

CORPORATE PARENTING SUB-COMMITTEE



Date: Wednesday, 30 January 2019

Democratic and Members' Services

Fiona McMillan
Monitoring Officer

16:00hr

Shire Hall
Castle Hill
Cambridge
CB3 0AP

Committee Room 2, The Grange, Ely CB7 4EE
[Venue Address]

AGENDA

Open to Public and Press

- | | | |
|-----------|---|----------------|
| 1. | Apologies for absence and declarations of interest | |
| | <i>Guidance on declaring interests is available at</i> | |
| | http://tinyurl.com/ccc-conduct-code | |
| 2. | Minutes of the meeting on 21 November 2018 | 5 - 14 |
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The Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee comprises the following members:

Councillor Lis Every (Chairman) Councillor Anne Hay (Vice-Chairman)

Councillor Anna Bradnam Councillor Adela Costello and Councillor Claire Richards

For more information about this meeting, including access arrangements and facilities for people with disabilities, please contact

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CORPORATE PARENTING SUB-COMMITTEE: MINUTES

Date: Wednesday 21 November 2018

Time: 4.15-6.25pm

Venue: Meeting Room 2, Huntingdon Library, Princes Street, Huntingdon PE29 3PA

Present: Councillors L Every (Chairman), A Hay (Vice Chairman), A Bradnam and A Costello (to 6.20pm)

Co-opted Member: S Day

Apologies: Councillor C Richards

Co-opted Member: P Asker

61. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman stated that she had been privileged to attend the Foster Carers' Long Service Awards the previous week. It had been a tremendous event and she offered her warmest thanks to all concerned.

There were two items on the agenda for the meeting which were specifically requesting councillors' help (Item 5: Virtual School and Item 9: Local Offer for Care Leavers). The Chairman welcomed this as being indicative of the Sub-Committee's evolving role and stated that councillors welcomed this guidance on how they could enhance the Council's work in support of its Looked After Children and their carers.

62. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Apologies for absence were reported as recorded above.

63. MINUTES OF THE MEETING ON 19 SEPTEMBER 2018

The minutes of the meeting on 19 September 2018 were approved as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

64. ACTION LOG

The action log was reviewed and the following updates noted:

- i. Minute 53: A Task and Finish Group had been established which included the Assistant Director for Children's Services, the Clinical Lead on Psychology, the Sub-Committee's two co-opted members and representatives from the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Clinical Commissioning Group and the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Foundation NHS Foundation Trust.
- ii. Minute 57: An update report on service re-structure would be brought to a future meeting.

65. PARTICIPATION REPORT

The Service Development Manager reported that three events were planned for children and young people of varying ages in the run up to Christmas. An information pack had been produced for children and young people entering care alongside a set of 'Promises' setting out what the Council was committed to doing for its Looked After Children. Both Participation Workers had moved to new posts and one post was currently being advertised.

In discussion:

- The Chairman stated that she would be running a stall at the Christmas event on 21 November 2018 and encouraged other members of the Sub-Committee to attend if they were able;
- The Chairman stated that the Sub-Committee was concerned about the provision for those children and young people accommodated outside of the county. They would like to see details of the programme of participation events and outreach support which was being offered;
(**Action:** Service Development Managers)
- The Co-opted member commented that it was good that options were offered to those children and young people accommodated out of county and that transport to these was provided;
- The Vice Chairman commented that, whilst valuable, the report did not meet its stated purpose of providing an update on the participation of young people with the Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee. Members would like this to be the focus of the next report, including the views of the two co-opted members if they were comfortable providing these;
- It was noted that holding meetings in Ely would make it easier for co-opted members to attend. This should be pursued where possible:
(**Action:** Democratic Services Officer)

It was resolved to:

- a) note and comment on the report.

66. VIRTUAL SCHOOL

The Head of the Virtual School stated that this was the fourth year that the Virtual School had been involved in supporting Early Years children. There were currently 65 Early Years children on roll and the majority were accommodated in county, but there was a high level of churn within this cohort. A simplified Personal Education Plan (PEP) had been designed for his group. Pupil Premium payment was made at the lower rate of £300 per year for Early Years children.

Arising from the report:

- The Chairman asked what proportion of these Early Years children were likely to be adopted. Officers stated that around 70% of adoptees were aged between 1-4 years. From September, statistics would be produced for previously Looked After children;
- A Member welcomed the networking sessions being offered and asked about uptake. Officers stated that these were mainly being offered in the evening as many Early Years settings did not have the capacity to accommodate staff training during the day;
- Paragraph 2.2.4: The Chairman asked that the joint improvement strategies drawn up at the meeting for Eastern Region Early Years specialist staff should be shared with the Sub-Committee;
(**Action:** Head of the Virtual School)
- A Co-opted member asked whether the Pupil Premium payment of £2.3k ended at the age of 16. Officers confirmed that this was the case. A bursary was payable for young people aged over 16 who remained in education and settings applied direct to Government for this;
- The Chairman commented that a recent report on admissions to the Children and Young People Committee had highlighted the robust challenge being made by officers to those schools who appeared reluctant to admit Looked After Children or those with Education, Health and Care Plans. The Head of the Virtual School confirmed that she worked closely with the School Admissions Team on this. There had been six or seven cases of this type in the last six months and in one case where the school had made representations the Secretary of State for Education had found in favour of the Council and the child was now on roll at that school.

The Chairman stated that the Service Director for Education was now meeting regularly with academy chief executives and suggested that he might discuss with the Chairman of the Children and Young People Committee whether this issue might usefully be raised in that forum;

(**Action:** Service Director for Education)

- The Chairman stated that a young person at the Voices Matter Panel had commented that a request to fund a school trip from their Pupil Premium payment had been rejected. She asked who made these decisions and how they were reached. The Head of the Virtual School stated that this decision would rest with her and she would consider the educational value of the trip proposed. The Assistant Director for Children's Services acknowledged that educational value was an important consideration, but judged that as corporate parents the Council would also want to look more broadly at the social value which such trips might offer. The Chairman stated that it was important that dialogue on this should take place between the Virtual School and Children's Services;
(**Action:** Head of the Virtual School)
- Officers stated that the largest number of Looked After Children currently on roll at a single school was 20 which represented around 1% of the schools' total pupil population. Of those 20 children some were in the care of Authorities other than Cambridgeshire and so were supported by their home Authority's Virtual School;

- The Chairman stated that elected members of the Sub-Committee needed to get to know the schools in their areas to see how arrangements for Looked After Children were working in practice;
- Paragraph 4.2: It was noted that following a review of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Virtual Schools the Service Director for Education had taken the view that unification of the two Schools was not the correct route at the current time, although they would work collaboratively where possible. The Vice Chairman asked for a note on this;
(**Action:** Service Director for Education)

The Chairman noted that this would be Jo Pallett's final meeting as Head of the Virtual School before she retired. She offered her thanks on behalf of the Sub-Committee for her work and wished her well for her retirement.

It was resolved to:

- a) support the work of the Virtual School by taking issues discussed and areas for further development to Senior Local Authority Colleagues, Head Teachers and Councillors.

67. PERFORMANCE REPORT

The Head of Corporate Parenting stated that as of 31 August 2018 there were 737 Looked After Children supported by the Council. Of these 58% were male and 42% were female. At that time 364 Looked After Children were accommodated within the county with 307 living out of county, excluding unaccompanied asylum seeking children (UASC). The number of social worker visits within timescale according to care plan had improved to 92.7%. There had also been a marginal improvement in the number of health care assessments being conducted within the required timescales, although some issues remained around the health check consent process and prioritisation of children living out of county. Work was in hand to explore this as a priority. The number of instances of Looked After Children going missing in this period was 20 and each case continued to be reviewed and assessed at the most senior levels. There were 10 young people remaining within placements under post-16 under Staying Put arrangements and three children had been adopted.

In discussion of the report:

- The Vice Chairman noted that the Council was supporting 85 UASC at that point asked whether this was consistent with the agreed level. Officers stated that this figure was in excess of the reduced quota negotiated by the Service Director for Children's Services with his Eastern Region counterparts. As such, officers were seeking to relocate a number of more recent arrivals to other local authorities within the region, where this was appropriate for the young person;
- A Member asked for the reasons behind the drop in the number of initial health assessments being conducted within 20 days during this period. Officers stated that this was mainly due to an increase in the number of UASC arriving in this period, most of whom were accommodated outside of Cambridgeshire. Summer was also historically a period of pressure.

Summing up, the Chairman stated that the Sub-Committee did not wish to duplicate work being done by the Children and Young People Committee, although there would

be occasions when the same information would need to be seen by both Committees in support of their complimentary responsibilities.

It was resolved to:

- a) review performance for Looked after Children, and comment on the themes and trends identified in this report.

68. MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN

The Clinical Lead for Psychology stated that the report was based on the findings of an expert working group convened in 2017 to examine how the emotional and mental health needs of Looked After Children and care leavers could best be met. The Working Group had produced a clear and credible report and officers recommended that this should be used as a benchmark for local services. It was proposed to convene a Task and Finish Group comprising young people, the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough NHS Foundation Trust (CPFT), the Lead for Emotional Health and Wellbeing in Schools and officers to review the position in Cambridgeshire to identify and share good practice and identify where gaps in provision existed and how these might be closed.

The Chairman welcomed the report, stating that mental health services for Looked After Children was an area of major concern both to the Sub-Committee and to the county's Looked After Children.

In discussion of the report:

- A Co-opted member asked how a Looked After Child living outside of Cambridgeshire would contact someone for help. Officers stated that this needed to be done in the way which the young person was most comfortable with, but was most likely to be in the first instance via their social worker, foster carer or school. Their sense was that this was an area which required further work, particularly in relation to young people living outside of the county. Officers stated that they clearly understood that waiting for emotional and mental health services was a big issue for young people;
- The Vice Chairman stated that the meeting had been preceded by a training session on the Mind of my Own (MOMO) app for Sub-Committee members. She asked whether this app could be used by young people as another way of asking for help. Officers stated that this was something that they would be happy to look at, provided that it was able to respond quickly enough;
- The Chairman asked about the timescale for the Task and Finish Group's work and whether elected Member involvement would be beneficial at this stage. Officers stated that it was intended that the Task and Finish Group would meet bi-monthly over the next year. It was anticipated that it would identify some 'quick win' service improvements which could be implemented directly by the Council as well as other longer-term changes which would require collaborative work with partner organisations. Their initial sense was that this was not just a resource issue. The Assistant Director for Children's Services stated that officers would welcome elected Members' involvement.

The Chairman stated children and young people's emotional and mental health was also an area of interest to the Children and Young People Committee (CYP) and Health Committee. The Chairman of the CYP Committee was a member of the Local Safeguarding Children Board and had raised the issue in that forum which had opened up conversations with other partner organisations represented on that Board.

- A Member commented that the Working Group's recommendations were not a direct correlation to its findings and that they would have liked to have seen that. Officers stated that it was intended through the Task and Finish Group to replace that personal flavour to the recommendations.

The Chairman stated that the Sub-Committee attached great importance to this work and wanted to remain closely involved with it. The offer of an update report in March 2019 was most welcome.

(Action: Democratic Services Officer)

It was resolved to:

- a) review the information provided and agree to use this as a benchmark for local services.

69. FOSTERING SERVICE ANNUAL REPORT 2017/18

The Consultant Lead Manager: Fostering stated that the annual report before the Sub-Committee covered the period April 2017- March 2018. During that period 24 households had been approved as foster carers, including four who had transferred to the Council from independent foster care agencies. 14 households had resigned during the same period giving a net gain of 10 households. A churn of around 10% per year was expected making this figure broadly comparable. 67 Special Guardianship Orders had been made which was an increase on the previous year. 15 link carers had provided 1092 days and nights of accommodation and the Fostering Panel had held 30 meetings.

Foster carer recruitment activity was continuing, but with a greater focus on the use of social media rather than physical events. A three year programme of advertising was being supported through Transformation Funding with the first year starting on 1 September 2018. 285 enquiries had been received to date in the current year compared to a total of 365 across the whole of the previous year. The target was to convert 10% of enquiries into successful applications.

In discussion of the report:

- Officers confirmed that exit interviews were offered to all fostering households leaving the Council's service;
- The Chairman stated that the 'Staying Put' initiative was crucial to many young people and asked whether there was a programme to encourage this. Officers stated that this was one of a number of factors which was considered when approving new fostering households;

- Officers stated that there had been four complaints and allegations regarding foster carers had been received in the period. The Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) had been involved in each case;
- The Fostering Service was one of the highest users so far of the Mind of my Own (MOMO) app and it was hoped to continue to build on this;
- A Co-opted member asked whether the process in place for welcoming children and young people into foster care was the same for emergency placements as for those going direct to an in-house fostering household. Officers confirmed that this was the case. The Assistant Director for Children's Services stated that the experience of those entering a household as a newly Looked After Child could be variable. In the past young people had attended foster care training sessions to share their experiences which had proved a very powerful tool.

The Chairman stated that the Sub-Committee wanted foster carers to be made aware of how greatly Sub-Committee members valued their work and that they recognised both the rewards and the challenges which their work could bring. She welcomed the establishment of the Foster Carers' Association which was run by and for foster carers themselves and stated that they would be most welcome to attend the Sub-Committee's meetings if they wished. She would also be very pleased to attend a meeting of the Foster Carers' Association if they wished to invite her or to meet informally with the Association's representatives if that was preferred.

(Action: Consultant Lead Manager: Fostering)

It was resolved to:

- a) note and comment on the Fostering Service Annual Report 2017/18.

70. LOCAL OFFER FOR CARE LEAVERS

The Lead Corporate Parenting Manager and Graduate Management Trainee stated that under the terms of the Children and Social Work Act 2017 the Local Offer had been extended to young people up to the age of 25. This meant around an additional 350 young people eligible to receive support. Gaining buy-in from partners and stakeholders would be important to make the new arrangements sustainable. An additional six new Personal Advisers were now in place bringing the total to 18. The current web platform was now quite old and the possibility of migrating to the Council's corporate website was being explored in order to provide better functionality. The full launch was planned for January/ February 2019 following review of the proposed offer by Mark Riddell, National Implementation Adviser for Care Leavers. Some representation from the Sub-Committee at this event from elected and co-opted members would be most welcome. The Local Offer was currently contained in a 50 page document, but this was still being refined. The Chairman asked that the Co-opted members of the Sub-Committee should be invited to be involved in this process.

(Action: Lead Corporate Parenting Manager)

The Chairman stated that all members of the Sub-Committee had been keenly awaiting this report and were committed to working together to support it. She noted that paragraph 2.2 set out five areas for focus – health and wellbeing; relationships; employment, education and training; accommodation; and participation in society – and suggested that consideration might be given to each of the Sub-Committee's five elected Members taking the lead on one of these areas. Graham Daniels, Director of

Football at Cambridge United Football Club, was very supportive of this work and she suggested officers might contact him in relation to the launch event when more was known about the likely timing. The Sub-Committee aspired to every young person having their own business mentor Post-16.

