

Appendix A

**Recommendations from: Inspection of safeguarding and looked after children services  
Central Bedfordshire and improvement planning – summary of progress**

**Ofsted recommendation on Safeguarding children and their health**

<b>Immediately:</b>	<b>Current status and any issues</b>	<b>RAG</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ensure that case chronologies consistently record the key events in a child's life so that critical incidents can be fully analysed and used to inform case planning.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Actions</b> – Majority of actions completed. Mandatory training on chronology writing has been delivered and updated guidance issued. Updating chronologies on the Frameworki system is taking place.</p> <p><b>Impact</b> – Outcomes to be demonstrated. Impact evaluation of learning will be available in March 2013. Dip sample audit identified specific teams within the service areas for attention. Main audit to measure outcomes due in March 2013.</p>	<p><b>Amber, largely because impact has not been evidenced yet. Most actions are green</b></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ensure that the impact of equality and diversity factors is addressed in assessment, planning and review.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Actions</b> – Range of learning opportunities have been delivered and evaluation is good. Learning is ongoing to June 2013. Currently still checking that all open cases have correct recording of diversity issues. Compliance to be checked in future audits. Still to embed diversity issues across policies as part of the ongoing policy review.</p> <p><b>Impact</b> – Outcomes to be demonstrated through audit.</p> <p>This Ofsted recommendation requires ongoing culture change, monitoring and improvement and will be developed and monitored in improvement plans being prepared for inspection under the new and more testing inspection frameworks.</p>	<p><b>Amber, largely because impact has not been evidenced yet. Most actions are green</b></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ensure that formal supervision of social workers takes place at required intervals, is promptly recorded and is stored in a readily accessible manner.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Actions</b> – Majority of actions completed, however not all aspects are on the new Frameworki system. Existing staff are currently paid overtime to achieve this.</p> <p><b>Impact</b> - Outcomes to be demonstrated through audit in February 2013 and a short online survey using surveymonkey.</p>	<p><b>Amber</b></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>review the arrangements for return interviews for children who go missing and ensure that</li> </ul>	<p><b>Actions</b> – In house solution has been developed in the Family Intervention Support Service.</p>	<p><b>Green</b></p>

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<p>appropriately trained staff undertake these interviews.</p>	<p><b>Impact</b> – Outcome to be demonstrated.</p>	<p style="background-color: #00FF00;"></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NHS Bedfordshire and Luton should ensure that there are sufficient numbers of community practitioners, in line with national directives and local needs to provide the commissioned service, and universal health child programme.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Actions</b> – Actions completed and on trajectory for sufficient numbers of Health Visitors. However will require close monitoring.</p> <p><b>Impact</b> - Data showing national and local targets will continue to be closely monitored.</p>	<p style="background-color: #00FF00;"><b>Green</b></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NHS Bedfordshire and Luton and the Central Bedfordshire Safeguarding Children Board should ensure that the impact of training on changes to practice to protect children from harm is well embedded throughout all health providers.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Actions</b> – Actions completed. General Practitioners have attended appropriate Safeguarding Board or other training.</p> <p><b>Impact</b> - Some impact demonstrated through evaluations. Ongoing monitoring activity needed to demonstrate impact and the Central Bedfordshire Local Safeguarding Board to take a view on the success of the action.</p>	<p style="background-color: #FFD700;"><b>Amber, largely because impact has not been evidenced yet. Most actions are green</b></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NHS Bedfordshire and Luton and South Essex University Partnership Trust should ensure that transition to adult mental health and learning disability services for all young people with a mental health or learning disability and/or difficulty is well planned.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Actions</b> –Actions completed. Transition tool in use and has been evaluated.</p> <p><b>Impact</b> - Evidence submitted to the Commissioning for Quality and Innovation Panel. Impact and evidence to be supplied.</p> <p>This Ofsted recommendation requires ongoing monitoring and improvement and will be developed and monitored in improvement plans being prepared for inspection under the new and more testing inspection frameworks.</p>	<p style="background-color: #FFD700;"><b>Amber, largely because impact has not been evidenced yet. Most actions are green</b></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NHS Bedfordshire and Luton should ensure that all health providers use the experience of service users as part of the needs assessment when reviewing service design and delivery.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Actions</b> – Actions completed and included in all contractual arrangements and subject to quarterly reviews at contract monitoring meetings.</p> <p><b>Impact</b> – Case studies can be provided.</p>	<p style="background-color: #00FF00;"><b>Green</b></p>

