

North East Lincolnshire Children Young People and Families **‘Stronger Together’** Strategy

2025/29



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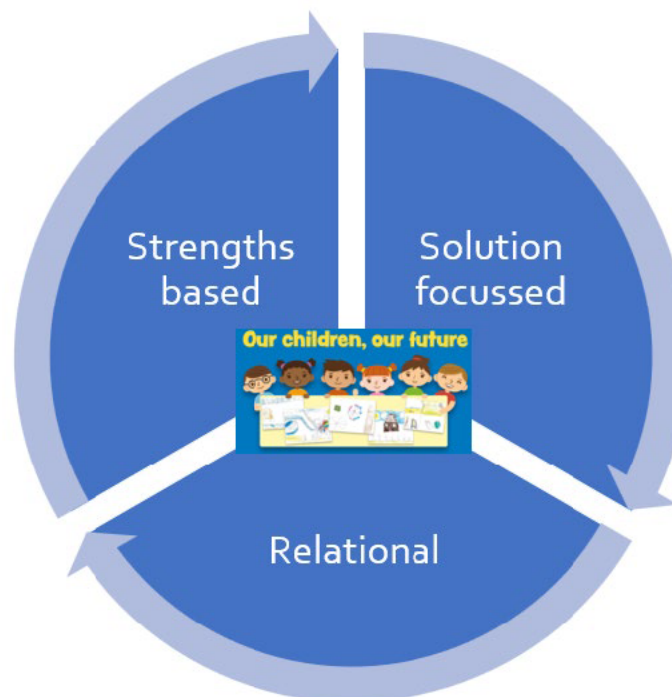
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Introduction and context

- Welcome to the North East Lincolnshire Children, Young People and Families 'Stronger Together' Strategy 2025/29.
- Children, young people and families are at the centre of all we do and in the context of our vision '**Our Children Our Future**', we want North East Lincolnshire to be a place where children are safe from harm and enjoy growing up in loving homes, have the best start in life and a happy, healthy, fun childhood. We want them to start school ready to learn, do well at all levels of learning and have the skills and opportunities they need to enjoy a bright future. We want children to be part of an inclusive, compassionate, and thriving community, be listened to, involved in the decisions on their future and respected.
- We are aspirational for ourselves, and for our children, young people and families, and we are focussed on ensuring that **all** children, young people and families, including the most vulnerable, can access the right support, at the right time by the right person. We will prioritize prevention, self-help, and equitable access to services, while fostering a collaborative partnership approach.
- **We understand the significance of a robust early help offer to help build resilience, reduce the need for escalation, and enable them to find solutions for themselves, and we are committed to working across the partnership to ensure information, help and support at the earliest point.**
- In North East Lincolnshire, relationships unite us. Across the partnership, which is representative of organisations and agencies working together to improve outcomes for children, young people and families, including statutory partners, the voluntary sector and other key stakeholders, we are committed to working collaboratively and to being innovative, forward thinking and solution focussed, in the context of high support and high challenge, to create lasting change. As part of this, we will hold each other to account with open and honest conversations in the context of a shared vision, a shared approach and a shared understanding of the levels of need.
- There is a palpable sense of genuine partnership, community and pride in North East Lincolnshire and we are proud of what has been achieved to date, and of the significant progress that has and continues to be made across the Borough. There is a rich landscape of thriving partnership and planning frameworks, which is demonstrating the power of partnership and a positive trajectory of outcomes for our children, young people and families. That said, in the spirit of our continued ambition and of wanting to make even more of a difference, this strategy signifies our overarching strategic intent to working 'stronger together' for children, young people and families across the Borough.