Arising from the report:

- The Chairman asked whether the Council was working with Peterborough in shaping the offer. Officers stated that they were keen to involve Peterborough and that some preliminary discussions had taken place;
- A Co-opted member commented that their pack on the Local Offer had arrived the previous week. Much of the personal information in it was incorrect and there was no offer of support or sign-posting of how to find more information. The Assistant Director for Children's Services stated that this was very disappointing to hear and gave a commitment that it would be followed up outside of the meeting and resolved. There would also be an audit of the process carried out which would be reported to the Sub-Committee. It was imperative that young people were provided with the right information and the support needed enable them to make informed decisions about their future;
(**Action:** Assistant Director for Children's Services)
- The Chairman stated the importance of encouraging businesses to look beyond a young person's CV to see the real value which they could offer. The best advocates for this were the young people themselves, so bringing them into direct contact with business representatives was crucial. The need for this to be managed sensitively was acknowledged;
- The Local Offer team would link up outside of the meeting with the Participation Team with a view to drawing on their existing links with the University of Cambridge Admissions Office.

It was resolved to:

- a) note the development of Cambridgeshire's Local Offer to Care Leavers and support awareness of the offer within the Council.
- b) consider how Elected Members might wish to be involved and/or champion the offer for Cambridgeshire's care leavers.
- c) encourage partners to engage with the development of Cambridgeshire's Local Offer to Care Leavers.

71. SUB-COMMITTEE WORKSHOP AND TRAINING PLAN

The Sub-Committee reviewed its workshop and training plan and requested that training on the Local Offer should be added.

(**Action:** Lead Corporate Parenting Manager)

A Co-opted member asked for background information on training for foster carers. The Chairman asked that this should be sent to both Co-opted members.

(**Action:** Consultant Lead Manager: Fostering)

It was resolved to:

- a) note and comment on the Sub-Committee's workshop and training plan.

72. AGENDA PLAN

The following changes to the Agenda Plan were requested:

- i. January 2019: Young People's Participation report – to focus on feedback from the Sub-Committee's Co-opted members, if they agreed;
- ii. Child and Adolescent Mental Health issues for Cambridgeshire's Looked After Children: To be deferred to March to allow preliminary work to take place.

It was resolved to:

- b) note and comment on the Sub-Committee's agenda plan.

Chairman
(date)

**CORPORATE
PARENTING
SUB-COMMITTEE**

Minutes-Action Log



Summary

The Action Log is a list of all of the things that people have been asked to do at earlier meetings. It is included at each meeting so that members can check that everything is being done. It was last updated on **21 January 2019**.

Minutes of 13 December 2017

9.	Young People's Participation	Sarah-Jane Smedmor/ Richenda Greenhill	To provide advice on whether Members should undergo a Disclosure and Barring Service check given that it was proposed that they would have direct access to personal information about children and young people in care and, on occasion, direct contact with the children and young people themselves.	<p>08.01.18: The Assistant Director gave the view that Members of the Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee would need to undergo a DBS check in order to fully discharge their duties. Advice sought from the Head of HR.</p> <p>09.04.18: To be processed by Democratic Services.</p> <p>08.10.18: Updated training required to sign off DBS request. Course booked 29.11.18.</p> <p>21.01.19: DBS check completed for Cllr Hay. Documentation supplied and verified for Cllr Costello and certificate awaited. HR advice awaited on whether existing DBS certificates held by Cllrs Every and Richards can be accepted for their appointments to the Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee. Cllr Bradnam's application awaited.</p>	On-going
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Minutes of the meeting on 13 June 2018

42.	Virtual School	Jon Lewis	To consider whether a report on the issue of under-performance amongst vulnerable children should be taken to the Children and Young People Committee.	<p>11.11.18: Update requested</p> <p>13.12.18: Update requested</p> <p>21.01.19: Update requested</p>	
		Jacqui Barry/ Claire Betteridge	<p>To explore with the Voices Matter Panel and report back on:</p> <p>1.Young people's experience of the support arrangements provided to Looked After Children by their schools and the Virtual School;</p> <p>2.Looked After Young People's experience of college and Further Education.</p>	<p>06.09.18: Due to some transport difficulties the Voices Matter Panel held in July 2018 only had two attendees who were older young people. However, this will be explored in future meetings and also through the Care Leavers Forum and Just Us groups and an update given.</p> <p>29.10.18: On the agenda for the Voices Matter Panel on 6 November 2018.</p>	On-going
46.	Workshop and Training Plan	Aidan O'Reilly and John Heron	<p>To re-arrange the planned training session on foster care from 24 July 2018 to a date which more members were able to attend.</p> <p>(Requested again by Members at the meeting on 19 September 2018)</p>	<p>14.01.19: Reviewed with John Heron. Training still required and to be arranged</p> <p>06.09.18: John Heron will arrange this.</p>	On-going

Minutes of the meeting on 19 September 2018

53.	Child and Adolescent Mental Health Issues relating to LAC in Cambridgeshire	Pam Parker	To try to establish whether resources described in the Green Paper represented new or existing funding so that Members could take a view on whether they might wish to lobby for support.	21.11.18: A Task and Finish Group has been established which includes the Assistant Director for Children's Services, the Clinical Lead on Psychology, the Sub-Committee's two co-opted members and representatives from the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Clinical Commissioning Group and the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Foundation NHS Foundation Trust.	On-going
		Pam Parker/ Aidan O'Reilly	To arrange a workshop/ training session for Sub-Committee members to look at what they would want covered in future reports relating to mental health.	23.01.19: Mental health workshop/ Training session taking place on this date.	Completed
55.	Coram Cambridgeshire Adoption Annual Report 2017-18	F van den Hout/ A Bennett	To keep the Sub-Committee in touch with developments relating to central government funding for post-adoption support services.	13.01.19 Commissioned by the Department for Education, Cambridgeshire County Council has been chosen alongside 14 other Local Authorities to participate in a longitudinal study on the Adoption Support Fund. The meeting with the research lead from Public Care at Brookes University is due to take place at the end of January 2019.	On-going

58.	Sub-Committee Workshop/ Training Plan	Aidan O'Reilly	To arrange a generic workshop for all members and substitute members to consider how best to upskill themselves so that they were best equipped to fulfil their roles. It would be important to ensure a good turnout for this event to develop an agreed approach and to make full use of the wide variety of skills, experience and expertise of all involved.	29.10.18: Jacqui Barry discussing this with the Chairman.	On-going
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Minutes of the Meeting on 21 November 2018

65.	Participation Report	Jacqui Barry/ Claire Betteridge	To provide details of the programme of participation events and outreach support which is being offered to Looked After children and young people accommodated outside of Cambridgeshire.		
		Richenda Greenhill	To hold Sub-Committee meetings in Ely when possible.	28.11.18: The meeting on 30 January 2018 has been moved to The Grange, Ely. Future meeting venues will be reviewed following that meeting.	On-going
66.	Virtual School	Claire Hiorns	Paragraph 2.2.4: The Chairman asked that the joint improvement strategies drawn up at the meeting for Eastern Region Early Years specialist staff should be shared with the Sub-Committee.	11.12.18: The Early Years Virtual School staff are meeting from across the eastern region to support each other and share best practice, but they are not producing a formal EY improvement plan.	Completed
		Jon Lewis	The Service Director for Education is now meeting regularly with academy chief executives. The Chairman suggested that he might discuss with the Chairman of the Children and Young People Committee whether the issue of some academies' reluctance to admit LAC or pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) might usefully be raised in that forum.	13.12.18: Update requested 21.01.19: Update requested	
		Fiona Van Den Hout/ Claire Hiorns	The Chairman asked that a dialogue should take place between the Assistant Director for Children's Services and the Head of the Virtual School about the use of Pupil Premium payments to fund LAC's involvement in school trips.	14.01.19: Head of Service (Corporate Parenting) is now to have monthly liaison meeting with the interim Head Teacher (Virtual School). The use of Pupil Premium payments is on agenda for the first of these meetings (February 2019)	On-going

		Jon Lewis	Following a review of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Virtual Schools the Service Director for Education had taken the view that unification of the two Schools was not the correct route at the current time, although they would work collaboratively where possible. The Vice Chairman asked for a note on this.	13.12.18: Update requested 21.01.19: Update requested	
68.	Mental Health Services for Looked After Children	Pam Parker/ Richenda Greenhill	To provide an update report in March 2019.	22.11.18: Added to the agenda plan for March 2019.	Completed
69.	Fostering Service Annual Report 2017/18	John Heron	To make the Foster Carers' Association aware that the Chairman would be very pleased to attend a meeting of the Foster Carers' Association if they wished to invite her or to meet informally with the Association's representatives if that was preferred.	14.01.19: The first meeting of the Foster Carer's association has now taken place. This offer of a meeting was shared and welcomed by the Foster Carers Association. John Heron to facilitate arranging this meeting.	On-going
70.	Local Offer for Care Leavers	Kate Knight	To involve the Co-opted members in the current refinement of the Local Offer document, if they wish to be involved.	14.01.19: A meeting is planned with Mark Ridell (National Advisor for Care Leavers) on 31.01.19. Added to agenda for March 2019.	Completed
		Sarah-Jane Smedmor	To follow up a Co-opted member's comments about the Local Offer information pack they had received; and Conduct an audit of the process and report back on this to the Sub-Committee.	14.01.19: The process of preparing the Local Offer is ongoing. Added to the agenda for March 2019	On-going
71.	Sub-Committee Workshop and Training Plan	Aidan O'Reilly/ Kate Knight	To arrange a training session on the Local Offer.	14.01.19 Training date to be identified following meeting with National Care Leavers advisor on 31.1.19.	On-going

		John Heron	To circulate background information on training for foster carers, as requested by a Co-opted member.	14.01.19: Circulated to Members.	Completed
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YOUNG PEOPLE'S PARTICIPATION

To: Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee

Meeting Date: 30 January 2019

From: Jacqui Barry & Claire Betteridge - Service Development Managers
Hullal Miah – Mind of my Own (MOMO) Apprentice

Electoral division(s): All

Purpose: Update on the participation of young people within Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee and on Participation Service activity.

Recommendation: To provide feedback on the range of consultation events and activities the Participation Service provide for looked after children.

<i>Officer contact:</i>	<i>Member contact:</i>
Name: Jacqui Barry and Claire Betteridge Post: Service Development Managers Email: SC.Participation@cambridgeshire.gov.uk Tel: 01480 372493 / 01223 715530	Name: Councillor Lis Every Role: Chairman, Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee Email: Lis.Every@cambridgeshire.gov.uk Tel: (office) 01223 706398

Summary:

- There is a plan for participation activities throughout 2019
- The Corporate Parenting Committee Co-Opted Members are being consulted over mental health issues for looked after children
- Co-Opted Members wish to share their experience of being on the Corporate Parenting Committee verbally, rather than as part of this report
- The Mind of my Own Apprentice continues to promote the use of MOMO offering individual and group training
- MOMO statistics now only show accounts that are actively in use
- The cost of the MOMO application, management system, training and worker accounts is £20,066 (16 month contract)
- See Appendix 2 for a breakdown of performance for MOMO
- The Participation worker vacancy has been recruited to
- The Christmas Craft Fair, a Panto trip and a meal for Care Leavers were all successful events held in December
- A new Participation Strategy has been produced and is awaiting approval and a formal launch
- The Care Leavers' Forum is being consulted over the Local Offer

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Committee requested an update on the work of the Participation Service at each meeting.

2. MAIN ISSUES

2.1 Update on Involvement of Young People

Consultation

The Care Leavers' Forum has been consulted on the Local Offer, including coming up with a new name for the initiative, Pathways4Us.

The two Co-Opted members of the Corporate Parenting Committee are working with the Assistant Director and the Clinical Lead for Psychology on mental health and looked After children.

Co-Opted Members wish to share their experience of being on the Corporate Parenting Committee verbally, rather than as part of this report.

2.2 Events Held

- The participation service purchased tickets from the Art's Theatre for the Pantomime 'Snow White'. The 'outing' was supported by the participation service and the 12 children (aged 10 to 16) thoroughly enjoyed the show. See Appendix 1 for photographs.

- For the first time, the participation service organised a 'Make and Take' Christmas Craft Fair for children aged 6-11, and their carers. A variety of festive crafts were run by teams from within children's services, and the health team. Approximately 15 children and their carers attended, as well as some senior managers and Cllr Bywater and Cllr Every. Although numbers were low, those who attended loved the activities and very much enjoyed getting creative. See Appendix 1 for photographs.
- After exploring a variety of options, the Care Leavers opted to go for a Christmas meal to a local 'all you can eat' buffet, offering cuisines from around the world. From all accounts, the evening was a relaxed and enjoyable event.

Events Planned

- A series of events are planned throughout 2019, with Cambridge University and looked after children.
- The Annual Awards Ceremony is scheduled for 2019. This has been a hugely successful event in former years, and while some of the format will be changed, the Participation Service is confident that it will be as enjoyable and well received as ever.
- Voices Matter and Care Leaver Forum meetings are arranged for 2019.
- A schedule of events and participation activities are planned for 2019 and children residing out of County are invited to attend in the same way as all other children.

2.3 Participation Service

Staffing

A new participation worker has been recruited and vetting checks are underway. The participation worker currently on maternity leave is due to return to their post in April 2019.

The absence of a Participation worker has impacted on capacity to engage children and young people in participation groups, and seek out nominations for additional Co-Opted Members of the Corporate Parenting Committee. The service is confident that this will improve in the coming months when the appropriate staff are in post.

Mind of my Own (MOMO)

The MOMO Apprentice has targeted practitioners across the service who have registered for a MOMO account but have not used it, offering training and support as a team or on a one to one basis to enhance practitioners understanding in how to use the application to capture the voice of the child.

The MOMO dashboard has been smartened up and accounts for workers who have moved on from Cambridgeshire County Council have been deleted. This has given rise to a reduction in the number of worker accounts recorded between September and December 2018, but it does mean that statistics are now fully reflective of active accounts.

There is an issue with statements being created by workers on their accounts with young people and then not being sent. Over the last quarter there are 78 statements which have not been sent from the workers account to the MOMO dashboard.

The MOMO contract is commissioned jointly with Peterborough City Council and is for 16 months. The total cost to Cambridgeshire is £17,666 plus £2,400 for training. This includes use of the application and a support package of resources and materials to enable the organisation to use MOMO effectively. There is no limit on the number of accounts that can be created.

Further information about the usage of MOMO is included at Appendix 2.