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**Ofsted recommendation on Looked After Children and their health**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ensure that all looked after children have prompt access to appropriate health services which promote good outcomes for them.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Action</b> – Provider services measuring percentages of health assessments. Current performance information relating to Looked After Children’s health will be provided at the meeting.</p> <p><b>Impact</b> – To be demonstrated through performance information.</p>	<p><b>Amber, largely because impact has not been evidenced yet. Most actions are green</b></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ensure that all agencies provide a prompt and appropriate response where looked after children are missing from care.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Actions</b> – Actions completed. In house solution has been developed in the Family Intervention Support Service and multi agency guidance has been revised to incorporate new service provision.</p> <p><b>Impact</b> – Outcomes are starting to be demonstrated.</p>	<p><b>Green</b></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ensure that pathway plans for care leavers are of a good quality.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Action</b> – Actions completed. Training has been delivered to improve plans, feedback from young people has been incorporated into plans and the audit team has support improvement work with personal advisors.</p> <p><b>Impact</b> – Audits have been completed and findings reported. This does not yet show that all plans are of sufficient quality. There is ongoing activity to improve the quality of plans.</p>	<p><b>Amber, largely because impact has not been evidenced yet. Most actions are green</b></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ensure that case records for looked after children support good quality practice across the partnership.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Action</b> – Actions completed and ongoing. Assessments and case plans are monitored every day as part of performance management. Case records are regularly audited by the Quality Assurance Service and areas for development are acted on. Revised practice guidance has been issued.</p> <p><b>Impact</b> – To be demonstrated through audit of Looked After Children case records, including how children’s cultural needs have been addressed.</p> <p>This Ofsted recommendation requires ongoing culture change, monitoring and improvement and will be developed and monitored in improvement plans being prepared for inspection under the new and more testing inspection frameworks.</p>	<p><b>Amber, largely because impact has not been evidenced yet. Most actions are green</b></p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ensure that assessments and case planning are of a consistently high quality.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Action</b> – Actions completed. Assessments and case plans are regularly audited by the Quality Assurance Service. The Children in Care Council and Looked after children have been consulted on their perceptions of care plans.</p> <p><b>Impact</b> – Case audit completed and areas for improvement being addressed. Further audits to be undertaken to ensure embedded. Survey of young people completed. Evidence visible in January but care needs to be taken to ensure quality stays high.</p>	<p><b>Green</b></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ensure that analysis is routinely undertaken on how well looked after children who are placed outside Central Bedfordshire achieve educationally, compared to those educated locally.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Action</b> –Data is analysed and in October 2012 was presented and discussed at the Autumn Head teacher briefing.</p> <p><b>Impact</b> – Evidence of data shared with Head Teachers. Consideration was given to this being amber as outcomes for children were not good last year but as we do not know the results it is coded green.</p>	<p><b>Green</b></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ensure that effective support is provided to enable looked after young people to attend school regularly.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Action</b> – Actions completed. The Welfare Call system has been procured and this provides daily attendance data for all pupils who are looked after children. Carers and social workers are alerted if a looked after child is absent without authorisation.</p> <p><b>Impact</b> – Carers and social workers are being alerted if a LAC is absent without authorisation. Attendance to be monitored.</p>	<p><b>Green</b></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NHS Bedfordshire and Luton should ensure that all care leavers are enabled to access health services and receive a copy of their health histories to ensure that they are able to make future life choices.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Action</b> - Actions completed. Pathway developed in draft and health passports (health histories) piloted.</p> <p><b>Impact</b> – Evidence to be provided that pathway and information provided has enabled access to services and that care leavers have received copies of health histories.</p> <p>This Ofsted recommendation requires ongoing monitoring and improvement and will be developed and monitored in improvement plans being prepared for inspection under the new and more testing inspection frameworks.</p>	<p><b>Amber , largely because impact has not been evidenced yet. Most actions are green</b></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NHS Bedfordshire and Luton should ensure that all looked after children and</li> </ul>	<p><b>Action</b> – Actions completed. Age appropriate packs competed and delivered. Foster Carer training taking place.</p>	<p><b>Amber, largely because</b></p>

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<p>young people have access to age appropriate health education and promotion information.</p>	<p><b>Impact</b> - Need to demonstrate that packs have been received by young people and that they found them useful.</p>	<p><b>impact has not been evidenced yet. Most actions are green</b></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NHS Bedfordshire and Luton and CB Council should ensure that the strength and difficulties questionnaire outcomes are reviewed as part of the emotional health and well-being assessment during review health assessments.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Action</b> – Actions completed. Assessments reviewed, pathway for use of Strength and Difficulties Questionnaires agreed, process of distribution piloted and rolled out and training in place.</p> <p><b>Impact</b> – Evidence that Strength and Difficulties Questionnaire outcomes for children are reviewed alongside health assessment reviews.</p>	<p><b>Amber largely because impact has not been evidenced yet. Most actions are green</b></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NHS Bedfordshire and Luton must ensure that all general practitioners and independent health contractors are aware of their statutory responsibility to looked after children.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Action</b> – Actions completed. Training strategies are being reviewed and in draft. The Bedfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group Board is aware of statutory functions and Designated Doctor and Nurse appointed. Additional work with dentists, opticians and pharmacists to be completed.</p> <p><b>Impact</b> – Ongoing evidence of awareness to be monitored.</p>	<p><b>Green</b></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ensure that actions and services targeted at enabling looked after children to achieve educationally are effective in improving their attainment.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Action</b> –Actions completed.</p> <p><b>Impact</b> – Evidence of challenge and interventions in short term and impact longer term will be demonstrated in next year’s school results.</p>	<p><b>Amber, largely because impact has not been evidenced yet. Most actions are green</b></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ensure that care leavers live in suitable accommodation and increase the range of suitable accommodation available to them.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Action</b> - Actions completed and the Placement Strategy has been revised. Joint work with housing ongoing and use of supported lodgings. Some young people remain in foster care. The Placement Strategy, which is an operational document, will be presented to the Corporate Parenting Panel.</p> <p><b>Impact</b> – Ongoing monitoring of placements.</p>	<p><b>Amber largely because impact has not been evidenced yet. Most actions are green</b></p>