






Risk Register - Norfolk County Council																			
	Risk Register Name		Children's Service Risk Register													Red			
	Prepared by		Don Evans												High				
	Date updated		February 2017												Med				
	Next update due		February 2017												Low				
CDGSTP	Area	Risk Number	Risk Name	Risk Description	Date entered on risk register	Current Likelihood	Current Impact	Current Risk Score	Tasks to mitigate the risk	Progress update	Target Likelihood	Target Impact	Target Risk Score	Target Date	Current Direction of Travel of Risk	Prospects of meeting Target Risk Score by Target Date	Risk Owner	Reviewed and/or updated by	Date of review and/or update
C	Children's Services	RM14284	The amount spent on home to school transport at significant variance to predicted best estimates	Rising transport costs, the nature of the demand-led service (particularly for students with special needs) and the inability to reduce the need for transport or the distance travelled will result in a continued overspend on the home to school transport budgets and an inability to reduce costs.	04/11/2015	4	3	12	Continue to enforce education transport policy, and work with commissioners re school placements. Continually review the transport networks, to look for integration and efficiency opportunities. Work with Norse to reduce transport costs and ensure the fleet is used efficiently and effectively. Look for further, more innovative, ways to plan, procure and integrate transport.  Overall risk treatment: reduce.	Norfolk County Council have now progressed to the contract 'sign-up' stage with Hackney Community Transport to formally start the 'payment by results' initiative. The plan over the next 5 years, is for a cohort of 100 pupils per year to be targeted for this intensive work via Hackney Community Transport (HCT). There was a 'start up' meeting on 2 March between the Passenger Transport Unit, Education Inclusion Service, Special School Headteachers and HCT. First cohorts have been identified by special schools and HCT have been advised. Contract sign-off is imminent and implementation via HCT will progress through the current summer term. Impact and implementation will be from September 2017. The recent budget setting process for FY2017/18 has confirmed that the budget will be increased and, therefore, the risk to achieving a balanced budget has reduced for this reason also. We are, therefore, now forecasting to achieve a balanced budget within FY17/18 and recommend that the risk target score is reduced accordingly from 6 to 4.	2	2	4	31/03/2018		Amber	Chris Snudden	Richard Snowden and Michael Bateman	30/09/2017
C	Children's Services	RM14147	Potential failure to move out of intervention		01/12/2013	2	5	10	Quarterly stocktake meetings are undertaken by Essex, commissioned by the Department for Education. Responsive action plans are designed and delivered following each Ofsted monitoring visit/Essex stocktake. Our Improvement Plan is in place. An Improvement Board has been established to drive and monitor improvement activity. This Board is Chaired by the Managing Director and has a senior level multi-agency	Feedback from the June 2017 monitoring visit was positive with Ofsted identifying progress and expressing greater levels of confidence in key areas of previous concern. As a result of our improvement, Ofsted have assessed that we do not require further monitoring visits and as a result, we will be subject to reinspection in the next 6 months. Feedback from Essex stocktake meetings consistently evidence improvement. The Improvement Board is well established and is ensuring the requisite pace and focus is maintained.	1	5	5	31/03/2018		Green	Matt Dunkley	Don Evans	30/09/2017
D	Children's Services	RM14157	Lack of Corporate capacity and capability reduces the ability of Children's Services to improve.	Lack of NCC capacity and infrastructure to support the back-office functions that Children's Services needs in particular ICT and BIPS capacity limitations	13/03/2014	3	4	12	Corporate sign-up to 'Children First' with all support Departments prioritising Children's Services Replacement Social Care Recording System (Liquidlogic) has been procured.	ICT prioritising Children's Services requests/repairs. Recruitment processess for social workers have been streamlined and are being overseen by an experienced social work manager. A 'virtual team' for Chidlren's Services has been created within BIPS with additional resource added. Liquidlogic project is on and time and on budget	1	3	3	31/03/2018		Green	Matt Dunkley	Don Evans	30/09/2017
D	Children's Services	RM14148	Overreliance on interim capacity	Overreliance on interim capacity in social worker teams leads to unsustainable performance improvement.	01/12/2013	2	4	8	Greater understanding of workforce data as it relates to geographical variation and the County as a whole. Review and update of our 'offer to social workers, to include the new social care academy. Where agency staff are working in opeartional teams, we will seek to retain the same worker in each role until a substantive replacement is secured.	HR Business partner is working with corporate colleagues on a suite of key workforce data. The NIPE programme is being evaluated to understand its impact. Greater flexibility is being used around the deployment of NIPE workers. The social care academy has been launched. Agency retention is generally good in realtion to achieving sustainable performance but clearly this implications in relation to costs. IR35 implications are understood and have been widely communicated.	1	3	3	31/03/2018		Green	Matt Dunkley	Don Evans	30/09/2017

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D	Children's Services	RM13906	Looked After Children overspends	That the Looked After Children's budget could result in significant overspends that will need to be funded from elsewhere within Children's Services or other parts of Norfolk County Council	18/05/2011	3	3	9	The permanence panel and monitoring group are in place and are ensuring the right children are in the right placements. A residential placement panel has been established to ensure specific scrutiny is given to the appropriateness/efectiveness and costs of residential placements. A review of the indiviual and collective effectiveness of LAC-related panels is being undertaken. All CS costs are rigorously and routinely scrutinised. A centralised, coordinated approach to commissioning is being established.	New Directions edge of care service is now operational. The Head of Service for commissioning is now in post. The numbers of children in residential care are reducing	2	3	6	31/03/2018		Amber	Matt Dunkley	Don Evans	30/09/2017