North East Lincolnshire Approach

- In North East Lincolnshire, we are committed to working 'stronger together' for '**Our Children Our Future**'
- Through our North East Lincolnshire Approach, we will work relationally with children, young people and families, to build on their strengths and enable them to find solutions for themselves
- Our approach, which is set in the context of being **trauma informed**, also sets the blueprint for how we will work with each other, as key stakeholders, partners and communities
- The North East Lincolnshire Approach adopts the practice approach articulated in the [Helping, Supporting and Protecting Children, Young People and Families threshold document](#) which articulates the levels of need and provides the framework for how we should all work with children, young people, and families across the Borough



Relational	<p>We want:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to have strong, positive, trusting relationships across the partnership that builds co-operation and constructive challenge • such relationships to be at the heart of practitioners, managers and senior leaders' relationships with children, young people and families • that everyone engages constructively to deliver effective support to children, young people and families
Strengths based	<p>We want:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to work with children, young people, parents and carers to find and amplify their strengths to effect positive change and achieve the best possible outcomes
Solution focussed	<p>We want:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to help people explore their strengths and resources and drawing up a plan about what needs to be achieved to overcome concerns

In the spirit of our vision, our approach is underpinned by **shared principles** which bind us and enable us to be 'stronger together', and contributes to create a system which works for our children, young people and families, as follows:

Integrity

Transparency

Honesty

Trust

Inclusivity

Curiosity

Courage

Aspiration

Prevention

Scope of the strategy: Strategic Objectives

- In the context of our vision **‘Our Children Our Future’**, there is a plethora of key partnerships and boards across the system, with associated strategies and plans, who work collaboratively to deliver against key priorities to contribute to more positive lived experiences for **all** our children, young people and families, including the most vulnerable, so they can achieve more positive outcomes.
- Across the Borough, there is a commitment to ensuring that we have a coherent understanding of our collective strategic objectives across the scope of our offer for children, young people and families, which will provide opportunities for oversight, challenge, support and innovation as a means to create change.
- From an ‘umbrella’ perspective, the overarching strategic objectives across the scope of the system for our children, young people and families are:



Outcomes (what do we want to achieve, what will we do and how will we know)

To support the delivery of our strategic objectives, across the scope of our system for children, young people and families, we have articulated the outcomes that we want to achieve, as well as what we will do to achieve them and how we will know:

Strategic Objective

- **HELP, SUPPORT AND PROTECT** to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people

Outcomes

- Children are more resilient and are empowered to help themselves
- Children, young people and families are helped, supported and protected at the earliest point
- Children and young people are not at risk of or experiencing significant harm or abuse, and where required, they receive timely support to enable them to have positive lived experiences and outcomes

What will we do

- Ensure our Local Arrangements create the conditions to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people
- Deliver a robust early help and targeted support offer across the partnership
- Take partnership action to prevent and respond to all forms of abuse and harm including but not exhaustive neglect, child exploitation, child sexual abuse and the impact of domestic abuse
- Ensure the learning from case and from quality assurance systems and processes informs practice

How will we know

- Assurance mechanisms, performance data and analysis linked to associated strategies and plans (Early Help Strategy, Neglect Strategy, Child Sexual Abuse Strategy, Child Exploitation Strategy, Domestic Abuse Strategy)
- Lived experiences of and outcomes for children, young people and families

Outcomes (what do we want to achieve, what will we do and how will we know)

To support the delivery of our strategic objectives, across the scope of our system for children, young people and families, we have articulated the outcomes that we want to achieve, as well as what we will do to achieve them and how we will know:

Strategic Objective

- **CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY PARENTING** to love, care and support children in our care and care leavers to equip and empower them to succeed and thrive

Outcomes

- Children in our care and care leavers:
 - have places to live and call home across the Borough
 - have positive experiences of education, employment and training and achieve their potential
 - have improved health, wellbeing and resilience
 - are and feel prepared for becoming an independent adult
 - have trusted relationships and a sense of belonging
 - can have their say and engage in activities in the community

What will we do

- Strengthen the partnership and community approach to corporate parenting
- Further develop the sufficiency landscape across the Borough
- Work collaboratively to identify and address barriers to learning and attendance, and ensure a robust employability offer
- Further develop the health and wellbeing offer to reflect need
- Further develop the care leaver offer
- Further develop the corporate parenting and independent advocacy arrangements
- Further develop the opportunities for voice, engagement and co-production at all levels

