**Lincolnshire Ebrief**

**November 2020**

**Exciting New Contract in Lincolnshire!**

In March, Lincolnshire County Council announced that Nacro had been successful in securing the new Youth Housing contract. Since then, we have been working hard to put everything in place, ready to start on 1st January 2021. This included a consultation with staff and service users across the county, as well as staff at Lincolnshire County Council, Barnardo’s and Future 4 Me, regarding our new name. After counting up the votes, we can now announce that our new service is called……

This is a meaningful and fitting name for our service and something that our Young People can be proud to be a part of too.

From 1st January 2021, we will have 72 units of accommodation across Lincoln, Boston and Grantham for young people aged 16 – 18 and Care Leavers up to 21 years old. Young People will be referred into Lincolnshire NEST as Intensive Needs, Complex Needs, Medium Needs or Low Needs. We will use a step-down strategy to minimise a young person’s stay in higher needs accommodation.

Each young person coming into Lincolnshire NEST will have a 2-week Initial Assessment period, where they will be placed into one of our 24-hour hubs so their self-sufficiency can be assessed. They will be allocated a Support Worker, who will work with the young person to develop of personalised Safety Plan, within the first 48 hours.

During the first 6 weeks of their stay, Support Workers will work with the young person to build their confidence and independence. After this, each young person will have a 3-month formal review, which will be focussed on their progression towards independence/returning home.

Lincolnshire NEST will have a dedicated Transition Worker who will support each young person to develop an Exit/Transition Plan, starting 12 weeks prior to their end date.

Alongside Lincolnshire NEST, Nacro have 63 units of Step Forward accommodation in Lincoln, Boston, Sleaford, and Grantham. Priority to these units will be given to young people leaving the contract.