

## **Isabel's Voice- Responses to the case for change**

**What is your idea?** That Government ring fence mental health funding for children in care, to ensure they are supported to overcome the abuse or neglect they may have experienced.

**What impact do you hope this will achieve?** The mental health of children in care is improved

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**What is your idea?** That SSDA903 is amended to align with section 7 of the Care Planning, Placement and Case Review 2010 Regulations, to include the number and percentage of children who have had their emotional and mental health assessed by a registered medical practitioner (a person trained to assess emotional and mental health) as they entered the care of the local authority.

**What impact do you hope this will achieve?** That children in care will have a detailed assessment of their emotional and mental health, and that better support can be targeted on the basis of that assessment. Better national data around the emotional and mental health of children in care.

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**What is your idea?** That Ofsted add a list to their ILACS inspection framework: All those who have entered the local authority in a specific year and had their emotional and mental health assessed by a registered medical practitioner (a person qualified to assess mental health).

**What impact do you hope this will achieve?** That Ofsted and the general public gain a better understanding of the mental health challenges within the children in care population, and what the local authority do about those challenges.

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**What is your idea?** That Government regulate services for children in care and audit local authorities to ensure that mental health legislation for this group is correctly delivered by them.

**What impact do you hope this will achieve?** Children in care are better supported to overcome the trauma they may be experiencing due to abuse or neglect.

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