

# Lancashire safeguarding children board annual report summary

Lancashire has a child population of almost a quarter of a million (274,733)

## **The wellbeing of children in Lancashire**

One of the main concerns of the LSCB are the hospital admissions for alcohol and substance misuse and also for mental health and self harm, although information collected shows improvement Lancashire compares badly to the national average.

## **Child protection**

The rate of child protection plans has increased significantly from 2014/2015 and is now above the national average, child protection plans that last got longer than 2 years or more has also increased from 2014/2015.

## **Children looked after**

Data collected shows there has been an 18% decrease in the number of children becoming looked after and a 33% decrease in the number ceasing to be looked after, this means although fewer children are becoming looked after even fewer are being discharged from services.

## **Children missing from home, care or education**

The data collected shows a reduction on repeat incidents in missing from home from residential care homes, this could be a reflection of the positive responses from police on building relationships with the residential homes and their residents

## **Children placed in Lancashire from other areas**

There are around 1,000 children living in Lancashire from other local authorities

## **Children whose parents are in prison**

Work will be undertaken in 2016/2017 to ensure that these children are identified and their families are supported

## **Children in custody**

Action taken by the authorities resulted in children no longer being sent to Hindley and are now mostly sent to Wetherby

## **Views of children and young people**

The LSCB has developed strong arrangements for involving children and young people in various aspects of its work

## **Troubled families**

The long term ambition of the programme is to build resilience within families and therefore reduce the dependency on services, and to ensure that families are supported to achieve the best possible outcomes