3.0 SIGNIFICANT IMPLICATIONS

3.1 Resource Implications

N/A

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

Source Documents	Location
None	

Snow White Pantomime 21st December 2018



Christmas Craft Event 21st December 2018





MOMO Q3 (October to December 18)

Number of worker accounts 31/12/2018	336	Number of young people with accounts 31/12/2018	112	
	Oct 2018	Nov 2018	Dec 2018	Total
Number of statements per month from YP	8	20	9	
Number of statements per month via worker	19	31	22	
MOMO Express Statements per month (replied to directly)	41	49	16	
Any statements not assigned	0	0	0	
Statements created but not sent	23	32	23	
Top three subject matters each month	13% - Share Good News 28% - Worker Visit 42% - Foster Carer Review	9% - Share Good News 15% - Foster Carer Review 54% - Worker Visit	22% - Preparation 33% - Foster Carer Review 35% - Worker Visit	

KEY

MOMO – Mind of My Own (Application)

MOMO Express – Simplified MOMO application for children with disabilities or younger children

FC – Foster Carers

YP – Young People

VIRTUAL SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES

To: **Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee**

Meeting Date: **30 January 2019**

From: **Claire Hiorns
Interim Virtual School Head Teacher**

Electoral division(s): **All**

Purpose: **To provide an update on the priorities for development of the Virtual School over the next two terms**

Recommendation: **The Sub-Committee is asked to:**

- a) note the direction the Virtual School is moving in;**
- b) offer support and challenge as appropriate.**

Officer contact:	Member contact:
Name: Claire Hiorns Post: Interim Virtual School Head Teacher Email: Claire.hiorns@cambridgeshire.gov.uk Tel: 01223 743850	Name: Councillor Lis Every Role: Chairman, Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee Email: lis.every@cambridgeshire.gov.uk Tel: (office) 01223 706398

Summary:

The Virtual School is undergoing a period of change. The report describes the background to this and the priorities for development from January 2019-September 2019.

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The role of the Virtual School Head Teacher is a statutory role within the Local Authority. As Members are aware, the Virtual School Head Teacher resigned her post with effect from 1st January 2019. There are interim arrangements in place until September 2019, when the substantive post will be filled. This report focuses on the development priorities within the Virtual School for the next two terms. These link to the newly developed vision statement of the Virtual School and is the foundation on which the Virtual School will need to continue to build over the coming years.

2. MAIN ISSUES

- 2.1 The vision statement and guiding principles of the Virtual School are:

‘We will champion the individual needs of all care-experienced children enabling them to learn, aspire, thrive and achieve their maximum potential’

- The voice of the child is of paramount importance
- All care-experienced children will receive high quality education which is inspiring and challenging, resulting in the best possible outcomes, thus closing the educational gap between these children and those who are not care experienced
- Every care-experienced child will have a positive educational experience which promotes social and emotional learning and wellbeing, alongside academic success to ensure readiness for adulthood
- Every setting will be empowered and able to lead the changes necessary to enable our children to thrive
- The Virtual School will meet the needs of care-experienced children through effective liaison and integrated work with all key partners

- 2.2 Four key priorities have been identified within the development plan. These are:

1. Strengthen the collection of data, use of data analysis to inform strategy and interventions to drive improvement and maximise impact

The collection, analysis and use of data is a challenge for all virtual schools, given the transient nature of the cohort and the varying systems used in settings

for collecting and reporting of data. However, it is a barrier which must be overcome, if the Virtual School is to fully understand starting points for our children and young people (CYP) and support and challenge education settings to enable our CYP to achieve their potential.

Over the next two terms the Virtual School intend to:

- Create a pupil and school data dashboard
- Create capacity to maintain the dashboards in a meaningful way
- Analyse the data and use this to inform policy and practice

2. Create a school improvement approach to improving outcomes for looked after children and previously looked after children

Over the last three years the Virtual School has begun to work towards empowering Designated Teachers (DTs) to lead on the operational processes for our looked after children. This has included moving to an electronic personal education plan (PEP), where the designated teacher chairs and documents the PEP meeting as well as increasing the training on offer to educational settings and social workers. The Virtual School has also trialled school audits.

Over the next two terms the Virtual School intends to:

- Work with other virtual schools in the eastern region, which have successfully moved to a school improvement model, to learn from their practice
- Work with key partners within the local authority to better understand how the work of the virtual school can complement and be complemented by their approach
- Develop and trial formats for school improvement visits
- Continue to build upon the training offered
- Develop a communication strategy, so that education settings, social workers, young people and carers understand the planned changes and what this may mean for them

3. Create a Virtual School Inclusion Team who will take the lead in supporting individuals to access high quality education provision and ensure that the child or young person's experience of education is positive, aspirational and meets all needs

In moving to the new model, looked after children will no longer be allocated to a member of the Virtual School team to oversee all aspects of their education. The Virtual School want to be certain that no young person's individual needs are missed.

Over the next two terms, the Virtual School intend to:

- Strengthen collaborative work with key partners, to ensure protocols and procedures are in place to minimise drift. This would include: admissions, Statutory Assessment Team (SAT), special educational needs and

- disability (SEND), alternative provision and transport
- Upskill Support Managers in the Virtual School to take the lead in these areas
- Develop procedures for using the data dashboard to identify which children and young people, the Inclusion Team need to focus on

4. Realign processes and procedures, to fit with the new model, whilst maintaining compliance with the statutory duties

In order to move to a school improvement model by September 2019, all processes and procedures need to be reviewed to ensure they will work with the new model. Additionally, it is an opportunity to consider systems used in Peterborough, as part of the closer working relationship.

Over the next two terms, the Virtual School intends to:

- Review the PEP and quality assurance document and procedures
- Review the allocation of pupil premium plus
- Hold in mind the wellbeing and development of the Virtual School team, and in particular, systems for supporting the team during this period of change.

3. SIGNIFICANT IMPLICATIONS

3.1 Resource Implications

The Local Authority needs to increase resources to develop capacity around data collection and analysis within the Virtual School. The LA are currently exploring the possibility of a shared role with Peterborough to create capacity and resilience for both local authorities.

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

SOURCE DOCUMENTS

Source Documents	Location
None	

CAMBRIDGESHIRE VIRTUAL SCHOOL FOR LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN

VISION STATEMENT

We will champion the individual needs of all care-experienced children enabling them to learn, aspire, thrive and achieve their maximum potential.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- The voice of the child is of paramount importance.
- All care-experienced children will receive high quality education which is inspiring and challenging, resulting in the best possible outcomes, thus closing the educational gap between these children and those who are not care experienced.
- Every care-experienced child will have a positive educational experience which promotes social and emotional learning and wellbeing alongside academic success to ensure readiness for adulthood.
- Every setting will be empowered and able to lead the changes necessary to enable our children to thrive.
- The Virtual School will meet the needs of care-experienced children through effective liaison and integrated work with all key partners.

Strategic Overview

In recent years the Virtual School has been developing new approaches to its work and is in the process of moving from a 'caseload based model' to a 'school improvement model' which will be initiated by September 2019 and evolve throughout the 2019-20 academic year. This developing model was confirmed by the joint Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Virtual School external review (Summer 2018). This new way of working will include a closer working relationship with Peterborough Virtual School ¹.

Four priorities have been identified to facilitate movement towards the new model, whilst continuing to maintain appropriate support and challenge during the current academic year:

1. Strengthen the collection of data, use of data analysis to inform strategy and interventions to drive improvement and maximise impact
2. Create a school improvement approach to improving outcomes for looked after children and previously looked after children
3. Create a Virtual School Inclusion Team who will take the lead in supporting individuals to access high quality education provision and ensure that the CYP's experience of education is positive, aspirational and meets all needs
4. Realign processes and procedures, to fit with the new model, whilst maintaining compliance with statutory guidance

Within this document the term 'designated teacher' is used throughout. This also includes designated persons in Early Years and Post-16 settings and those responsible for previously LAC.

¹ Appendix 1 Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Action Planning Discussions

Development Plan January 2019-September 2019

Priority One Strengthen the collection of data, use of data analysis to inform strategy and interventions to drive improvement and maximise impact					
Required Actions	Timescale	Lead Person	Current RAG	April 2019	July 2019
To make use of current available data to inform support and challenge regarding: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Individual CYP - Education settings - Social care 	April 2019	All staff			
To plan and implement actions in response to key themes and trends identified through data analysis e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - OFSTED rating - Attendance / Access to education - Attainment and progress 	July 2019	All staff			
To review KS3 data collection in order that the data collected is meaningful, comparable and reflects both attainment and progress	April 2019	MH/XD			
To develop a coordinated data dashboard to include individual pupil data on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Placement type (home and school) - OOC - Attainment and progress - Not in full time - Exclusions (FEX,PEX) - Managed moves - Alternative provision - UASC - SEND - Attendance (authorised and unauthorised) 	February 2019	JL			
To develop a data dashboard to include school level data : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PEP compliance - OFSTED ratings - Schools refusing to admit LAC - Training attended - School improvement information from other LA partners - OOC LAC in Cambs schools PLAC in Cambs schools 	February 2019	EE			

To create and implement data input processes to ensure that the live dashboard is up to date/current (individual pupil)	April 2019	JL/EE			
To establish baselines to identify CYP in need of support and allocation processes resulting from this (priority 3)	June 2019	ZL/CLH	Review current RAG rating system		
To create and implement data input processes to ensure that the live dashboard is up to date/current (school level)	April 2019	JL/EE			
To establish processes which enable identification of the strengths and weaknesses of individual schools/federations/MATs or schools within a specific geographical area and result in increased school improvement support from the VS	June 2019	CLH/ZL			

Priority Two

Create a school improvement approach to improving outcomes for looked after children and previously looked after children

Required Actions	Timescale	Lead Person	Current RAG	April 2019	July 2019
Develop systems and proforma for school improvement visits, pilot these in settings and shadow visits made by other Virtual Schools in order to establish long-term model of school improvement which may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Termly/annual visits - Training - Work with school leadership/governance - Audits 	April 2019	CLH/ZL			
Develop a communication strategy for sharing changes with settings and other Virtual School partners (social care, IROs, fostering, SEND teams, School Improvement Team)	April 2019	CLH/ZL			
Working collaboratively, develop strategic and operational partnership with key partners (including key contacts within them) within and beyond the LA in order to drive forward best outcomes for LAC and highlight barriers e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Business Intelligence - Schools intervention service - Social Care - Family finding - Early Years - SAT/SEND 0-25 - Admissions - Post-adoption support - EHWBS - Behaviour/Exclusions teams... 	July 2019	All staff			
Develop a virtual school 'offer' which outlines role and remit of the virtual school to be shared with other teams within and beyond the LA	February 2019	CLH/ZL			
Empower the role and effectiveness of the Designated Teacher <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Chairing PEP meetings - Completing self-evaluations - Enhancing understanding of school leadership regarding the role - Support cascading of training and whole school understanding of key barriers for CYP 	July 2019	All staff			
Work with PVS to further embed and extend county wide and school based training including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Designated Teacher for LAC - Designated Person for Post-LAC 	July 2019	EE			

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Network Meetings - Attachment and Trauma - FASD - Early Years - Post-16 					
Develop information, advice and guidance packs for education settings, for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Difficult and dangerous behaviours - Pupil Premium Plus Grant - Early Years - Culture, race, equalities and diversities 	July 2019	All staff			
Establish strategy to be implemented for maximising school engagement in school improvement model for forthcoming academic year <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MATs/federations - Geographical areas and cluster - Individual Schools - EY and post-16 settings 	July 2019	CLH/ZL			
To develop an understanding of both the national and local developments around mental health in schools and how it may influence the Virtual School's work to improve outcomes for care experienced children	July 2019	CA/MO'S			

Priority Three

Create a Virtual School Inclusion Team who will take the lead in supporting individuals to access high quality education provision and ensure that the CYP's experience of education is positive, aspirational and meets all needs

Required Actions	Timescale	Lead Person	Current RAG	April 2019	July 2019
<p>Working collaboratively, ensure protocol and procedures are in place with key partners within and beyond the LA to minimise barriers for individual LAC and ensure that LAC receive a high quality offer from all. e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Admissions - SAT/SEND - Alternative provision - Transport 	July 2019	All staff	<p>Protocol in place with SAT</p> <p>SEND allocations currently outside of normal timescales but not formalised</p>		
<p>Develop processes which target individual CYP identified through the data dashboard (priority one):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Allocations - Challenge and expectation - Collaborative working - Crisis management and containment <p>Support all members of VS Inclusion team to ensure they feel confident and understand processes in supporting individual CYP</p>	June 2019	ZL			
Working collaboratively, ensure appropriate information, advice and guidance is available to minimise barriers and ensure educational outcomes for post LAC protocol (to include exploration of post LAC advisor post shared with PVS)	December 2018	CLH			
Explore possibility of recruiting an educational psychologist	April 2019	CLH			

Priority Four Realign processes and procedures, to fit with the new model, whilst maintaining compliance with statutory duties					
Required Actions	Timescale	Lead Person	Current RAG	April 2019	July 2019
To develop cross border working with PVS	July 2019	CLH			
To have in place a streamlined PEP and QA system	April 2019	MH			
Consider PEP submission deadline	April 2019	MH			
Complete tender process for ePEP	July 2019	CLH			
To establish processes which collect and record pupil voice in a meaningful way and which avoid duplication	April 2019	MH			
To redesign procedures for the allocation and monitoring of the PP+ grant to individual CYP in order to increase due diligence, evaluate impact of funding and share best practice	July 2019	MH			
To establish systems for bidding, allocation and monitoring of PP+ for projects (driven by priority 1) to include: - groups of YP - MATs/federations/clusters - schools in close geographical proximity	April 2019	TG			
In line with the rest of the LA and Peterborough, move towards use of Liquid Logic	LA timescale	CLH			
Ensure the supervision, CPD and wellbeing of VS staff is given the highest priority within the new model	July 2019	ZL			

PERFORMANCE REPORT

To: **Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee**

Meeting Date: **30th January 2019**

From: **Aidan O'Reilly
Service Manager Corporate Parenting**

Electoral division(s): **All**

Purpose: **To report on the performance of services for Looked After Children and Care Leavers - as required in legislation and fulfilling the purpose of monitoring and offering advice.**

Recommendation: **The sub-committee is asked to:**

- a) review performance for Looked after Children; and**
- b) comment on the themes and trends identified in this report.**

<i>Officer contact:</i>		<i>Member contact:</i>	
Name:	Aidan O'Reilly	Names:	Councillor Lis Every
Post:	Service Manager Corporate Parenting	Role:	Chairman, Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee
Email:	aidan.oreilly@cambridgeshire.gov.uk	Email:	Lis.Every@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
Tel:	01223 518719	Tel:	(office) 01223 706398

Summary:

- As of 30 November 2018, 764 looked after children were supported by the Council.
- 58% of looked after children are male, 42% are female.
- 8% have a diagnosed disability.
- At the end of November 48.8% of (not unaccompanied) children were placed out of County and of that 48.8%, 37.8% were placed more than 20 miles over Cambridgeshire borders.
- 82.6% of unaccompanied asylum seeking young people are placed out of county.
- The proportion of looked after children being visited within the statutory timescales is 83.8% in November having fallen by 2-3% per month since the last reported data (August 2018).
- The number of looked after children reported as going missing has been as follows; 25 in September, 29 in October and 33 in November
- There were 12 children adopted in this 3 month period (there were 13 adoptions completed in the previous 5 months)

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 This report provides the sub-committee with an overview of performance of services for Looked After Children and Care Leavers for September, October and November 2018. The full performance report can be found in Appendix A.