How will we know

- Assurance mechanisms, performance data and analysis linked to associated strategies and plans (Corporate and Community Parenting Strategic Plan and Sufficiency Strategy)
- Lived experiences of and outcomes for children in our care, care leavers, and the people that care for them

Outcomes (what do we want to achieve, what will we do and how will we know)

To support the delivery of our strategic objectives, across the scope of our system for children, young people and families, we have articulated the outcomes that we want to achieve, as well as what we will do to achieve them and how we will know:

Strategic Objective

- **STRONG SEND SYSTEM** to enable children with SEND and their families to have access to a strong local offer to meet need

Outcomes

- Children and young people with SEND and their families feel confident about the support they receive and have positive experiences of the offer
- Children and young people with SEND achieve their potential and thrive

What will we do

- Implement a graduated response to additional needs through partnership working and workforce development
- Increase the range and number of high needs school places for children with EHCP's across the North East Lincolnshire education landscape
- Improve joint commissioning of pathways and awareness of services
- Further improve the links and pathways between teams to ensure a smoother transition to services and provision
- Develop the short breaks and respite offer
- Hear the voice and experience of children and young people with SEND and their families and ensure this informs practice

How will we know

- Assurance mechanisms, performance data and analysis linked to associated strategies and plans (SENDAP, SENDAP Joint Commissioning, SENDAP Sufficiency Strategy)
- Lived experiences of and outcomes for children and young people with SEND and their families

Outcomes (what do we want to achieve, what will we do and how will we know)

To support the delivery of our strategic objectives, across the scope of our system for children, young people and families, we have articulated the outcomes that we want to achieve, as well as what we will do to achieve them and how we will know:

Strategic Objective

- **HEALTH AND WELLBEING** improve all children and young people's health and wellbeing, build resilience and enable timely access to support

Outcomes

- Children and young people grow up well in North East Lincolnshire
- Children and young people have the best start in life and are enabled to be healthy, happy and thrive
- Children and young have timely access to health and care services that support them to develop and thrive
- Improved health outcomes and reduced incidence of preventable diseases among all children, young people and families
- Increased community resilience and capacity to address health challenges

What will we do

- Develop a Health and Wellbeing Charter to articulate our commitment across the partnership to 'growing up well in North East Lincolnshire'
- Ensure children, young people and families are at the heart of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy
- Implement the Starting Well, Developing and Living Well and Staying Well delivery plans
- Develop a trauma informed approach to enhancing the emotional health and wellbeing for children and young people at risk of or experiencing trauma as a result of their lived experiences
- Support families to be birth ready, and give children the best start in life 'through the first 1000 days programme'
- Ensure delivery of the Young People's Resilience and Support into Adulthood programme
- Support children with complex and physical needs to live healthy and happy lives
- Improve social, emotional mental health and wellbeing for children and young people
- Promote and implement trauma-informed systems change

How will we know

- Assurance mechanisms, performance data and analysis linked to associated strategies and plans (Health and Care Partnership Children Young People and Families Strategy HNY ICB 'Golden Ambition' and Health and Wellbeing Strategy)
- Lived experiences of and outcomes for children, young people and families

Outcomes (what do we want to achieve, what will we do and how will we know)

To support the delivery of our strategic objectives, across the scope of our system for children, young people and families, we have articulated the outcomes that we want to achieve, as well as what we will do to achieve them and how we will know:

Strategic Objective

- **LEARNING AND ASPIRATIONS** to support and enable access to and engagement in positive experiences of high quality education, employment and training

Outcomes

- All children and young people have aspirations, achieve their potential and have improved life chances
- The education landscape is inclusive for all children and young people, including those with additional needs and vulnerabilities

What will we do

- Support children with additional needs and vulnerabilities
- Focus on children's growth and development in their early years and support them to be ready for school
- Ensure sufficient supply of school places
- Work on underperformance in schools and settings and ensure high standards
- Amplified action on our priority areas of focus i.e. in relation to attainment and progress, capacity development, inclusion and SEND, employability and skills, wellbeing safety and pupil support, and rigour and partnership

How will we know

- Assurance mechanisms, performance data and analysis linked to associated strategies and plans (Education and Inclusion Strategy)
- Lived experiences of and outcomes for children, young people and families

