



Putting children at the heart of all we do.

Reflections - Beate Wagner



Beate's Warwickshire Journey - not an exclusive list!!!

5th October 2015 – First Day as Head of Children's Social Care and Safeguarding

April 2016 – Children and Families Business Unit

May 2016 – MASH goes live

June 2016 – Invest to Save Strategy agreed

March 2017 – Peer Review

May 2017 – Ofsted inspection

November 2017 – Children's Centre Strategy agreed

February 2018 – ACE goes live

23rd February 2018 – My last day!!!

1st April – One Team implemented



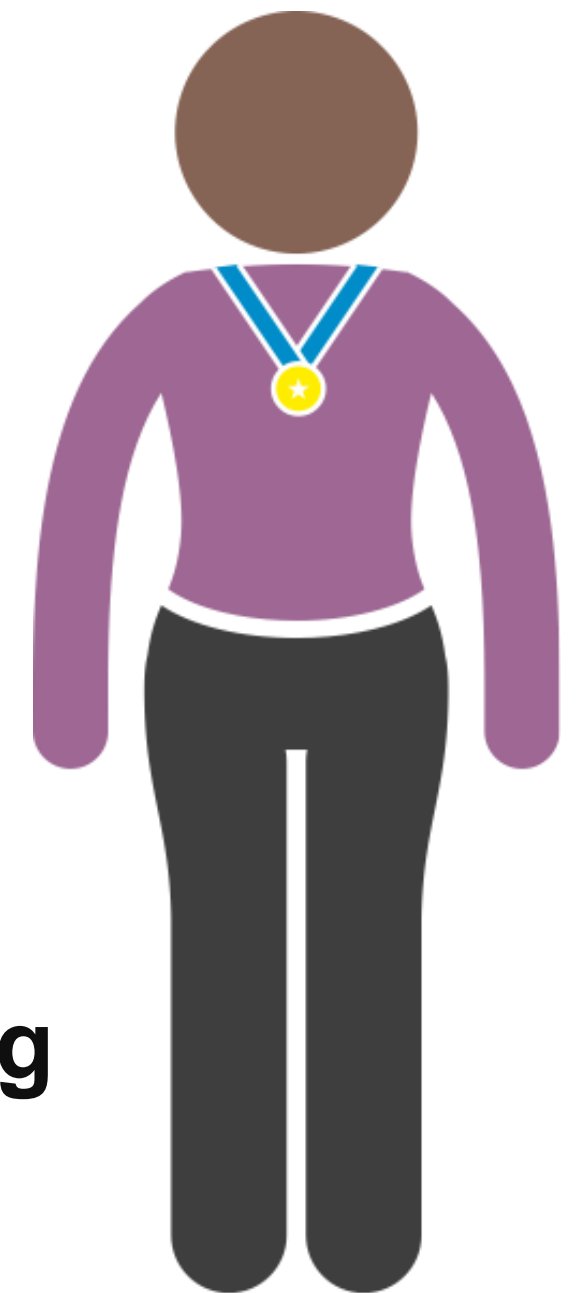
The Savings Challenge:

- **Reducing Children & Families Service Budget by just over £9 Million by 2020**
- **Invest to Save as an alternative to cuts**
- **Nearly £1million spent less on placements last year**
- **Nearly £2million additional money allocated to Children's Services next year**
- **Budget pressures largely agreed – including FGC, LADO and Missing Children's Practitioners**
- **DSG replaced with core funding for Parenting and Family Support**



The Transformation Challenge –

- Numbers of CLA going up again, but: nearly 100 fewer coming into care than previous 3 years – we are still the best performers in the region
- Children's Centres agreed as part of our One Team strategy
- Partnership Board set up
- One Team will bring together all of our services
- Straight forward local conversations will provide an opportunity to smooth pathways for children and families
- Co-location will encourage multi-disciplinary working
- Caseloads reduced from 29 average to 19 average



Inspection and Peer Review

March 2017 – Peer Review CLA raises the profile of Children's Services and helps the corporate centre get “inspection ready”

May 2017 – Ofsted!!!

