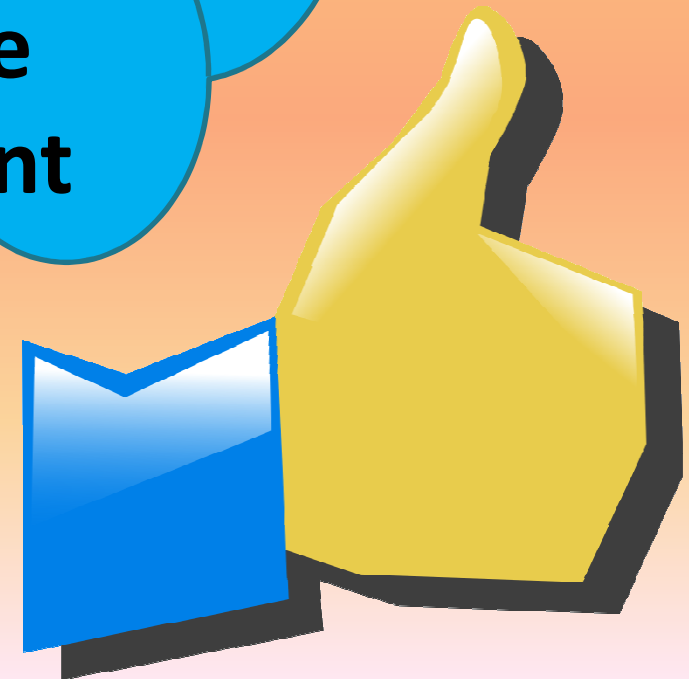
- ❖ Young people also suggested that leaving care and starting university occurs at the same time and this can be a stressful time for the young people involved. Individuals may also be put off the idea of attending university as they may be worried about not having anywhere to live during the holidays.
- ❖ Information for those attending university in 2014/15 is provisional and is subject to change.



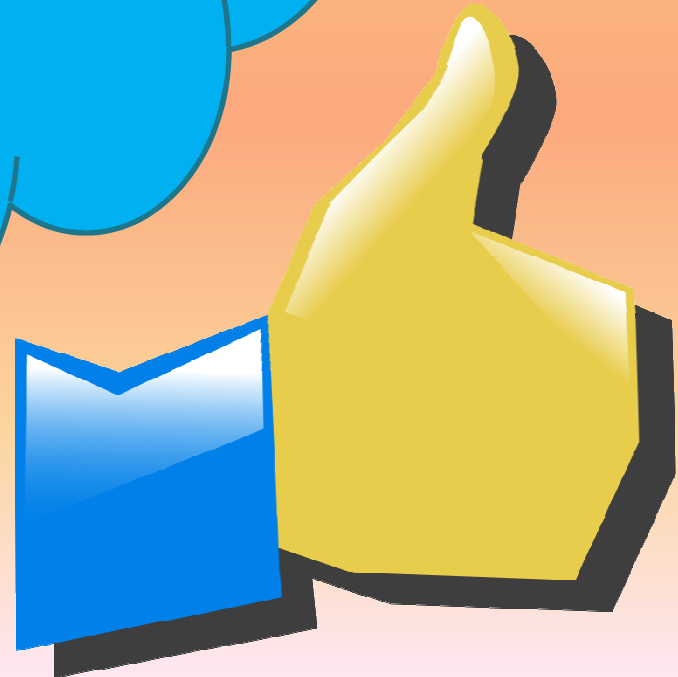
Corporate Parenting Board Performance Report

**Our key comments
include.....**

**A referral is
information received
regarding a child that
is deemed to require
social care
involvement**



**A contact is any
information received
that doesn't lead to a
referral**



**The contact centre
has received more
contacts though
less referrals have
been made**



**Does this mean
that it is harder
to get a young
person referred
into children's
social care?**



Re-referral rate has continued to decline to less than 16 out of each 100 referrals received