Outcomes (what do we want to achieve, what will we do and how will we know)

To support the delivery of our strategic objectives, across the scope of our system for children, young people and families, we have articulated the outcomes that we want to achieve, as well as what we will do to achieve them and how we will know:

Strategic Objective

- **STRONG COMMUNITIES** to create opportunities for children and young people to engage in positive, diversionary activities

Outcomes

- Children, young people and families feel more confident about their future prospects
- Children and young people engage positively in their local community
- Victims of offending behaviours are supported and feel reassured that the likelihood of future harm is reduced

What will we do

- Continue to ensure connectivity between relevant services to ensure an integrated approach to preventing and reducing offending behaviour, serious violence and harm outside the home
- Work collaboratively to ensure a successful transition from services for children to services for adults, in the context of 'child first'
- Taking a preventative approach, further develop the local youth, diversion and out of court offer, which is inclusive and empowering for all children and young people
- Work collaboratively to strengthen local communities from grass roots i.e. via the East Marsh Community Programme
- Implement projects to develop our youth offer i.e. Horizon Youth Zone

How will we know

- Assurance mechanisms, performance data and analysis linked to associated strategies and plans (Youth Justice Plan and the youth offer)
- Lived experiences of and outcomes for children, young people, families and communities

Outcomes (what do we want to achieve, what will we do and how will we know)

To support the delivery of our strategic objectives, across the scope of our system for children, young people and families, we have articulated the outcomes that we want to achieve, as well as what we will do to achieve them and how we will know:

Strategic Objective

- **SAFE COMMUNITIES** to enable children, young people and families in the Borough to feel safe and be safe

Outcomes

- Children, young people and families are kept safe from crime and disorder
- Children, young people and families live in safe, affordable housing
- Vulnerable communities are protected and supported

What will we do

- Increase provision and support for people who have experienced domestic abuse and their families and refocus our place based approach to domestic abuse, ensuring this make the most of our approach to being a trauma informed NEL
- Strengthen our multi agency approaches to reducing anti social behaviour, reducing serious violence, child exploitation and preventing violence against women and girls
- Strengthen our multi agency approach to neighbourhood working
- Organise events that bring together diverse community members to build relationships and mutual support
- Encourage volunteerism to support community safety initiatives and provide positive role models for young people
- Create and maintain safe recreational areas, parks, and community centres where children and young people can engage in positive activities
- Implement comprehensive anti-bullying policies and programs in schools and communities
- Educate children and young people about personal safety, online safety, and how to seek help if needed, including supporting young people susceptible to radicalisation

How will we know

- Assurance mechanisms, performance data and analysis linked to associated strategies and plans (Community Safety Partnership Plan)
- Lived experiences of and outcomes for children, young people, families and communities

Enablers: Voice and Engagement

- Children, young people and families are at the centre of all we do. In the context of our North East Lincolnshire Practice Approach, and our focus on relationships, we will listen to their views and lived experiences to build a better understanding of their strengths, interests, identity and culture, as well as their friends, peer groups and family networks to better understand their lived experiences, needs and vulnerabilities. Through working together with them as partners and experts in their own lives, we will co-produce local services and support which meet their needs, leading to better outcomes.
- Across the partnership, we are committed to enabling opportunities at all levels to listen to and take account of the views and lived experiences of our children, young people and families. From a whole partnership perspective, as a minimum, we are committed to:

At an individual level, we must

- ensure there are opportunities to gain the views and feedback of individual children, young people and families; and make every contact count
- ensure that children, young people and families are able to have a say on issues that directly impact on their lives, experiences or outcomes
- ensure that individual children, young people and families have access to self directed information and support through a trusted digital offer

At a service level, we must:

- ensure there are voice and engagement groups/partnerships/mechanisms to listen to and take account of experiences of services and provision
- ensure the collective views of children, young people and families are taken into account to shape and influence service developments
- include children, young people, parents/carers in recruitment and commissioning processes (where applicable)

At a strategic level, we must:

