

YOUNG PEOPLE'S PARTICIPATION

To: **Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee**

Meeting Date: **13th December 2017**

From: **Jacqui Barry
Service Development and Commissioning Manager**

Electoral division(s): **All**

Purpose: **To provide proposals on how the Sub-Committee can ensure that looked after children and young people and care leavers' voice informs all areas of it's business**

Recommendation: **Members are asked to:**

- a) consider the various ways suggested to engage with looked after children;**
- b) decide which methods are to be implemented.**

<i>Officer contact:</i>		<i>Member contacts:</i>	
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1. BACKGROUND

Historically, Looked After Children always had a presence at the Corporate Parenting Board. This was generally through the Children in Care Council 'Voice's Matter', sharing their experiences of activities from the previous reporting quarter. As a newly established Committee, there is now an opportunity to strengthen the involvement of looked after children and care leaver's, including giving their views on performance from their unique position. Members can also demonstrate their commitment to looked after children and care leavers by being involved with and having a presence at organised events and other activities.

2. MAIN ISSUES

There are a number of ways the Corporate Parenting Committee can involve and be involved with looked after children and young people

- 1) Invite two looked after children aged 13 and over to be members of the Corporate Parenting Committee (to be identified and supported by the Children's Participation Service)
- 2) For Members to be involved with the Awards Ceremony in February 2018 and Fun Day July 2018
- 3) Attend Voices Matter and the Care Leaver's Forum meetings when invited
- 4) Attend outings or residential trips where agreed
- 5) Keep young people informed of decisions being made as a result of their requests
- 6) Arrange for young people from Voices Matter and the Care Leaver's Forum to deliver some tips or training to the Corporate Parenting Committee on how to relate to young people
- 7) Plan, review and monitor the Pledge to looked after children routinely, and ensure Members are standing by the promises made. A copy is attached at Appendix 1.
- 8) For Members to ask 'Would this be good enough for my child?', when making decisions

3. SIGNIFICANT IMPLICATIONS

3.1 Resource Implications

There is a risk that not involving looked after children in this way will weaken the robustness of the Committee and the commitment to listen to children.

3.2 Procurement/Contractual/Council Contract Procedure Rules Implications

N/A

3.3 Statutory, Legal and Risk Implications

N/A

3.4 Equality and Diversity Implications

N/A

3.5 Engagement and Communications Implications

N/A

3.6 Localism and Local Member Involvement

N/A

3.7 Public Health Implications

N/A

None

SOURCE DOCUMENTS

Source Documents	Location
Pledge to Looked After Children and Care Leavers	Michelle Dean Children's Participation Manager Michelle.Dean@cambridgeshire.gov.uk