**6 out of 10 Looked
After Children have
moved twice or
more during the past
year**

**LINX would
like this figure
to be lower
still**



**There is no data on
stability of placements
since March this year**

**It would be
good to have
this data**



**There is no data on
children missing from
care this year**

**It would be
good to have
this data too**



**Looked After Children achieving
grades A* -C in GCSEs including
Maths and English increased from
8% to 14% in 2014-2015**



**This is still much lower
than their peers where
almost 60% achieve
grades A* -C in GCSEs
including Maths and
English**



In July 2016 41% of care leavers were in education, employment or training



**This compares badly with 88%
of all 16-24 year old in England
who are in education,
employment or training**



**In 2014/2015, 40 care leavers
were studying at University
compared with 36 the previous
year**



**In August 2016
there were 5
looked after
young people
placed in young
offender
institutions or
secure units**



**Looked After
Children are 25
times more
likely to be
involved with
Youth Offending
Teams**



The End



**Lancashire
Constabulary**

police and communities together

Early Action & Public Service Lancashire Development

Supt Andrea Barrow

police and communities together

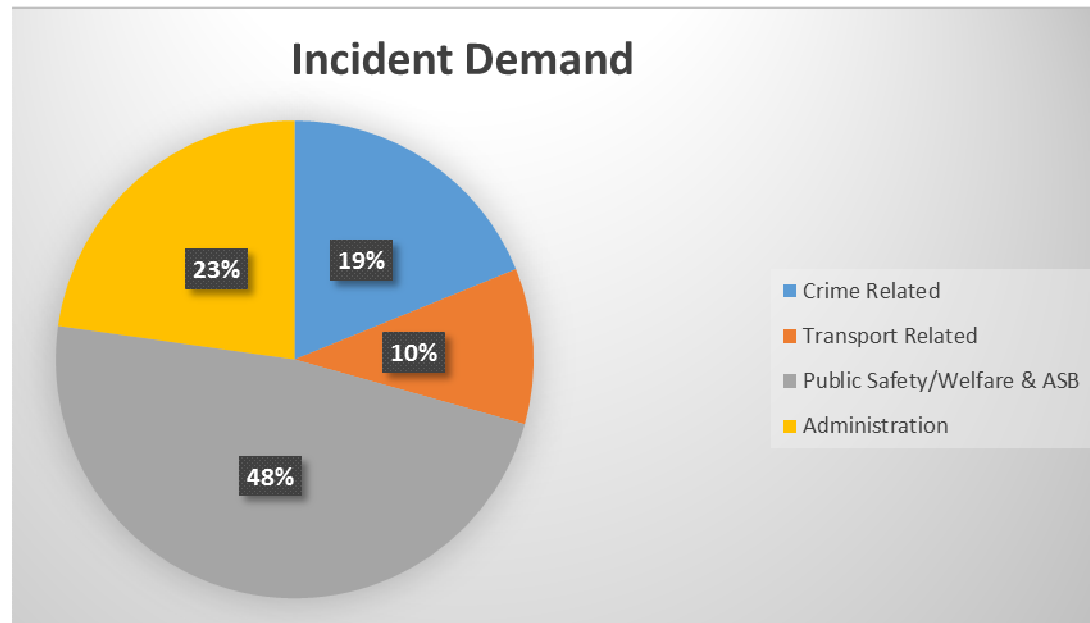
Minute Item 5

The changing nature of demand



Lancashire Constabulary

police and communities together



19% Crime related demand

48% Early Action related demand

| | Oct-14 to Sep15 |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| Crime Related | 96611 |
| Transport Related | 54112 |
| Public Safety/Welfare & ASB | 245648 |
| Administration | 116755 |

* 12 months incident data to September 2015 [iSite file].