2. MAIN ISSUES

- 2.1 There has been an increase in the number of looked after children in the Council's care since the last report – to 56.8 per 10,000.
- 2.2 We had 48.8% of (not unaccompanied) children and young people out of county. 82.6% of unaccompanied asylum seeking young people are placed out of county and the majority of their placements are located in Peterborough, where their cultural needs are appropriately met. However, due to resource availability some are being placed further afield.
- 2.3 The proportion of looked after children being visited within the statutory timescales has fallen from 92.7% to 83.8%. This continues to be monitored closely.
- 2.4 Performance around newly looked after children having their health assessment within 20 days of becoming looked after rose from 35% in August to 54% in September. However performance then fell to 35.9% in October and 28.1% in November. Arranging assessments for children who are out of county remains a significant issue.

- 2.6 The following incidents of looked after children going missing were reported between September- November 2018: 25 children in September (42 incidents), 29 children in October (48 incidents) and 33 children in November (54 incidents).

There is a multi-agency approach to missing incidents and supporting children and young people to tell their story. The children and young people are monitored individually and patterns are examined to identify individuals and locations of concern and to plan intervention to break dangerous cycles.

3. SIGNIFICANT IMPLICATIONS

3.1 Resource Implications

None

3.2 Procurement/Contractual/Council Contract Procedure Rules Implications

None.

3.3 Statutory, Legal and Risk Implications

None

3.4 Equality and Diversity Implications

None

3.5 Engagement and Communications Implications

None

3.6 Localism and Local Member Involvement








None

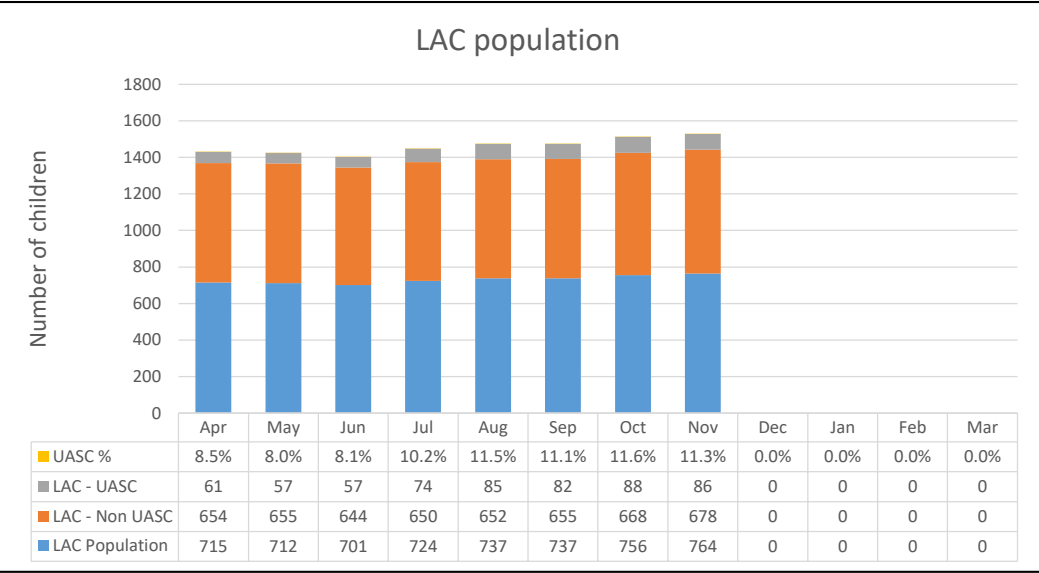
3.7 Public Health Implications

None

Source Documents	Location
None	

Looked After Children - Population

Looked After Children (LAC)	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Trend	Average
LAC Population	715	712	701	724	737	737	756	764						731
LAC - Non UASC	654	655	644	650	652	655	668	678						657
LAC - UASC	61	57	57	74	85	82	88	86						74
UASC %	8.5%	8.0%	8.1%	10.2%	11.5%	11.1%	11.6%	11.3%						10.1%
Rate per 10,000	53.2	53.0	52.2	53.9	54.9	54.9	56.3	56.8						54.4
Became Looked After	32	23	14	30	30	17	34	20						25
Ceased Looked After	19	26	24	14	17	17	14	18						19



Commentary:

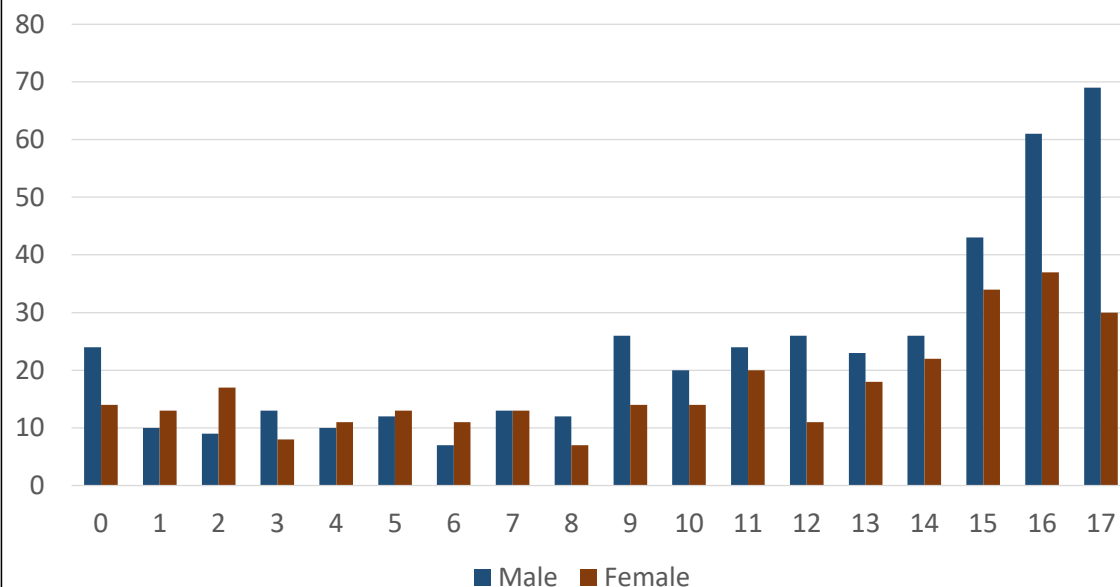
There has been a small reduction in the number of looked after children since reporting to the last Corporate Parenting Committee, but this can occasionally happen as can be seen from the data earlier in this reporting year. As a result the rate of looked after children per 10,000 has also decreased by 0.4 from January, but an increase of 0.9 compared to April 2017. However, Cambridgeshire continues to perform favourably, when compared to the figures for England which are 60 children per 10,000 are looked after.

Notes on data and definitions:

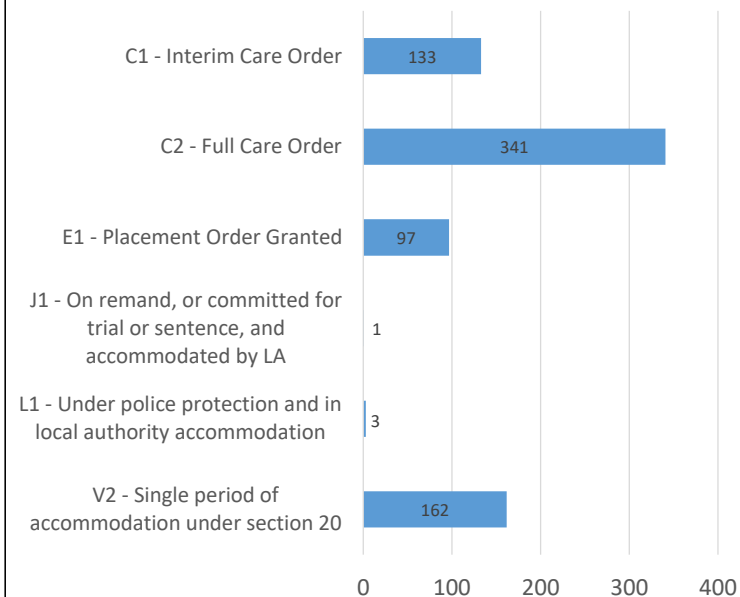
- The 'LAC population figure' measures the number of children who are in the care of the local authority at the end of each month.
- A 'UASC' is an Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Child. A contribution of accommodating UASCs is met by the Government.
- The 'Became Looked After' and 'Ceased Looked After' are the numbers of children who entered and left care in the month.

Looked After Children - Demographics as at 31st August 2018

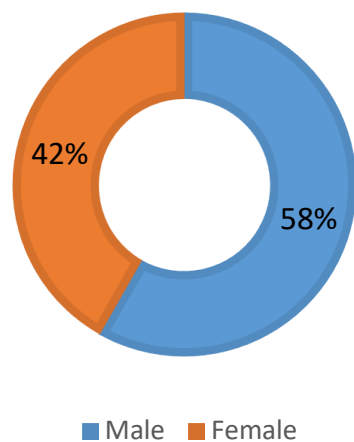
LAC - Age and Gender



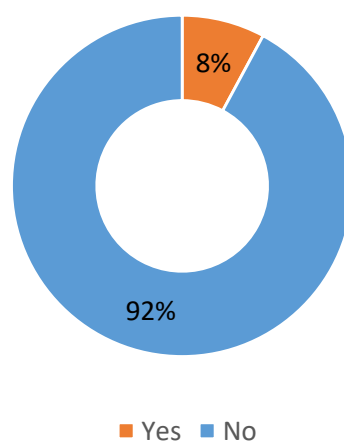
LAC - Legal Status



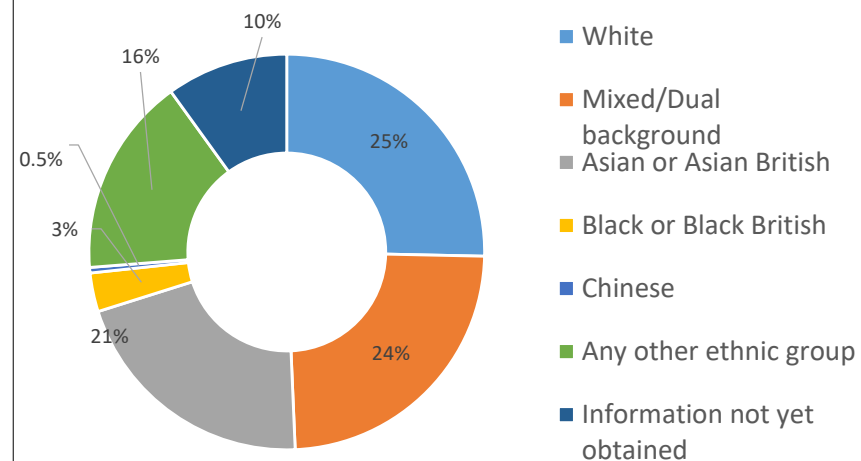
GENDER



Disability



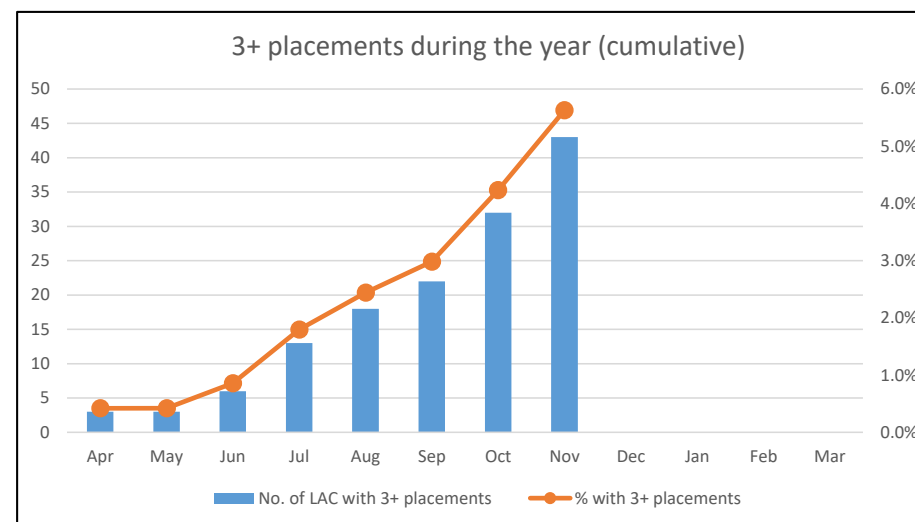
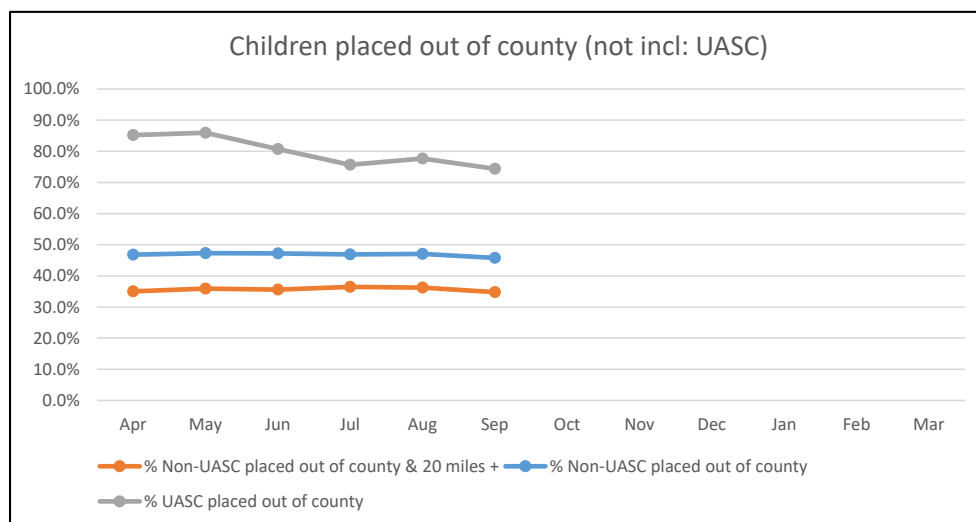
Ethnicity



Looked After Children - Placements

All LAC children placed IN county	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Trend	Average
LAC placed In county	357	353	351	363	364	376	363	362						361
Children placed out of county (not incl: UASC)	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Trend	Average
LAC placed out of county	306	312	304	305	307	300	322	331						311
% Non-UASC placed out of county	46.8%	47.3%	47.2%	46.9%	47.1%	45.8%	48.2%	48.8%						47.3%
LAC placed out of county & 20 miles +	229	239	228	237	236	228	250	256						238
% Non-UASC placed out of county & 20 miles +	35.0%	35.9%	35.6%	36.5%	36.2%	34.8%	37.4%	37.8%						36.1%
UASC placed out of county	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Trend	Average
UASC placed out of county	52	49	46	56	66	61	71	71						59
% UASC placed out of county	85.2%	86.0%	80.7%	75.7%	77.6%	74.4%	80.7%	82.6%						80.4%

3+ placements during the year (cumulative)	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Trend
No. of LAC with 3+ placements	3	3	6	13	18	22	32	43					
% with 3+ placements	0.4%	0.4%	0.9%	1.8%	2.4%	3.0%	4.2%	5.6%					
Target	0.4%	0.8%	1.3%	1.7%	2.1%	2.5%	2.9%	3.4%	3.8%	4.2%	4.6%	5.0%	



Commentary:

52% of the looked after population have placements in County. 10% of Cambridgeshire's looked after children have had 3 or more changes in placement. There may be a number of reasons for this for example, a 3rd placement change may be to a child's permanent placement while another may be as a result placement breakdown. We are looking at the details behind these to better understand the reasons for placement changes. A high proportion of unaccompanied asylum seeking young people are placed out of County and this is due to lack of availability of accommodation in Cambridgeshire.