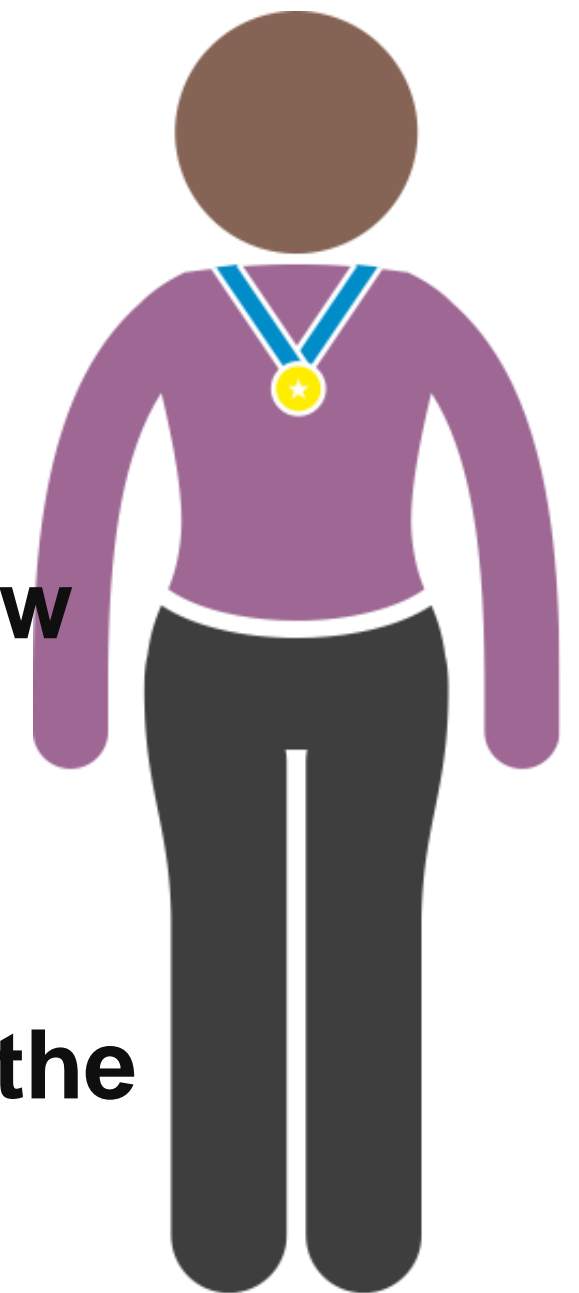
November 2017 – Peer Review of Early Help

Key messages:

We get a lot of things right, we have good staff, we know our children and families but

Systems could be better – the way we use Mosaic, Performance information, Consistency and

We make life very complicated and we need to pick up the pace!



Being ahead of the game!

- **We are the only the 7th Regional Adoption Agency in the Country and have made a great start**
- **Delivering the House Project will give us a great new way of empowering care leavers to take charge of their lives and help others to do the same**
- **Taking the Mocking Bird model forward will greatly improve the support for our in-house carers**
- **Frontline and Social Care apprentices as part of the Career Pathway in Social Care and Family Support will address remaining staff shortages and retention issues**