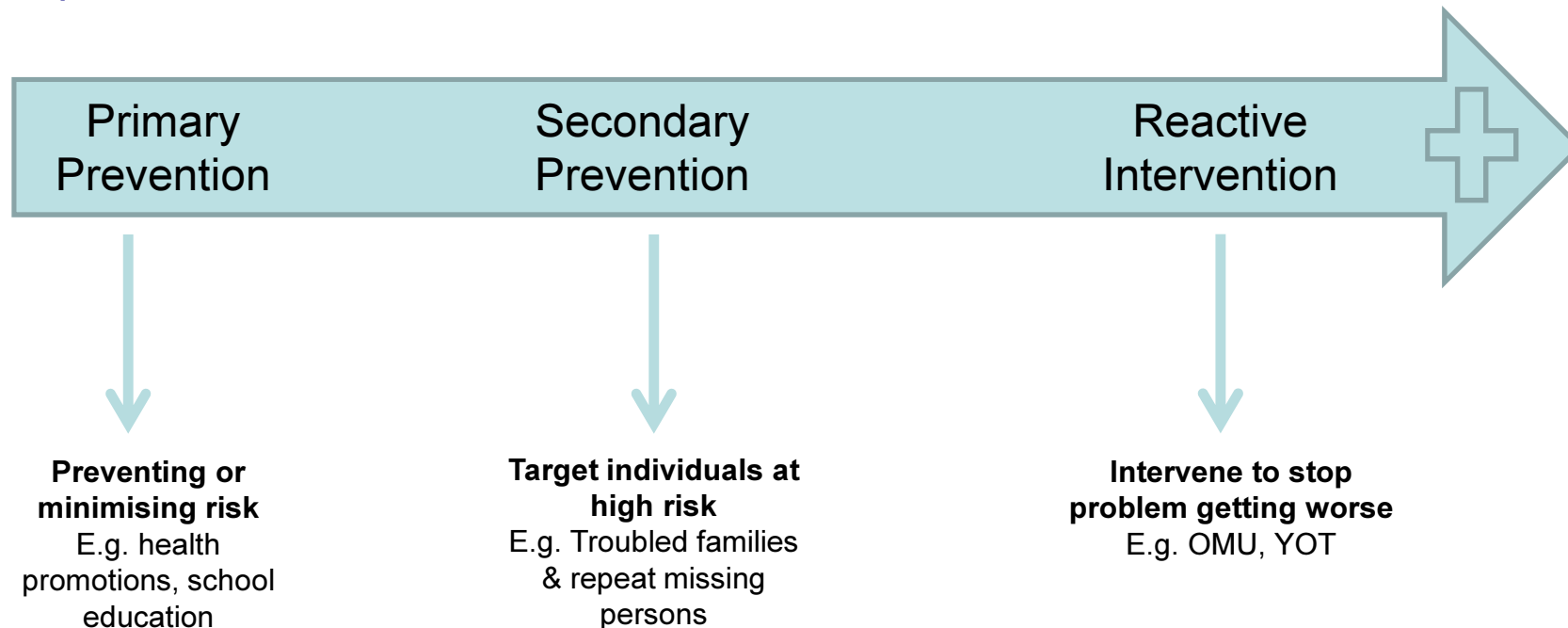
police and communities together



upstream

midstream

downstream

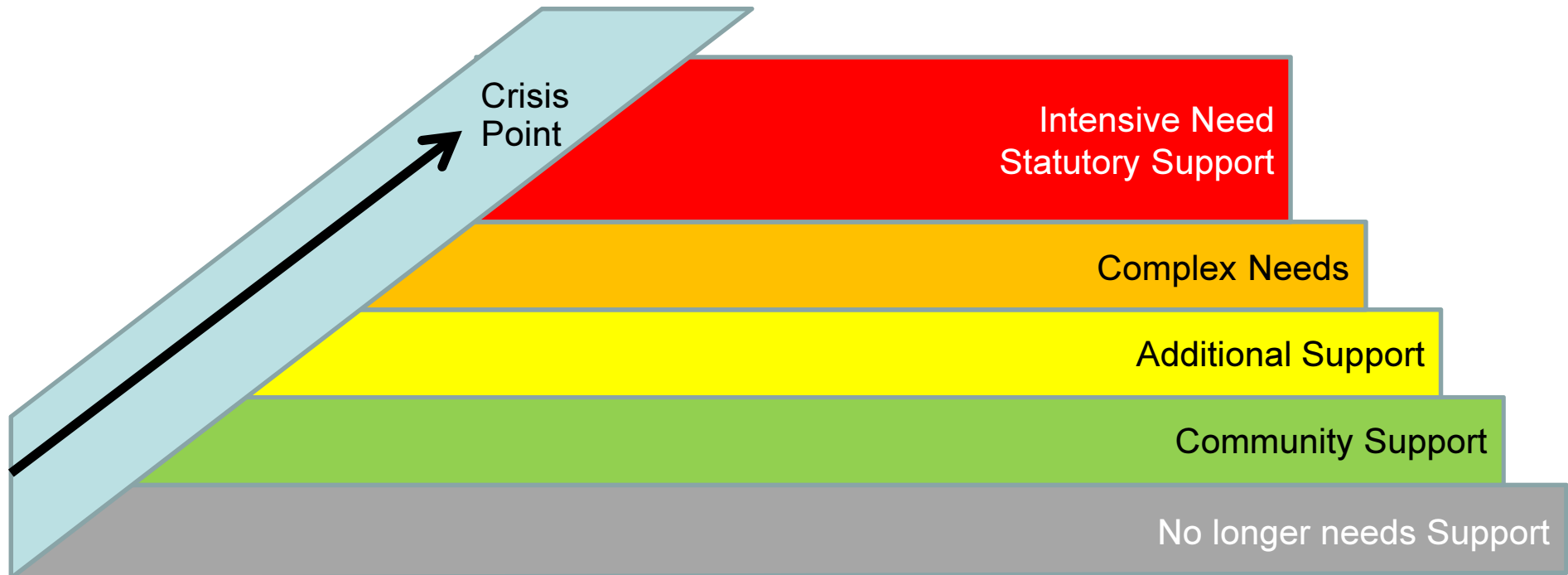


Vulnerability step down



Lancashire
Constabulary

police and communities together



police and communities together

Public Service Lancashire



Lancashire Constabulary

police and communities together



Lancashire Constabulary
police and communities together



Blackpool Council
BUILDING A BETTER COMMUNITY FOR ALL

Lancashire County Council



Common Purpose

Keeping people safe and well.



+



=

Public Service Integrated Teams

- Reduce Vulnerability
- Prevent future demand
- Reduce spending on high cost services

police and communities together

Shared Vision



Lancashire
Constabulary

police and communities together

- ***Working together to keep people safe and well***

police and communities together

Integrated Workforce



Lancashire
Constabulary

police and communities together

- Challenge organisational boundaries
- Person centred & whole family approach
- Improve outcomes for individuals and families starting with those who are most vulnerable
- Long term support
- Sustainability- Community step down
- Develop an evidence base.