- ensure the views and lived experiences of children, young people and families are included in needs assessments, priority setting and strategic planning frameworks
- include children, young people, parents/carers in joint commissioning, assurance / scrutiny, partnerships and governance processes, and develop their opportunities for challenge, power and influence
- show evidence of voice and engagement, and its impact and outcomes across the system

To enable engagement, we must:

- ensure clear, open, transparent communications, representative voice and engagement opportunities and fair access
- provide feedback on the outcomes of voice and engagement activity, and share across the partnership as appropriate to ensure we make the best use of information available to us to ensure it shapes and influences service design and commissioning, and to encourage and support ongoing relationships and trust
- challenge and support each other to work within these engagement principles

Enablers: Workforce Development

- Across the partnership, the workforce is our greatest asset to support our children, young people and families, and to create change, leading to better outcomes.
- We want our children, young people, and families to be supported by a partnership workforce that is relational, passionate, compassionate, motivated, and proud of their work and who know, support, love and care for our children, young people and families. We want a partnership workforce that is supported by caring and knowledgeable system leaders, managers and colleagues and that they be supported to learn, develop, reflect on practice, and feel valued, listened to, appreciated, and respected.
- Across the partnership, we are ambitious for what we want to achieve as individuals, and by working 'stronger together', we want to be the best we can be. Building on existing workforce strategies i.e. the Health and Care Partnership, and linking to the NELC Children's Services Workforce Strategy, we are committed to exploring opportunities for integration across the partnership workforce, i.e. through shared training, joint roles or growing our own, and we want the partnership workforce to have the tools and resources that they need to make a difference with everyone taking responsibility for their own learning, development and practice.

- Ultimately....

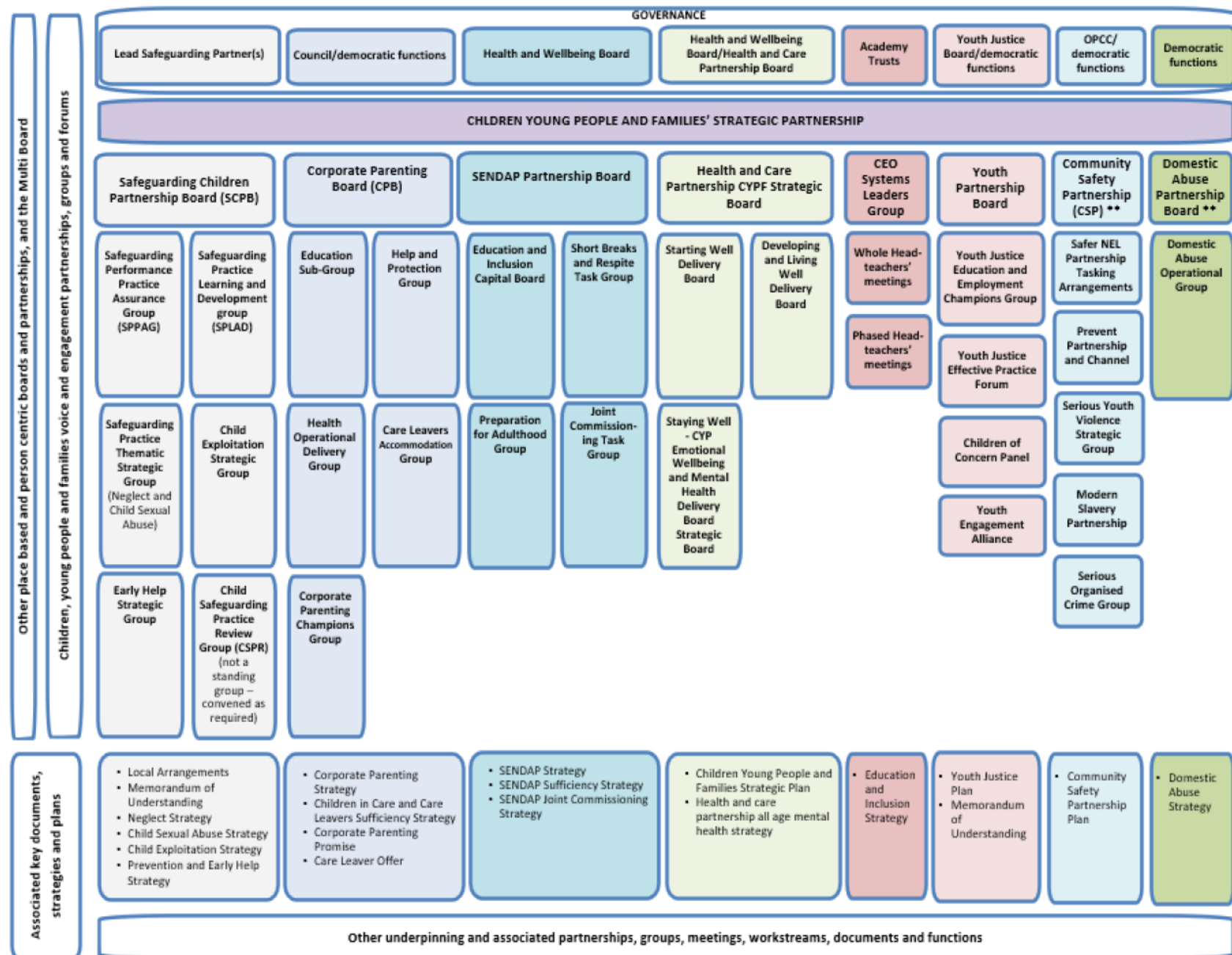
We want a partnership workforce who:

- Work within the auspices of the NEL Approach in that they are relational, strengths based and solution focussed
- Understands the needs of our children, young people and families
- Are trauma informed
- Do the right thing at the right time, based on need, rather than what is necessarily in the scope of their role
- Are motivated, skilled, competent, resilient and confident
- Champion equality and diversity, and are comfortable with high support and high challenge
- Are and feel supported to achieve their potential, and work 'stronger together' for our children, young people and families

This will be achieved by:

- Understanding the children, young people and families' system across the Borough and how we can all contribute
- Listening, learning, reviewing and adapting
- Being flexible, agile, innovative and creative
- Valuing and recognising achievement
- Sharing information and best practice
- Enabling leadership and engaging the partnership workforce at all levels

Place based children, young people and families' partnership governance and bookcase of key documents



** These boards and partnerships will interface with these partnership and governance arrangements pertaining children, young people and families' specific areas of focus, though their scope is wider

Monitoring and evaluation

- Across the partnership, there is a strong commitment to listening, learning, reviewing and adapting, and there are clear partnership governance arrangements in place across the breadth of the strategic planning frameworks to ensure oversight and assurance of progress in the delivery of our strategic priorities.
- As articulated, this strategy pulls together the overarching strategic intent across the partnership pertaining to outcomes for children, young people and families across the Borough, and as such, the partnership governance for the oversight and implementation of the strategic objectives identified in this strategy is through the Children, Young People and Families Strategic Partnership.
- The Children, Young People and Families Strategic Partnership is chaired by the Director of Children's Services, North East Lincolnshire Council, and has representation from the chairs and key officers from relevant boards and partnerships, who are responsible for the delivery of underpinning and associated strategies and plans.
- The purpose of the partnership, will not be to assume overarching responsibility for the delivery of the strategic objectives as this is the responsibility of the individual boards and partnerships (and their respective governance arrangements), but to provide a level of assurance and oversight across the system as a whole, and to provide opportunities for ongoing challenge, support, creativity and innovation, as a means of added value of an 'umbrella' gaze across the whole system for children, young people and families in the Borough.
- *The scope of the partnership is not necessarily restricted to the confines of the identified governance, and as such, the partnership can call in officers from across wider partnership governance and planning frameworks, where they may be an implication and / or opportunity for children, young people and families. Equally representatives from the CYPF partnership and governance arrangements should represent children, young people and families across the wider partnership governance and planning frameworks.*

Key references and documents

- www.nelincs.gov.uk
- www.humberandnorthyorkshire.icb.nhs.uk
- www.nhs.uk
- www.humberside.police.uk
- www.safernel.co.uk