Notes on data and definitions:

- LAC placed In county - Children who have been placed into care within the Cambridgeshire.
- 'Looked After Children placed out of county' measures the number of children we are responsible for who are placed into care outside of the Cambridgeshire area.
- We also measure those who have been placed into care outside Cambridgeshire who are 20 miles or more from the home they lived in before they became a looked after child.
- We count separately the number of UASC who are placed into care outside Cambridgeshire.
- 3+ placements is a count of the number of 3 or more placement changes a looked after child has had since the start of April to fall in line with statutory reporting. This is measured cumulatively. We measure the number of placement changes to understand a child's placement stability whilst in care.

Looked After Children - Placement Types In and Out of County as at end of August 2018

Placement Type	In	Out
A4 - Placed for adoption with consent not with current foster carer		
A5 - Placed for adoption with placement order with current foster carer		2
A6 - Placed for adoption with placement order not with current foster carer	16	16
H5 - Residential accommodation not subject to Children's homes regulations	27	50
K1 - Secure Unit		2
K2 - Homes and Hostels	27	31
M3 - Whereabouts unknown		
P1 - Placed with own Parents or Those with Parental Responsibility	6	5
P2 - Independent Living	1	
Q1 - Foster Placement with Relative or Friend	4	3
Q2 - Placement with other Foster Carer	36	42
R1 - Residential Care Home		2
R2 - NHS/Health trust or other establishment providing medical or nursing care	1	
R3 - Family Centre/Mother and Baby Unit	1	
R5 - Young Offender Institution or Prison		2
S1 - All Residential Schools, except where dual-registered as a school and Children's Home	4	5
T0 - All types of temporary move		
T4 - Temporary accommodation of seven days or less, for any reason, not covered by codes T1 to T3	2	
U1 Foster placement with relative or friend- long term fostering	10	8
U2 Foster placement with relative or friend who is also an approved adopter- FFA	2	1
U3 Foster placement with relative or friend- not long term or FFA	11	3
U4 Placement with other foster carer- long term fostering	91	84
U5 Placement with other foster carer who is also an approved adopter- FFA	8	3
U6 Placement with other foster carer - not long term or FFA	117	108
Z1 - Other Placement		2
Unknown		4
Total	364	373

Commentary:







The location of adopters is always based on securing the best possible match for children so it is expected that children be in and out of county based on the best adopters to meet their needs. 8% of children are placed in children's homes. Some of these children will have disabilities and will require specially equipped settings to meet their needs. 76% of all looked after children are placed with foster carers.


Notes on data and definitions:

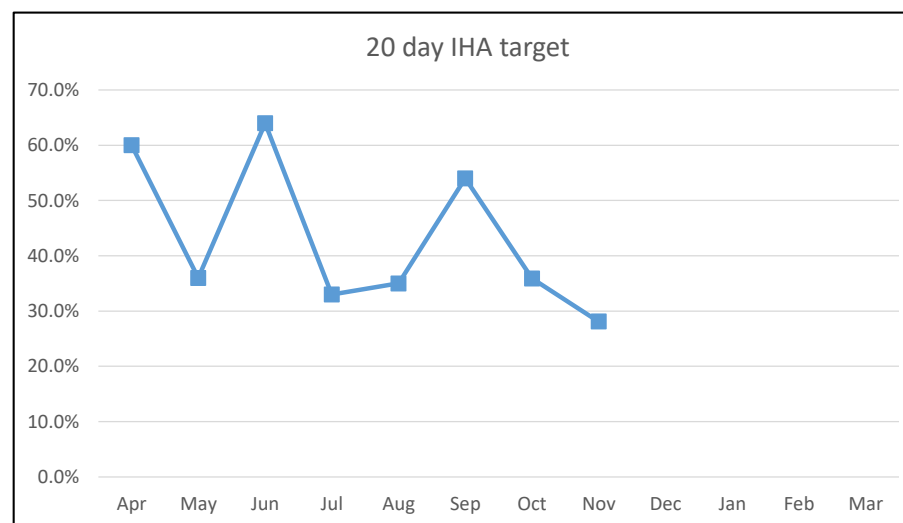
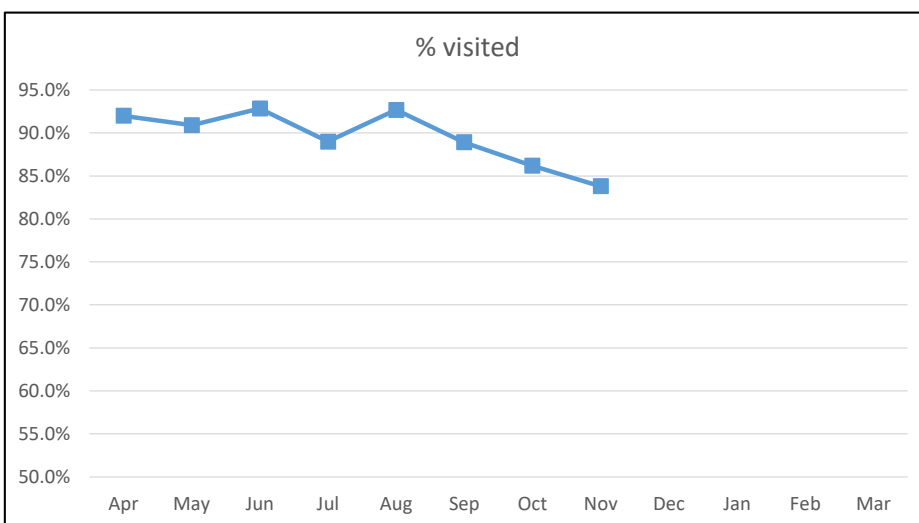
The table compares all Looked After Children placed in care within Cambridgeshire and outside the Cambridgeshire county area.

The codes and descriptions of the Placement Types are defined by the Department for Education which are used in the Looked After Children Statutory Data Returns each year.

Looked After Children -Visits, Reviews and Health

Visits and Reviews	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Trend	Average
Children to be visited	512	505	503	509	533	505	564	605						530
No. not seen in timescale	41	46	36	56	39	56	78	98						56
% visited	92.0%	90.9%	92.8%	89.0%	92.7%	88.9%	86.2%	83.8%						89.5%
Late Reviews this month	23	25	9	12	7	1	9	10						12
Cumulative late reviews	23	48	57	69	76	77	86	96						
% reviews in timescale	81.6%	73.4%	85.7%	81.8%	94.0%	99.0%	92.9%	84.6%						86.6%

Health	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Trend	Average
20 day IHA target	60.0%	36.0%	64.0%	33.0%	35.0%	54.0%	35.9%	28.1%						



Commentary: Performance around children being visited has risen by 22 percentage points since April 2017. The month of February saw a dip in the timeliness of Looked After reviews and this was around adverse weather conditions in that month causing meetings to need to be rescheduled. Performance around newly looked after children having their health assessment in 20 days of becoming looked after has fallen in February to 43%. This is around the late notification from children's social care to health. There were also a number of large sibling groups arriving in care, impacting on clinic time and Nurse availability. 6 of the children placed out of County did not have their health assessments within the 20 day timescale. Their health assessments are organised by the hosting Primary Care Trust and Cambridgeshire can not specifically determine when their assessment takes place. The 20 day timescale is national guidance so all Health trusts do work to the same arrangements, but it is important to highlight that Health authorities will prioritise seeing children from their local area, before assessing the needs of children placed in their area by other authorities.

Notes on data and definitions:

- The 'Children to be visited' measures the number of children who are due a visit in the reporting month.
- **LAC Visits:** The number of children not seen in timescale are those who were due a visit in the reporting month, but were not seen in timescale.
- **LAC Reviews:** The 'Late Reviews this month' are those LAC children whose LAC Review did not take place. We also record the cumulative late reviews throughout the year as well as the % of reviews in timescale each month.
- An Initial Health Assessments (IHA) for all children must take place within 20 working days of them becoming looked after. The NHS provide the percentage of children who had their IHA within 20 working days.

Looked After Children - Care Leavers and Adoption

Care Leavers	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Trend	Average
Care leaver cohort	33	32	31	44	20	23	33	17						29
Care leavers in suitable accommodation - Yes	26	29	29	42	15	19	25	14						25
Care leavers in suitable accommodation - Unknown	7	3	2	2	5	4	8	3						4
Care leavers who are EET -Yes	18	19	17	27	10	12	17	12						17
Care leavers who are EET - Unknown	15	13	14	17	10	11	16	5						13
Care leavers in touch - Yes	28	29	28	41	16	19	27	14						25
Care leavers in touch - Returned Home	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	2						1
Care leavers in touch - No Longer Required	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0						0

Corum Cambridge Adoption	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Trend	Average
Number of adoptions per month	3	3	4	0	3	6	1	5						3
Average time between child entering care and moving in with its adoptive family (days)	244	226	437	0	N/A	321	225	297.8						250
Average time between an LA receiving court authority to place a child and the LA deciding on a match	102	61	213	0	N/A	96	42	94.4						87
Children who wait less than 14 months between entering care and moving in with their adoptive family	100%	100%	75%	0%	N/A	100%	100%	100%						82.1%

Commentary:

The data relating to care leavers is presented in the same way all Local Authorities are required to report into the Department for Education.

In January the cohort for Care Leavers is higher than average. This is due to 12 of the children being UASC with the 1st January recorded as their birth date when their actual birth date is unknown.




The Care Leaver Cohort are the Care Leavers whose 17th, 18th 19th, 20th and 21st birthdays fell within the reporting month. There are approximately 275 care leavers within the 15-25 service in total. Performance in relation to children waiting less than 14 months to be adopted has been 100% with the exception being in the month of December.

In January and February 2018, 8 children were adopted.

Notes on data and definitions:

- Care Leaver Cohort - the Care Leavers whose 17th, 18th 19th, 20th and 21st birthdays fell within the reporting month.
- Suitable Accommodation. Whether accommodation is deemed 'suitable' is judged on an individual case. The Department for Education judge the following accommodation types as suitable ('Parents or relatives', 'Community home or other form of residential care', 'Semi-independent', 'transitional accommodation', 'Supported lodgings', 'Ordinary lodgings' without formal support, 'Foyers and similar supported accommodation' and 'Independent living')
- In Touch. There should be "contact" between the authority and the young person around 3 months before and one month after the Care Leaver's birthday. This is designed to monitor the situation of young people when they have left care, rather than their situation immediately before they left care.
- We measure main activity for Care Leavers on or around their 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th or 21st birthday when we are in touch with them. This is reflected in the Education, Employment and Training (EET) numbers.

Looked After Children - Education

Education	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Trend	Average
% yr 12s who are in learning	95.0%	94.6%	94.3%	93.3%	92.7%	88.5%	94.9%	95.7%						
% yr 13s who are in learning	90.6%	90.3%	90.2%	90.0%	89.6%	87.5%	92.0%	92.0%						
% of 16-18 yr olds who are NEET	2.7%	2.8%	2.9%	3.1%	3.2%	2.0%	2.5%	2.5%						

Commentary:



There has been an improvement in the number of year 12 and 13 children in learning since April 2017.

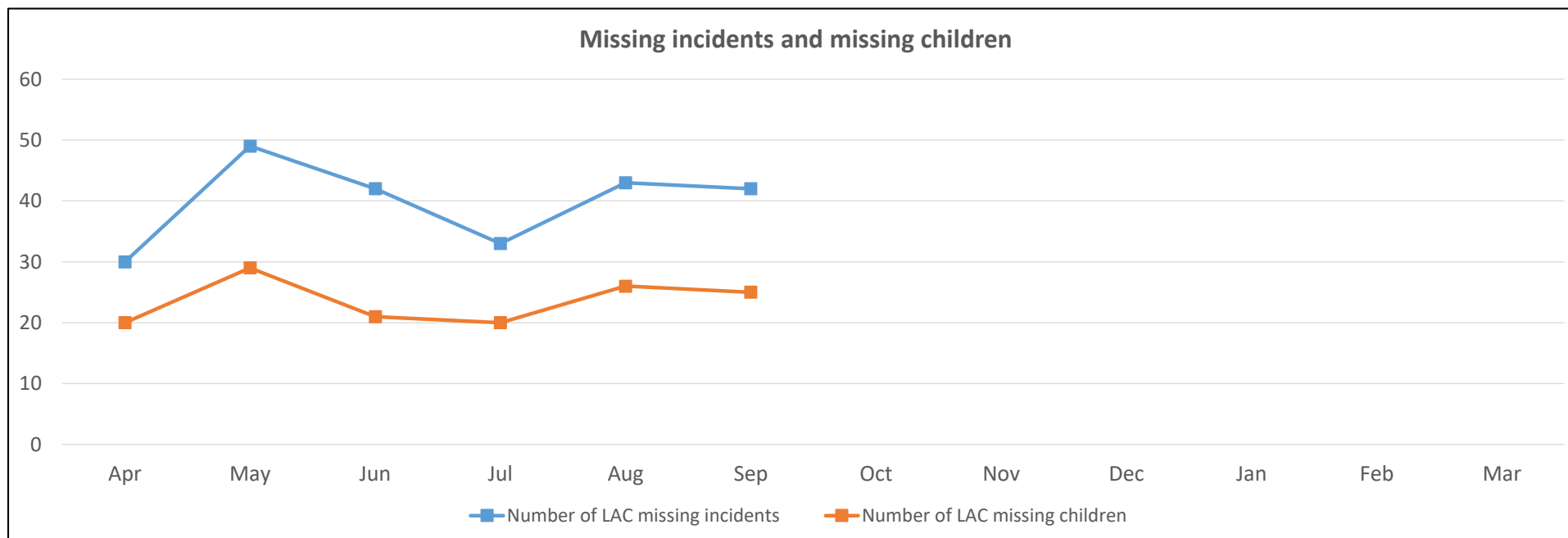
Notes on data and definitions:

- Measures of the percentage of year 12s and 13s currently in some form of learning.

- NEET - Not in Education, Employment or Training.

Looked After Children - Missing

LAC - Missing	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Trend	Average
Number of LAC missing incidents	30	49	42	33	43	42	48	54						42.6
Number of LAC missing children	20	29	21	20	26	25	29	33						25.4








Commentary:






The number of missing children and missing incidents has decreased over the course of this reporting year. There is a multi-agency network around children missing who work hard together to support this extremely vulnerable group. It is considered that the reduction in figures is a result of a strong multi-agency approach and positive interventions.