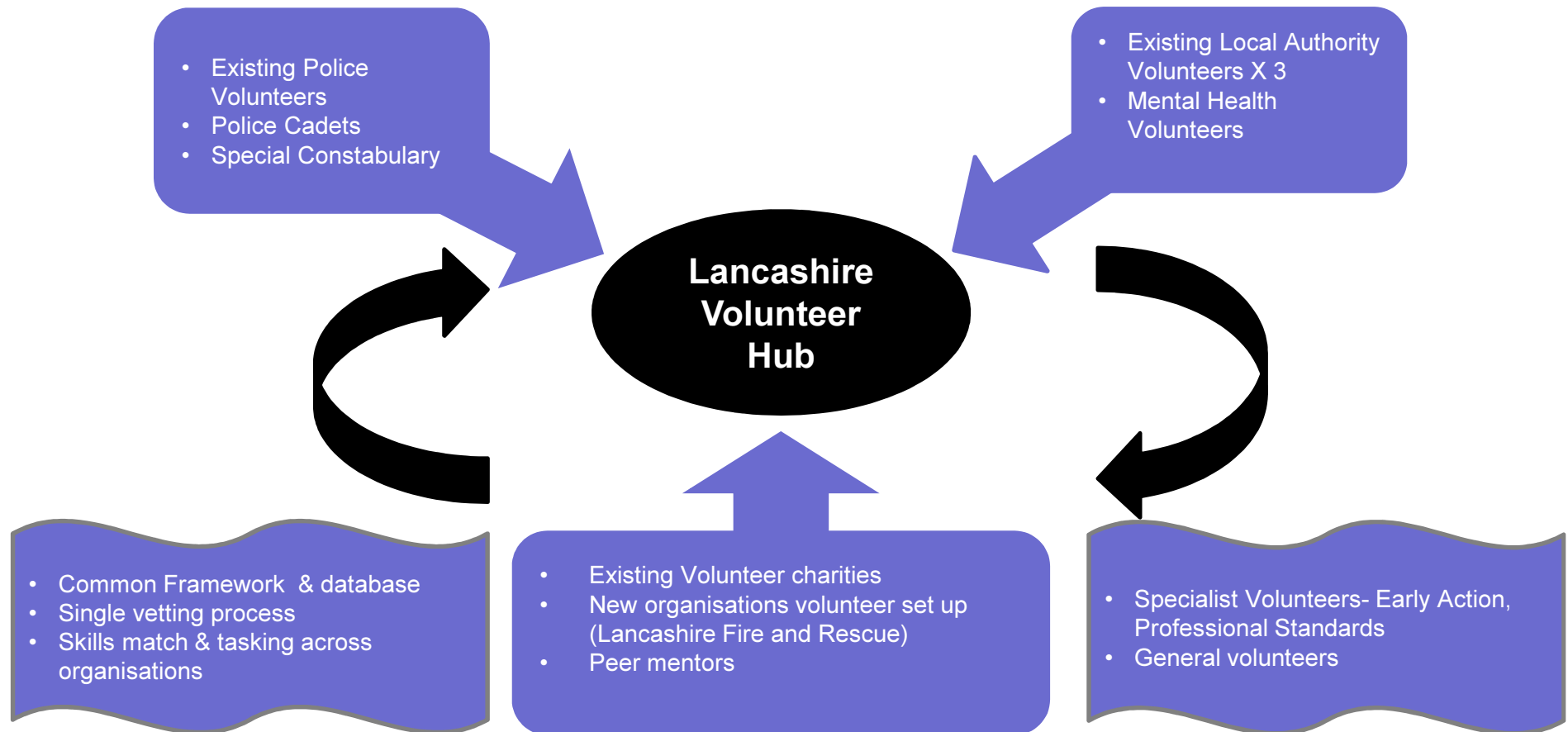
police and communities together

Sustainability- Community Step Down



**Lancashire
Constabulary**

police and communities together



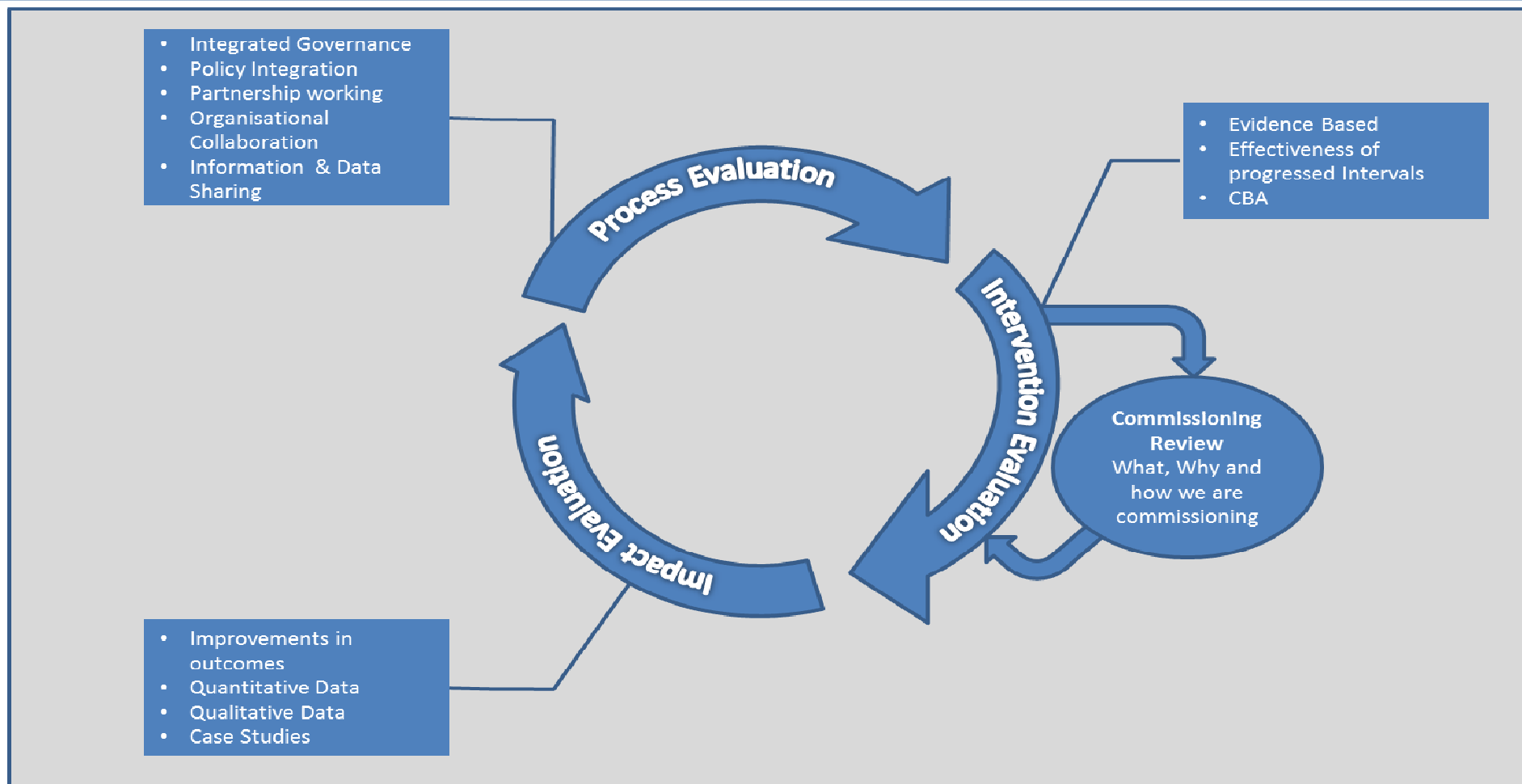
police and communities together

Evidencing Impact



Lancashire
Constabulary

police and communities together



police and communities together

Independent Reviewing Officers Annual Report 2015 - 2016 Looked After Children and Safeguarding

Presented by Andy Smith
Interim Safeguarding Manager
Safeguarding Inspection and Audit Service
Lancashire County Council

Lancashire Independent Reviewing Officer (IRO) Service

- Lancashire has had an IRO service since 1999
- IROs are responsible for chairing children looked after reviews, child protection conferences and a range of specialist strategy meetings
- The IROs primary focus is to quality assure the care planning and review process for each child and challenge in order to improve care planning and secure better outcomes
- Since January 2016 the IRO Service has undertaken Regulation 44 visits for Lancashire's residential establishments for children and young people ensuring greater independence within this process

