



# Child and Youth Justice Team

# In Care Out of Trouble

- Nationally there is still overrepresentation of children who are looked after or care leavers within the criminal justice system and in more so in custody. There have been a number of national reports calling for the reduction of criminalisation these children.
- 2017 Lancashire established a multi agency group to develop a response.

# In Care Out of Trouble

- Currently children looked after open to Lancashire's CYJS is 58 - 27% of the caseload including out of area children) Lancashire CLA is 43 – 22%.  
(04.11.2020)
- 'National protocol on reducing the unnecessary criminalisation of children looked after and care leavers' (DfE, Home Office, MoJ) 2018

# In Care Out of Trouble

- **Representation on the group**
  - **Social Work managers**
  - **Residential and Fostering managers**
  - **Child and Youth Justice Service (CYJS)**
  - **Police**
  - **Probation**
  - **Health**
  - **Crown Prosecution Service**
  - **Courts**
  - **Care Leavers**
  - **Complex Safeguarding Team**
  - **Education**
  - **Child and Family Wellbeing Service**



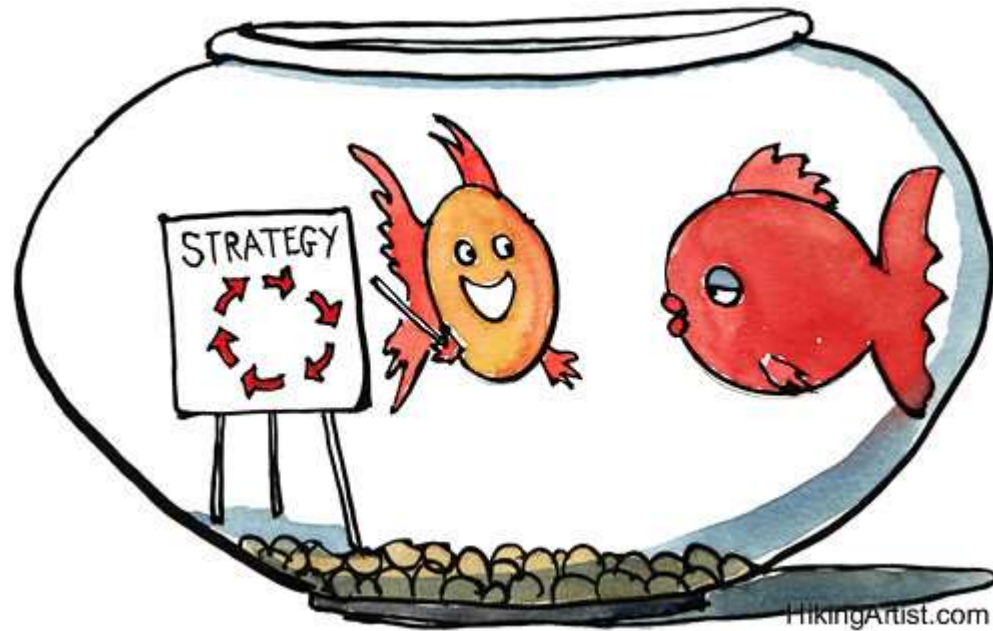
***Coming together is a beginning.  
Keeping together is progress.  
Working together is success.***

-Henry Ford

# What have we done so far?

- **Pan Lancs joint agency protocol to reduce criminalisation of Children Looked after and Care Leavers**
- **New CYJS prevention and diversion service**
- **Developed strategy**
- **Developed action plan**
- **Monitoring of criminalisation of children looked after reported to YJMB**
- **Improved awareness and support across partners**

**Strategy –  
what do we  
want to do  
to achieve  
our long  
term goal.**



**Our goal is  
to reduce  
offending by  
Lancashire  
children  
by....**

- **...parenting in a manner which makes it less likely they will offend and come into contact with the police**
- **..making more use of informal resolutions when their offending does come to the attention of the police**
- **...affording children placed in out of county the same protection from the risk of criminalisation as those placed in county**
- **...affording the same protection to children leaving care as those in care**
- **..recognising where children's 'offending' is an indication of their need to be kept safe e.g. from child criminal and/or sexual exploitation (CCE/CSE)**



**Action Plan**  
- how are  
we going to  
do it?



# Action Plan

- **Promote the strategy and action plan to Children's Services County Managers.**
- **The Corporate Parenting Board and Youth Justice Management Board to be the leads and sign off the strategy and action plan.**
- **To develop video stories of looked after children within the youth justice system to promote awareness.**
- **Improve awareness through training of new Crown Prosecution lawyers.**

# Action Plan

- **Promote awareness for all Court Users**
- **Review the protocol to include Care leavers, CPS, Courts, Care Leavers, and Probation.**
- **Improve joint working with Care homes, Police and CYJS**
- **Review representation of BAME, Children Looked After and Gypsy Roma, Traveller children in youth justice system.**

**ANY QUESTIONS?**