Notes on data and definitions:

- Each episode of a child going missing is recorded as a missing incident
- A Looked After Child who goes missing during the month will be recorded as a missing child only once, but if they go missing multiple times then they generate more than one missing incident during the month.

All Children - Child Sexual Exploitation and Gang Exploitation

Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) (All Children)	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Trend	Average
Gender														
Male	29	29	29	44	42	40	40	38						36.4
Female	67	67	63	87	86	85	92	98						80.6
Age of children														
0-8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0						0.0
9-12	1	1	1	3	2	1	1	3						1.6
13-16	73	73	69	103	103	100	106	110						92.1
17+	22	22	22	25	23	24	25	23						23.3

Gang Exploitation (All Children)	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb		Trend	Average
Gender														
Male	22	22	23	34	31	31	39	39						30.1
Female	4	4	4	7	7	7	10	12						6.9
Age of children														
0-8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0							0.0
9-12	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1						1.1
13-16	18	18	19	30	30	30	36	37						27.3
17+	7	7	7	9	7	7	12	13						8.6

Commentary:

February saw a sharp increase in the number of boys at risk of Child Sexual Exploitation and local intelligence will be being used to look at what is happening to safeguard children. The number of children with gang involvement has remained relatively stable during 2017-18.

Notes on data and definitions:

- As part of a child's assessment practitioners assess a child or young person's level of risk of child sexual exploitation (CSE). CSE is defined as children under 18 in exploitative situations, contexts or relationships where they receive 'something' (e.g. food, accommodation, drugs, alcohol, cigarettes, affection, gifts, money) as a result of them performing, and/or another or others performing on them, sexual activities.

- As part of a child's assessment practitioners assess a child or young person's level of risk of gang exploitation. The definition of being at risk of gang-related exploitation is - There are tangible indicators/evidence that suggests risks that a young person is being groomed and/or coerced into moving or selling drugs and being involved in other violence related gang activity, e.g. missing episodes with limited information on whereabouts and/or involvement with groups involved in the supply of drugs and carrying of weapons'.

CORPORATE PARENTING STRATEGY

To: **Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee**

Meeting Date: **30th January 2019**

From: **Name: Aidan O'Reilly
Title: Service Manager – Corporate Parenting**

Electoral division(s): **All**

Purpose: **The Corporate Parenting Strategy has been refreshed as part of on-going service delivery. The proposed strategy covers the period from 2019-2021.**

Recommendation: **The Sub-Committee is asked to:**

a) review and endorse the Corporate Parenting Strategy 2019-2021 prior to its launch with children, their families, their carers and designated officers.

<i>Officer contact:</i>		<i>Member contact:</i>	
Name:	Aidan O'Reilly	Names:	Councillor Lis Every
Post:	Service Manager – Corporate Parenting	Role:	Chairman, Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee
Email:	aidan.oreilly@cambridgeshire.gov.uk	Email:	Lis.Every@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
Tel:	01223 518719	Tel:	(office) 01223 706398

Summary:

- The corporate parenting strategy has been updated to cover the period from 2019 to 2021. The Executive Summary is attached at Appendix 1 and the full document at Appendix 2.
- The previous pledge to Cambridgeshire's Looked After Children has been replaced with 10 specific promises. These promises are in line with statutory expectations but have also been informed by an anonymised survey of Cambridgeshire's Looked After Children.
- These promises holistically represent a shared view of how to best support and safeguard Cambridgeshire's Looked After Children. Within the strategy are details of how these promises will be met and also how compliance will be monitored

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The Children Act 1989 sets out Local Authority responsibilities to Looked After Children. Volume 3 of the Guidance Regulations: Planning Transitions to Adulthood for Care Leavers gives details of how Care Leavers should be provided with support and the Children (Leaving Care) Act 2000 extended the responsibility of the Local Authority to young people leaving care, up to the age of 25.

The Children and Social Work Act 2017 defined for the first time in law the responsibility of Corporate Parents to ensure, as far as possible, secure, nurturing and positive experiences for Looked After Children and young people, and Care Leavers. Being a Corporate Parent means doing everything possible for every Looked After Child and Care Leaver to give them opportunities that other children receive. This means that Corporate Parents should:

- act in the best interests, and promote the physical and mental health and wellbeing, of those children and young people
- encourage them to express their views, wishes and feelings, and take them into account, while promoting high aspirations and trying to secure the best outcomes for them
- make sure they have access to services
- make sure that they are safe, with stable home lives, relationships and education or work
- prepare them for adulthood and independent living

- 1.2 Local Authorities do not act alone in their Corporate Parenting role. The Children Act 1989 placed a duty on the NHS, housing and education

authorities to assist social care services to fulfil their responsibility by providing support and services.

For officers, councillors and partners, being a Corporate Parent means that when any service is being reviewed that could impact upon Looked After Children and Care Leavers, or when hearing feedback from, or reports about, looked after children, they should consider:

“What if this were my child?” and, “What can we do to put this right?”

- 1.3 As Corporate Parents, we all need to recognise the uniqueness of the children in our care and make sure each child is getting what they need to do their best. This is achieved by being informed, getting involved, asking questions, championing rights and making sure the voices of children and young people are being heard.

2. MAIN ISSUES

2.1 How the Strategy was Developed

In 2017 and 2018, Cambridgeshire County Council, in conjunction with Coram Voice and Bristol University encouraged our Looked After Children and Care Leavers to participate in a survey of their well-being. The Survey ‘Your Life, Your Care’ (also known as Bright Spots), aimed to improve the care experience and well-being of children in care and care leavers by identifying and promoting ‘bright spots’ - the practices that had a positive influence on children and young people’s well-being. A number of the themes arising from the results of the Bright Spots Survey have been used to put a relevant and meaningful structure within Cambridgeshire’s Corporate Parenting Strategy.

The Strategy has been consulted on amongst Looked After Children, foster carers, the children’s workforce and Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Local Safeguarding Children Board which includes representatives from Health, Education, Police, Youth Offending, Housing and voluntary services.

2.2 Our Promises to Cambridgeshire Looked After Children

Cambridgeshire County Council is committed to our Looked After children’s care, and will always have high expectations of what they can do and achieve.

The Council is committed to supporting Looked After children to reach their full potential. Our Children in Care Council, Voices Matter, has identified the following 10 Promises that Cambridgeshire County Council will strive to achieve.

We will:

1. Make sure you know why you’re in care and support you to understand about this honestly at the right times throughout your journey
2. Support you to achieve your goals and reach your potential, in school and in your hobbies and interests
3. Support you to live a healthy lifestyle, including helping look after your mental health

4. Keep you safe and help you to keep yourself safe
5. Always work to keep you in a placement where you are happy
6. Ask you about, and keep you updated of any changes to your care plan
7. Always work to ensure that if you need to move placement, this is done in a planned way, and give you a chance to meet your new carers first
8. Help you see important people in your life
9. Listen to you and show you respect
10. Support you as you move into adulthood and continue our relationship with you until you are 25

2.3 How the Strategy will be Monitored

Using the outcome areas of Relationships, Safety, Rights, Well-Being, Achieving, Recovery and Reunification, the strategy sets out the priorities to improve outcomes for Looked After Children and Care Leavers. There is a workstream for each of the six outcome areas. Each work stream is led by a manager best placed for that role. Our aim is to ensure that the ambitions set out in the Pledge are achieved. A multiagency action plan which details how the outcomes will be achieved will be monitored and evaluated through the Corporate Parenting Committee.

3. SIGNIFICANT IMPLICATIONS

3.1 Resource Implications

N/A maintained within existing resources

3.2 Procurement/Contractual/Council Contract Procedure Rules Implications

N/A

3.3 Statutory, Legal and Risk Implications

N/A compliant with statutory frameworks

3.4 Equality and Diversity Implications

N/A

3.5 Engagement and Communications Implications

To be considered alongside development of the Local Offer to young people leaving care

3.6 Localism and Local Member Involvement

N/A

3.7 Public Health Implications

N/A

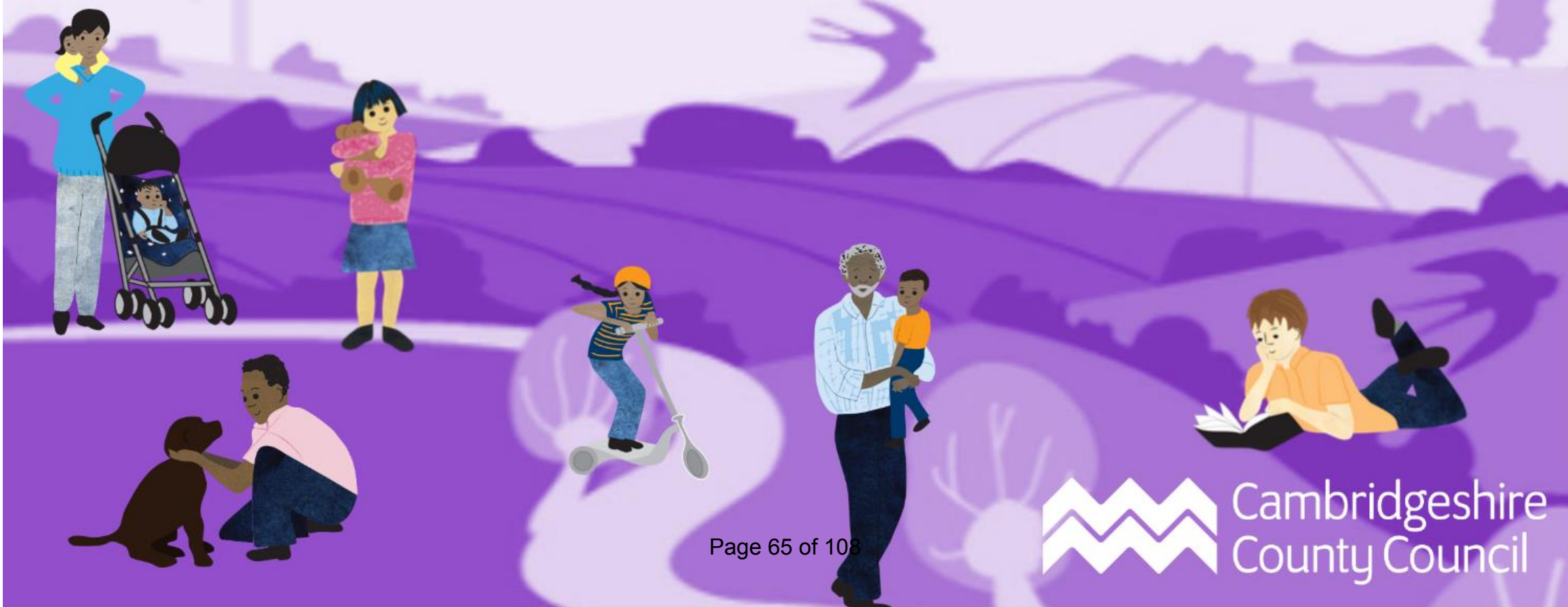
Source Documents	Location
Corporate Parenting – Executive Summary	Aidan O'Reilly Scott House, Hunts
Corporate Parenting Strategy January 2019	Aidan O'Reilly Scott House, Hunts

Cambridgeshire County Council Corporate Parenting Strategy

Children, Young People and Executive's Version

Developed by Voices Matter (Children in Care Council)

2018 - 2021



Who is this summary for?

This Summary of the Corporate Parenting Strategy is for Children, Care Leavers, carers, birth family and relevant professionals. There is a full Corporate Parenting Strategy, but this summary makes it simple to read and understand.

What is a 'Corporate Parent'?

Everyone who works with Looked After young people and care leavers is a corporate parent. This can be a social worker, councillor and other professionals who work in health, housing and education. Being a corporate parent means to take responsibility for doing everything that a good parent should do for Looked After children and care leavers.

Corporate Parenting Strategy

The Corporate Parenting Strategy has been written based on what Looked after Children and Care Leavers have told us about their experience of being in care. This feedback has included information about what is working well and where there is a need for improvements. Of course it also includes essential requirements such as being seen by your social worker, attending school and health checks. However we have listened to Looked after Children and really want to make a difference to those things that matter to them such as fear of bullying, having someone they trust and can talk to and seeing family.

Who makes the Corporate Parent Strategy a real 'Thing'?

We've grouped this feedback within 6 'outcome areas': Relationships, Safety, Well-Being, Achieving, Recovery and Reunification. For each area there is a group of designated lead professionals. Each group is made up of social workers, Elected Members and other professionals, for example from health and education.



Corporate Parenting Sub Committee



The Corporate Parenting Sub Committee meets every other month. The meeting is made up of Elected Members, the Assistant Director of Children Services and two Care Leavers. Other professionals go to these meetings as required. The job of the Corporate Parenting Sub Committee is to see how well progress is being made on the 6 main areas (above) in the Corporate Parenting Strategy. So, if things aren't changing quickly enough for Looked after Children or Care Leavers the Committee will ask the Council 'why not'. This is how the Corporate Parenting Sub Committee promotes children's rights and wishes alongside ensuring that they are well cared for and have the best life opportunities possible.

The Promises to Looked After Children and Care Leavers

The Children in Care Council, Voices Matter has come up with a set of Promises the Corporate Parenting Committee and the whole Council make to Looked After Children and Care Leavers.

These are:



Monitoring the Promises

The teams who work with Looked after Children and Care Leavers (the Corporate Parenting Service) has to check out that everyone is working together to make sure the Promises are being met. The Corporate Parenting Service write regular reports to the Corporate Parenting Sub Committee to show that the Promises are being kept to.



Being Involved

You can be involved in Committee meetings (mentioned above) to give your opinions.

Or you can come along to one of the children and young people's groups run by the Participation service.

Ask your worker about this or email csc.participation@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Cambridgeshire County Council Corporate Parenting Strategy

2018 - 2021



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Foreword from the Chief Executive

In Cambridgeshire, we believe that ensuring effective support, care and protection for children and young people who are Looked After by the local authority is one of the most important responsibilities held by elected members, partner agencies and staff working with children and young people. In order to do this, we must all work together to meet the needs of Looked After Children and young people and to promote and achieve positive outcomes so that our Looked After Children and young people are supported in respect of their Relationships, Safety, Rights, Well-Being, Achieving, Recovery and Reunification with their families where this is appropriate.

Children and young people who are Looked After are among the most vulnerable. As Corporate Parents, it is our responsibility to work alongside their families to keep them safe, make sure their experiences of being looked after are positive, and improve their life chances. We must approach this parenting role with as much passion and commitment as any family would and ensure that our looked after children and young people have every opportunity to reach their full potential.

This Corporate Parenting Strategy provides an overview of the aims and aspirations that we hold. All organisations and services within Cambridgeshire who hold Corporate Parenting responsibilities are essential contributors to ensuring that this strategy is successful and that the outcomes for children and young people who are Looked After are as good as those for all children and young people. In support of this, Cambridgeshire's Children's Services Director, and Lead Member have signed a 'Promise' to all Looked After Children and young people.

This strategy describes how we will improve the lives of the children and young people who are Looked After through the joint development of priorities and the delivery of associated services. Our intention is to bring together the range of activity across the Children's Services Partnership and Members of the council at all stages of the care journey. Crucially, this strategy was developed in partnership with young people, partner agencies and carers.