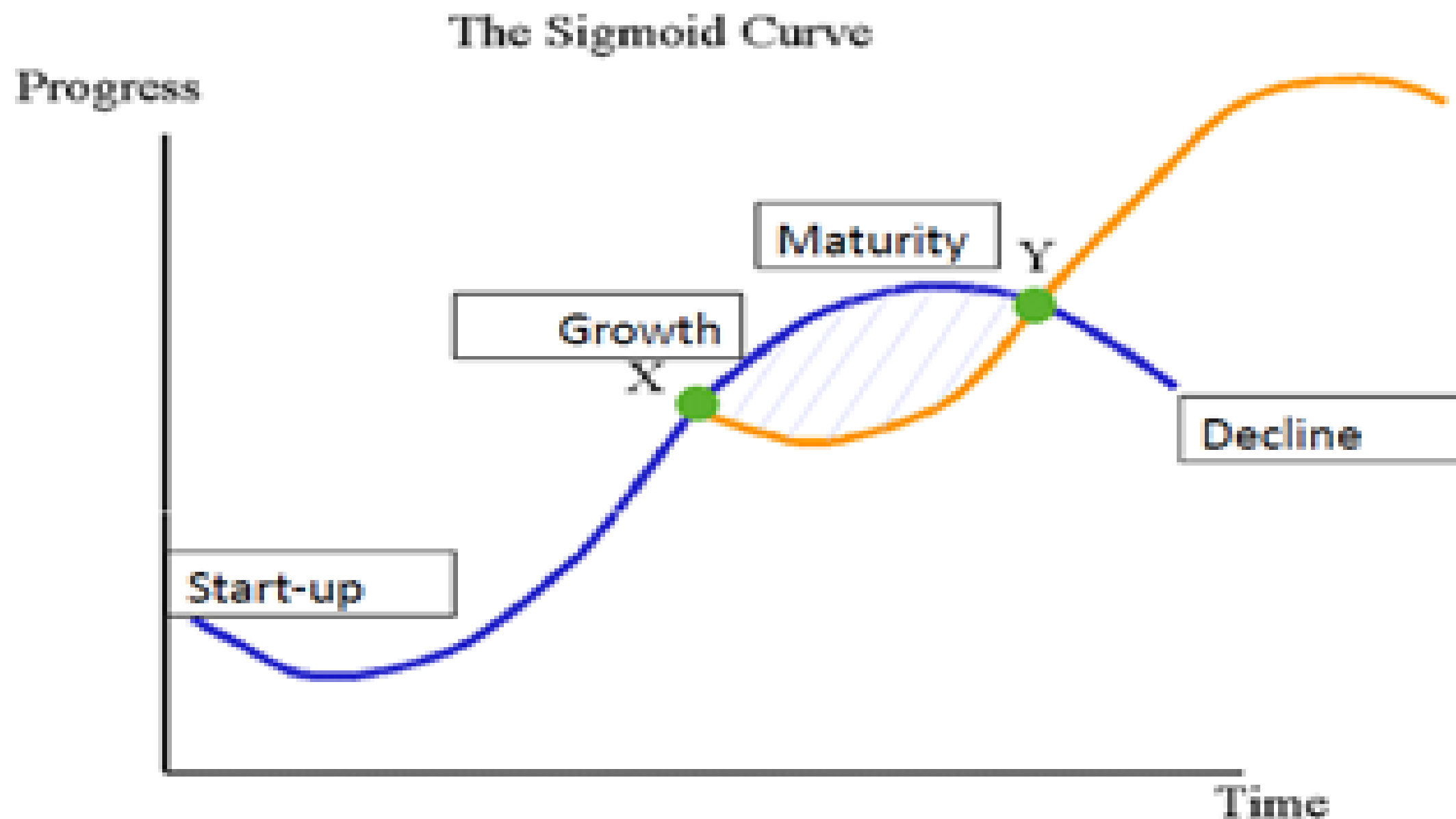
But....

Some unfinished business too

- Delivering the Ofsted action plan to be “good” by the summer of 2018
- Responding to increases in demand:
 - Significant rises in CP plans
 - Maintaining a declining CLA trend despite regional increases
 - Rising referrals and open cases
- Securing placements in the context of declining residential and external placement offers and a competitive fostering recruitment market
- Responding to new legislation and guidance, including a new offer to care leavers and strengthened corporate parenting requirements



So...
... onto the new curve



Thank you for being a brilliant team and for coming with me!!!