IRO Service Structure

- Head of Service: Sally Allen
- Safeguarding Manager
- 6.5 Quality and Review Managers
- 45 IROs, There was an increase in IROs from 30 to 45 FTE posts during 2015/2016
- The service mirrors the locality footprint of Children's Social Care. There are two IRO teams in the Central locality, 3 teams in the East and 1.5 teams in the North. This helps to strengthen local relationships whilst also improving consistency of practice and challenge

Challenges during 2014/2015

- IRO quality assurance of S.47 enquiries
- Increase in the number of children subject to a child protection plan which at the end of March 2015 was 956 children, however, in March 2016 this had increased by 55% to 1,443
- The number of children looked after has increased by 3% from 1,626 in March 2015 to 1,674 in March 2016.
- Ofsted found that IROs do not consistently monitor children's cases to ensure they are receiving the services they need and that their plans are progressing as agreed

Challenges during 2015/2016

- Recruitment and retention of permanent IROs resulting in the use of agency staff (50%). Re-grade inline with statistical neighbours
- Evidencing IRO footprint on all children's case records including evidence of challenge and impact of IRO involvement
- Embedding a revised Problem Resolution Protocol in practice
- IRO practice standards to ensure consistency within the service
- Reducing IRO caseloads
- Lack of data to inform changes to practice

Progress on Recommendations from 2014/2015

- Ofsted Identified that caseloads were too high (IRO handbook identifies (50-70 for CLA cases). The average IRO caseload in April 2016 was 82 compared with 109 (high of 130) at the end of March 2015
- There is some evidence of IRO quality assurance of practice within informal and formal resolution. However, the service recognises this is still an area of improvement
- The reduction in caseloads since the recruitment of additional IROs to the service has led to a significant increase in the completion of mid-point checks.

Progress on Recommendations from 2014/2015

- Elements of success with informal and formal problem resolution
- IROs have worked to develop strong positive relationships with children's services and quarterly liaison meetings
- Changes to the children's electronic recording system (LCS) to improve data collection on mid-point checks, informal resolution, section 47 audits
- Performance in relation to participation of children looked after in either attending or contributing to their review remains high. In 2014/15 the participation of children looked after was 92.5%. This has increased to 95.9% during 2015-16.

Priorities for 2016-17

- Recruit appropriately skilled and experienced staff on a permanent basis to all IRO and Quality & Review Manager vacancies
- Ensure there is evidence of the IRO foot-print in the child's case record and that the impact of the IRO in improving outcomes for the child is clearly visible
- Quality & Review Managers to ensure caseloads are equitable across the IRO Service
- IROs to undertake robust quality assurance of practice to ensure there is a chronology, up to date child & family assessment that provides an analysis of risk and that plans are specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and have clear timescales
- Enhancement to be made to LCS to improve the quality of recording of mid-point checks and to ensure a consistent approach

Priorities for 2016-17

- Embed the Audit Framework within the IRO Service and ensure audits are of a consistently high standard to promote learning
- Quality & Review Managers to audit cases where the child protection plan has been ceased at the first review child protection conference. Sample audit to be undertaken of repeat child protection plans to quality assure decision making
- Review the system for the quality assurance of S.47 enquiries by IROs
- IROs to gather evidence of permanence achieved for children looked after at their second (four month) review and ensure this is recorded within the IRO outcome report
- Quality & Review Managers to review and plan audit activity for the service in the forthcoming year. This will include attendance at core group meetings, multi-agency attendance and participation at child protection conferences and child protection plans ceased at the first review conference
- Quality & Review Managers to review the mechanisms used for seeking feedback in relation to the views of children, families and professionals

Priorities for 2016-17

- Embed the revised Problem Resolution Protocol in practice
- Develop IRO practice standards to ensure consistency within the service
- Quality & Review Managers to monitor the performance of the IRO Service, permanence, mid-point checks, IRO quality assurance of S.47 enquiries, informal/formal resolution processes to further improve performance in these areas
- Quality & Review Managers to ensure a consistent approach across the IRO Service in the completion of Regulation 44 visits of Lancashire's in-house residential children's homes