Our Promises to Cambridgeshire Looked After Children

Cambridgeshire County Council is committed to supporting Looked After children to reach their full potential and has high aspirations as to what they can achieve. Collaboratively with Voices Matter, we have identified the following 10 promises that Cambridgeshire County Council make. We will:

1. Make sure you know why you're in care and support you to understand this throughout your life
2. Support you to achieve your goals and reach your potential, in school and in your hobbies and interests
3. Support you to live a healthy lifestyle, including helping look after your mental health
4. Keep you safe and help you to keep yourself safe
5. Always work to keep you in a placement where you are happy
6. Ask you about, and keep you updated of any changes to your care plan
7. Always work to ensure that if you need move placement, this is done in a planned way, and give you a chance to meet your new carers first
8. Help you to see the important people in your life
9. Listen to you and show you respect
10. Support you as you move into adulthood and continue our relationship with you until you are 25

Strategic Context

The Children Act 1989 sets out Local Authority responsibilities to Looked After Children. Volume 3 of the Guidance Regulations: Planning Transitions to Adulthood for Care Leavers gives details of how Care Leavers should be provided with support and the Children (Leaving Care) Act 2000 extended the responsibility of the Local Authority to young people leaving care, up to the age of 25.

The Children and Social Work Act 2017 defined for the first time in law the responsibility of Corporate Parents to ensure, as far as possible, secure, nurturing and positive experiences for Looked After Children and young people, and Care Leavers. Being a Corporate Parent means doing everything possible for every Looked After Child and Care Leaver to give them opportunities that other children receive. This means that Corporate Parents should:

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- encourage them to express their views, wishes and feelings, and take them into account, while promoting high aspirations and trying to secure the best outcomes for them
- make sure they have access to services
- make sure that they are safe, with stable home lives, relationships and education or work
- prepare them for adulthood and independent living

Local Authorities do not act alone in their Corporate Parenting role. The Children Act 1989 placed a duty on the NHS, housing and education authorities to assist social care services to fulfil their responsibility by providing support and services.

For both officers, councillors and partners, being a Corporate Parent means that when any service is being reviewed that could impact upon Looked After Children and Care Leavers, or when hearing feedback from, or reports about, looked after children, they should consider:

“What if this were my child?” and, “What can we do to put this right?”

As Corporate Parents, we all need to recognise the uniqueness of the children in their care, and make sure each child is getting what they need to do their best. To do this, it is about being informed, getting involved, asking questions, championing rights and making sure the voices of children and young people are being heard.

How the Strategy was developed

In 2017 and 2018, Cambridgeshire County Council, in conjunction with Coram Voice and Bristol University engaged with our Looked after Children and Care Leavers to participate in a survey into their well-being. The Survey 'Your Life, Your Care' (also known as Bright Spots), aimed to Improve the care experience and well-being of children in care and care leavers by identifying and promoting 'bright spots' - the practices that had a positive influence on children and young people's well-being. A number of the themes arising from the results of the Bright Spots Survey have been used to put a relevant and meaningful structure within Cambridgeshire's Corporate Parenting Strategy.

The Strategy has been consulted on by Looked After Children, foster carers, the children's workforce, and Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Local Safeguarding Children Board which includes representatives from Health, Education, Police, Youth Offending, Housing and voluntary services.

How the Strategy will be monitored

The strategy has been divided into the following subsections (in line with the Your Life, Your Care survey)

- Relationships
- Safety
- Rights
- Well-Being
- Achieving
- Recovery
- Reunification

The strategy sets out the priorities to improve outcomes for looked after children and care leavers. There is a workstream for each of the seven outcome areas. Each work stream is led by a manager best placed for that role. Our aim is to ensure that the commitments set out in each promise are achieved and evidenced.

Relationships	
Happiness with the amount of family contact how and where it takes place	Monitoring frequency, planned and actual. Experiences of children will be clearly explored at LAC reviews
Keeping the same carers	Frequency of placement moves and evidence that children feel settled
Keeping the same social worker	Where possible ensure consistency of social worker
Having at least one good friend	Exploring the child's social network at statutory visits and LAC reviews

Safety	
Help to find a trusted adult/network of support	Identified in care plan and revisited at LAC reviews
Having fun, hobbies and access to the natural world	Evidence that fun and hobbies are prioritised in the same way that health and education are for looked after children
Offer you second chances	Evidence in carer supervision and LAC reviews that this is happening
Enjoying education	Children have good experiences of school, learning and support as needed. Monitored through PEPs.
Carer's support for learning	Carers attend all meetings for children about their school and active support with homework/revision
Life Skills	Looked after children are equipped with all the skills they need and are given opportunities to be successful adults

Rights	
Included in decision making	Evidence that children are invited to contribute views at LAC reviews, PEP's, health assessments and other important places where decisions are taken
Mitigate the stigma of being in care	Checking in with children's experiences at statutory visits and LAC reviews
Knowing and contact with social workers	All children are told in writing and in person who their social worker is and how to contact (development of credit card/concertina style leaflets) with this info and info on participation and rights
Feeling safe	How is feels to live in their placement, statutory visits, LAC review and MOMO
Bullying	Routinely discussed at statutory visits, carers supervision and LAC reviews
Use of MOMO to express wishes	Increased usage of the app to support improvements
Knowing and accessing support services	Access to advocates, Independent Visitors and opportunities to express experiences through participation

Well being	
Improvements to the timeliness of initial and review health assessments	Ensure workers understand the task, responsibilities and timescales. Continue frequent monitoring and build on relationships with health and social care
Specialist health services develop policies to prioritise looked after children, young people and care leavers	Policies are published and their implementation monitored
Build and sustain relationships with mental health service providers	Understand the offer to looked after children and keep mental health services, statutory and non-statutory in conversations around the local need
To understand the emotional needs of looked after children and to improve their mental health	SDQ scores and evidence of input to support these, i.e. Clinical or CAMH input or increased social work support at times of stress
To engage actively with the looked after children in the planning and delivery of services	Joint work with health, social care and the participation service to enable this to happen

Achieving	
Improving attainment and progress in school each year	Outcome of report, ongoing support and monitoring
Achieving as well in school as children who are not care experienced	Outcome of reports, ongoing support and monitoring
Staying in education after the age of 16	Support and advice from the Virtual School, social workers, Schools and PA's
Feeling confident and prepared when starting new schools	Support and advice from the Virtual School, social workers, Schools and PA's
Knowing and having support to continue into employment, training or higher education	Monitored through the NEET reduction strategy
Having opportunities to take part in work-experience placements, apprenticeships and jobs	Report annually on the numbers receiving support and the opportunities created
Knowing that Head Teachers and Governors understand what they can do to offer the best support	Messages from the Virtual School and training events for schools
Knowing that all professionals and carers understand the best way to support learning	Develop new training and extend the existing offer
Using the pupil premium grant to make school a success	Collect information to confirm this and provide evidence
Knowing the Virtual School will champion needs and that their work reviewed by their management board.	Restructure following outcomes of the virtual school review

Recovery	
Knowing life story	Increased training for staff to develop confidence in this work. Evidence that life story understanding is discussed with children regularly and evidence is collected
Sensitive carers and support with worries	Evidenced through carer supervision and participation groups
Being trusted and helping out	Evidenced through carer supervision and participation groups

Reunification	
Consider the possibility of reunifying looked after children with their families at all points of their looked after journey	Consider in planning for children accommodated under S.20 and for longer term looked after children at transitions points
Use the NSPCC framework and access practice champions	Phase the training of staff in this model and ensure documentation supports and enables staff to achieve reunification assessment and planning

SUPPORT TO CARE LEAVERS (INCLUDING STAYING PUT) AND THE ROLE OF THE PERSONAL ADVISOR

To: **Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee**

Meeting Date: **30 January 2019**

From: **Name: Kate Knight
Title: Lead Manager Corporate Parenting**

Electoral division(s): **People and Communities**

Purpose: **To inform the Committee of services and support being provided to care leavers and detail the current state of this provision. The report also highlights planned development to services and support provided to care leavers as well as detailing the current provision in place for our care leavers.**

Recommendation: **a) Note the services and support being provided to our Care Leavers**

<i>Officer contact:</i>		<i>Member contact:</i>	
Name:	Kate Knight	Names:	Councillor Lis Every
Post:	Lead Manager Corporate Parenting	Role:	Chairman, Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee
Email:	KateKnight@Cambridgeshire.gov.uk	Email:	Lis.Every@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
Tel:	01223 728362	Tel:	(office) 01223 706398

Summary:

Following the Children and Social Work Act 2017 we are required to deliver a service to all qualifying young people up until the age of 25. This includes the provision of a 'local offer' for care leavers in Cambridgeshire.

The Role of the Personal Advisor (PA) is to provide guidance and assistance to our Care Leavers. The allocation of PA's to our young people, forms the mainstay of our service and support to Care Leavers.

The development and implementation of the Local Offer for Care Leavers forms the core of our support services for Care Leavers. Initially the Local Offer will provide all the information a Care Leaver might need without having to refer to their PA in the first instance. Building on this we plan to generate opportunities for our Care Leavers by engaging with our partners and so building an enhanced offer.

We are looking internally for potential apprenticeship opportunities within the County Council in order to use the apprenticeship levy. However, due to a number of factors, take up and interest in these opportunities has been relatively low.

Planning with our Care Leavers is critical. The plan and guidance for the young person will all be contained within their Pathway Plan. This details what they have been doing up to this point, what they are currently doing and what they plan to do in the future, in particular looking at how they will achieve their goals and aspirations.

Many of our young people are housed in semi-independent and supported accommodation. There are issues around securing suitable accommodation due to availability and affordability in certain areas of Cambridgeshire. To help combat this we have established a joint Homelessness Prevention Protocol with housing in order to prevent homelessness amongst our care leavers.

There are some challenges with our ability to stay in touch with our care leavers and we are currently carrying out a review with support from Business Intelligence and Information Governance in order to identify Care Leavers who were previously closed to us who now may be eligible for a service.

Likewise the focusing on the health needs of our Care Leavers and the service will be working closely with our health colleagues to provide robust support.

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Legislation including the Children Act 1989 and Children Act 2004 have successively strengthened public bodies' responsibilities to Looked after Children and Care Leavers.

The Children and Social Work Act 2017 further defines support for Looked after Children and strengthens the duty and responsibility of all Local Authorities including District Councils and organisations in their provision of support and services for children and young people.

The Children and Social Work Act 2017 states that Councils and partners must have regard to a set of Corporate Parenting Principles when exercising their functions. This applies to the whole council and not just to children's services functions and all Looked after Children and Care Leavers up to the age of 25. This legislation also applies to Officers and Members alike.

2. MAIN ISSUES

2.1 Role the Personal Advisor (PA)

The Role of a PA is to provide support and guidance to our young people as they transition between being in Local Authority Care and into independent living once they turn 18 years old.

PA's are not necessarily Social Workers but some Social Workers might take on the role of a Personal Advisor. PA's can help young people with finances, accommodation, health problems, relationship breakdowns and all sorts of other problems that our Care Leavers might face on a day to day basis.

They will build strong relationships with our young people and our Care Leavers and feel able to rely on them as a source of support. Further to this, our PA's can help our young people access council resources designed to help them. For example if a young person is preparing to begin studying higher education, the PA might be able to provide financial assistance with stationary and other items necessary for studying.

The role of a PA is substantial and significant. The PA role is to provide an excellent service to our Care Leavers through what can be a very challenging period of their young adulthood.

2.1 Local Offer

We are developing a strong and sustainable service for our Care Leavers under the Local Offer. We have been working over the last year to develop our offer with the help of Senior Transformation Advisor Rebecca Pentelow and Graduate Management Trainee Christopher Sutton.

The Local Offer is designed to provide all the information a young adult with Care Leaver status might need in one easily accessible place. As we are

currently in the early stages of development, the offer is purely a source of information. However, Cambridgeshire would like to utilise this as our vehicle to provide an added service to our Care Leavers, working across the Council, our partner agencies as well as local businesses in order to provide additional opportunities, such as securing apprenticeship places, work experience and mentorship.

We have chosen to take an aspirational approach to Cambridgeshire's Local Offer and recognise that many of these services will not be in place immediately and so the offer will continue to develop and evolve as services develop further. Below is the link to the website detailing Cambridgeshire's Local Offer.

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/children-and-families/children-s-social-care/care-leavers-local-offer/>

2.2 NEET (NOT IN EMPLOYMENT EDUCATION OR TRAINING)

We are working at improving and developing our dedicated Lead for Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET)/Education, Employment and Training (EET) PA role which is now more closely aligned to the Care Leaver Teams. We are developing a number of initiatives to facilitate the right opportunities for our Care Leavers across all age ranges who are currently not in Education, Employment or Training.

2.3 Apprenticeships

There are opportunities within Cambridge County Council as part of the apprenticeships levy, but they are currently limited in their uptake. This is due to a range of reasons such as young people not being ready to take on an apprenticeship for a variety of reasons in order to participate fully. This is also being considered as part of the Local Offer.

The council currently has one Care Leaver apprentice working on the use and application of MOMO (Mind of My Own) a review and feedback tool.

2.4 Higher Education

All young people currently in higher education are supporting in a variety of ways through their Personal Advisors.

2.5 Suitable Accommodation

The Pathway Plan (PWP) is the key document which is set out in law as the gateway to support for all young people who are or have been looked after.

The PWP is owned by the young person and is written with the support of the Looked after Child's Social Worker and, as they become older and develop a greater degree of independence, will be reviewed by their PA.

This PWP determine the type of accommodation a young person requires and should match where possible the young person's needs, in terms of ethnic origin, any additional needs, risks or requirements.

The service is delivering training to all PA's in early February 2019 aimed at improving quality and consistency specifically to ensure the young person participates fully in their plan and their voice is reflected throughout.

2.6 Planning for Children in Care Post 16 and Post 18

All Children in Care in Cambridgeshire are allocated a social worker. This social worker, with support from the team around the child, will work with the individual to plan for independence. This will involve work that includes the Needs Led Assessment (NLA), The Pathway Plan (PWP) and The Independence Passport.

2.7 Staying Put

Staying Put is a service that Cambridgeshire County Council has a duty to provide. This is an arrangement between a former foster child and their former foster carer. The former foster child who will have turned 18, will continue to live with their foster carer but will have to pay a contribution towards their accommodation, bills and food. The local authority arranges and facilitates this agreement between the foster carer and the young person and this arrangement can continue until the young person is aged 21 years. Staying put is a very beneficial arrangement for former foster children as it allows them to maintain stability, feel valued and achieve their full potential. Appropriate planning for a staying put arrangement will take place in the Pathway Plan.

2.8 Supported Accommodation Providers

Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC) and Peterborough City Council (PCC) are jointly commissioning the provision of supported accommodation services for looked after young people aged 16–18 years, for whom each authority has a statutory responsibility. The Councils are seeking to work with a number of providers who can demonstrate continual improvements in value for money achieved by deploying efficient and innovative ways of meeting both the accommodation and support needs of eligible young people. Access to accommodation in Cambridgeshire presents difficulties in some areas due to availability and affordability.

Cambridgeshire is a stake holder in the new 'Staying Close, Staying Connected' project with Break. This is an alternative to Staying Put for young people leaving residential care. It allows young people to live independently, but close to the children's home that they have lived in previously.

We are also working with Samad Nadimi, Specialist Adviser from Rough Sleeping Initiative and Sarah Ferguson, Assistant Director for Housing, Communities and Youth and our Commissioning Teams in Children and

Adults to look at a variety of factors impacting on the availability of suitable accommodation and how to ensure all our Care Leavers are placed in suitable accommodation. We will be mapping the service requirements using the St Basils / Barnardo's Care Leavers Accommodation and Support Network.

2.9 Keeping in touch

Cambridgeshire recognises that there are challenges with our methods of recording and reporting young people we are in touch with. However, we are looking to address this by working with Business Intelligence and Information Governance to discuss how we can establish who is currently closed to us but may be entitled to a service in accordance with new legislation. We recognise the timescales of this and the importance of getting this right in order to provide a service these young people are entitled to access services if they so wish.

2.10 Additional Plans for the Future

- Development and implementation of the Homelessness Prevention PA role funded by the Department for Education (DFE). This will be a specialist role within the Care Leaving teams dedicated to the prevention of homelessness with a particular focus on tenancy management and the prevention of tenancy breakdown.
- Mapping of Care Leavers to identify support needs on a Needs Led and geographical basis, considering the Barnardo's and St Basil's publication.
- Devise a Care Leavers Strategy to clearly set out and monitor progress with the project developments and activity being undertaken for our Care Leavers.

3. SIGNIFICANT IMPLICATIONS

3.1 Resource Implications N/A

3.2 Procurement/Contractual/Council Contract Procedure Rules Implications N/A

3.3 Statutory, Legal and Risk Implications

We have a statutory obligation to provide a service to Care Leavers up to the age of 25



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

Source Documents	Location
<p><i>Care Leaver Accommodation and Support Framework</i></p>	
<p><i>Joint Protocol to address the needs of Homeless 16 and 17 year olds in Cambridgeshire</i></p>	 <p>Homelessness 1617 protocol.docx</p>

LOCAL OFFER FOR CARE LEAVERS

To: **Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee**

Meeting Date: **30 January 2019**

From: **Kate Knight
Lead Manager Corporate Parenting**

Electoral division(s): **All**

Purpose: **This report provides the Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee with an update on the on the implementation of the 'local offer' for care leavers. It also informs the Sub-Committee of our intention to secure funding through the Transformation fund for a one year fixed term post to oversee the implementation and development of the Local Offer.**

Recommendation: **The Sub-Committee is recommended to:**

- a) Continue to encourage partners to engage with the development of the Local Offer.**
- b) Note the progress in the development of the local offer and Elected Members continue raising awareness of the offer within the Council.**
- c) Reflect on their own networks and contacts and identify areas in which they might be able to support the creation of opportunities for our care leavers.**
- d) Invite Elected Members to champion one of the key areas contained in the Local Offer.**

<i>Officer contact:</i>		<i>Member contact:</i>	
Name:	Kate Knight	Names:	Councillor Lis Every
Post:	Lead Manager Corporate Parenting	Role:	Chairman, Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee
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Tel:	01223 728362	Tel:	(office) 01223 706398

Summary:

Following the Children and Social Work Act 2017 we are required to deliver a service to all qualifying young people up until the age of 25. Including the provision of a 'local offer' for Care Leavers in Cambridgeshire.

The Local Offer is designed to provide all the information a Care Leaver might need in one easily accessible place as well as detail all available opportunities and services within Cambridgeshire. The Offer is now accessible online on the County Council Corporate website.

With this base-line offer in place, it now gives us a clear platform from which to build and develop an enhanced offer for our care leavers in order to properly fulfil our duty as Corporate Parents to these young people.

We have built a communication and engagement strategy with support from our Corporate Communication & Information Team to help identify our key stakeholder's, methods of communication and goals for building effective and sustainable relationships with our stakeholders.

A key aspect of this service provision is the proposed creation of a Local Offer Development Officer post. This role is currently being successfully fulfilled by a National Management Trainee, however it has been identified that in order to create an aspirational and sustainable offer, the preference is to create a dedicated role to expand on the work already started. Pending agreement, this position is envisioned to be a twelve month fixed-term post which will oversee the development and implementation of our Local Offer once our National Management Trainee ends his placement in March 2019. It is hoped the funding for this post will be secured through the Transformation Fund.

1. BACKGROUND

Legislation including the Children Act 1989 and Children Act 2004 have successively strengthened public bodies' responsibilities to looked after children and Care Leavers.

The Children and Social Work Act 2017 further improves support for looked after children and strengthens the duty and responsibility of all Local Authorities, including District Councils, and organisations providing support and services for children and young people.

Children and Social Work Act 2017 states that Councils and partners must have regard to a set of Corporate Parenting Principles when exercising their functions. This applies to the whole council and not just to children's services functions and all Looked after Children and Care Leavers up to the age of twenty five. This legislation also applies to Officers and Members alike.

This offer is in the early stages of development but it is designed and set out. We have approximately 330 young adults in this cohort of Care Leavers and efforts are being made to get back in touch with a number of Care Leavers aged twenty one to twenty five in line with our extended duty.

2. MAIN ISSUES

2.1 Corporate Parenting Principles

The Act introduces Corporate Parenting Principles which are intended to change Local Authority culture so that all staff and departments consider the impact of their work on children and young people for whom the Local Authority is the Corporate Parent, as well as on those under 25 who were previously in the care of a Local Authority.

The Principles state that local authorities (including county, district, borough and combined authorities) must 'have regard to the need' to take certain actions in their work for children in care and care leavers. These are:

- *To act in their best interests, and promote their physical and mental health and well-being;*
- *To encourage them to express their views, wishes and feelings;*
- *To take into account their views, wishes and feelings;*
- *To help them gain access to, and make the best use of, services provided by the local authority and its relevant partners;*
- *To promote high aspirations, and seek to secure the best outcomes, for them;*
- *For them to be safe and have stability in their home lives, relationships and education or work;*
- *To prepare them for adulthood and independent living.*

This reinforces the established understanding that 'corporate parenting' responsibilities extend beyond the County Council to its statutory partners and the Act seeks to further consolidate this through the formulation of the County's 'Local Offer'.

2.2 The Local Offer

We have consulted with various services across the authority to create a comprehensive Offer for our Care Leavers. The Offer is primarily information based; detailing our current commitments to Care Leavers and sign posting them to other available services, support and sources of information. Our aim has been to keep the Offer concise and useful for our Care Leavers and

rather than replicate information that can be found elsewhere on other trusted websites we have provided links and sign-posting so that our Care Leavers can access all available support independently should they wish.

The recommended format for the Local Offer is a distinct online area hosted on the Council's corporate website. Although this is not ideal, as it may not be the most appealing site for our care leavers, we have endeavoured to make the site easy to navigate, visually appealing, and most importantly mobile friendly. Youthoria, was considered as an alternative because it was aimed at a younger audience and already had a dedicated Care Leavers area. However, consultation with our Care Leavers, revealed that generally they did not like the Youthoria site. It was aimed at 11-19 year olds cutting out a large portions of our target group, and the site is now over 10 years old, with a distinct lack of functionality. Furthermore, work to review and update the site which initially we hoped to capitalise on has stalled and no longer fits with our timescales. Should Youthoria be redesigned then we will review this decision at that point. At this stage we will have a small presence on Youthoria linking through to the corporate website.

The Local Offer can be broken down into several key areas:

- *Who is eligible/ Being a Care Leaver/Role of the personal Adviser*
- *Health & Wellbeing*
- *Relationships*
- *Education*
- *Employment & Training*
- *Participation and Engagement*
- *Participation in Society*
- *Accommodation*
- *Finances*

2.3 Communication & Engagement Strategy

We are also continuing our work with partners to develop an enhanced Local Offer to provide opportunities for our Care Leavers that cannot be delivered by the council alone. To achieve our aims regarding opportunity development, we have been working with the Corporate Communications & Information Team to develop a communication and engagement strategy that covers the promotion and launch of the Local Offer. The strategy looks at communication and interaction with community groups and businesses to aid in developing opportunities for our Care Leavers. It also demonstrates our plan for contacting eligible young people who are currently closed to us and with whom we have no contact with but, who are entitled to a service from us. It also lays out our marketing approach and plans for the Local Offer.

2.4 Member Champions

In order to promote and develop these opportunities we would like to create member champions for specific areas of our Local Offer. These champions will directly reflect the key sections of the Local Offer. The main responsibility of these champions will be to promote the Local Offer, both internally and externally, initially by increasing engagement across the authority to provide the best opportunities for Care Leavers across all directorates and services. Further to this, member's champions will work with Officers to ensure provision in their section is of the highest standard, contributing their own ideas and solutions to aid in this delivery. Externally, champions will look at their own networks to identify opportunities and potential partnerships to help facilitate the creation of new opportunities for our Care Leavers. Member champions will also promote the Local Offer more generally at events, engagements and other networking opportunities acting as a good corporate parent and as any good parent would do for their own children.

2.5 Department for Education Light Touch Meeting

Mark Riddell, National Implementation Adviser for Care Leavers will be visiting the authority on January 31st to review our progress with the Local Offer and service provision for Care Leavers.

Following this meeting, Mark will likely provide suggestions for improvement and share some examples of best practice. This will give us a very clear focus on next steps as well as providing a broader picture of what could be achieved over the next year.

2.6 Local Offer Development Officer Post

A key objective of the Local Offer is sustainability and ensuring provision remains in place and develops, far into the future. In line with this objective, the Offer remains very much an active project and is not yet ready to transition into business as usual to be managed by the Leaving Care Teams. Therefore, to enable the continued development of the Local Offer and for it to reach its full potential, we are looking to recruit a Local Offer Development Officer to oversee and manage the Offer when our Graduate Trainee completes his placement with us in March 2019. The Local Offer Development Officer is planned to be a one-year fixed term post. We are also exploring the possibility of an apprenticeship to support the Local Offer Development Officer in their work. Ideally this apprenticeship would be filled by one of our own Care Leavers.

SIGNIFICANT IMPLICATIONS

3.1 Resource Implications

Proposed creation of a Local Offer Development Officer post for a fixed-term of one year. It is proposed we secure this funding from the Transformation Fund, if the proposal is accepted.

3.2 Procurement/Contractual/Council Contract Procedure Rules Implications NA

3.3 Statutory, Legal and Risk Implications NA

3.4 Equality and Diversity Implications NA

3.5 Engagement and Communications Implications NA

3.6 Localism and Local Member Involvement NA

3.7 Public Health Implications NA

Source Documents	Location
Pathways4Us 'Cambridgeshire's Local Offer for Care Leavers'	https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/children-and-families/children-s-social-care/care-leavers-local-offer/

Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee Workshop and Training Plan 2017/18

Summary

Each committee at the County Council has its own training plan to help its members learn more about the business that the Committee covers. Each training session is listed and a record is kept of which members of the committee attend.

	Subject	Desired Learning Outcome/ Success Measures	Priority	Date	Responsibility	Nature of Training	Audience	Attendance by:	% of Committee Members Attending
1.	We are all Corporate Parents	To discuss councillors' role and responsibilities as Corporate Parents.	High	12.01.18	<i>Fiona MacKirdy, Head of County Wide and Looked After Children</i>	Seminar	All county councillors	Cllr Bradnam Cllr Costello Cllr Cuffley Cllr Every Cllr Hay Cllr Joseph Cllr Whitehead (only members and subs of CPSC shown)	80%
2.	Looked After Children and Care Leavers	To brief Members on all areas of the Council's work in relation to looked after children and care leavers	High	11.04.18	<i>Jacqui Barry, Service Development Manager, District Safeguarding Manager</i>	Presentation and discussion	Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee members	Cllr Every Cllr Hay Cllr Bradnam Cllr Richards Cllr Cuffley	80%
3.	Safeguarding training and visit to the Multi-	To refresh and update Members'	High	11.04.18	<i>Lou Williams, Service Director,</i>	Presentation, tour of	Children and Young People	Cllr Every Cllr Hay	60%

	Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH)	safeguarding training and offer them the chance to see first-hand the work being done at the MASH.			<i>Jenny Goodes, Head of Service – Integrated Front Door</i>	facilities and discussions with staff	Committee and Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee members and substitute members	Cllr Bradnam Cllr Cuffley	
4.	Corporate Parenting Strategy refresh	To discuss corporate parenting strategies going forward.	High	12.06.18	Jacqui Barry	Workshop	Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee members	Cllr Every Cllr Hay	40%
5.	Fostering		Medium	24.07.18 (To be rearranged)	John Heron, Residential and Placements Provision Manager		Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee members		
6.	Mental Health	To include developmental trauma and mental health, parent infant mental health, school aged children, adolescence and mental health and resilience	High	22.01.19	Pam Parker, Clinical Psychology Lead	Presentation and Workshop	Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee members		
7.	The Local Offer		Medium	To be arranged	Kate Knight, Lead Corporate Parenting Manager				

CORPORATE PARENTING SUB-COMMITTEE FORWARD AGENDA PLAN

Updated 22 January 2019

Agenda Item No: 11

Summary

The Forward Agenda Plan shows the dates and times of future meetings, where they will be held and what reports will be considered.

Committee date	Agenda item	Lead officer	Reference if key decision	Deadline for draft reports to Sarah-Jane Smedmor	Approved reports to Democratic Services by
Wednesday 30 January 2019 – 4.00pm – Room 128, Shire Hall, Cambridge CB3 0AP					
	Minutes and Action Log	Democratic Services	Not applicable		14 January 2019
	Virtual School (<i>Standing item</i>)	C Hiorns	Not applicable		
	Performance Report (<i>standing item</i>)	A O'Reilly	Not applicable		
	Sub-Committee Workshop/ Training Plan (<i>standing item</i>)	A O'Reilly	Not applicable		
	Young People's Participation (<i>standing item</i>)	J Barry & C Betteridge	Not applicable		

Committee date	Agenda item	Lead officer	Reference if key decision	Deadline for draft reports to Sarah-Jane Smedmor	Approved reports to Democratic Services by
	Support to Care Leavers (including Staying Put) and the role of the Personal Advisor.	K Knight	Not applicable		
	The Local Offer	C Sutton	Not applicable		
	Corporate Parenting Strategy	A O'Reilly	Not applicable		
	Forward Agenda Plan	R Greenhill	Not applicable		
Wednesday 20 March 2019 – 4.15pm - Meeting Room 2, Huntingdon Library, Princes Street, Huntingdon PE29 3PA					
	Minutes and Action Log	Democratic Services	Not applicable		7 March 2019
	Virtual School <i>Standing item)</i> <i>To include:</i> <i>i. Validated exam results</i> <i>ii. A six month update on the issues explored in relation to the VS at the meeting on 19 September 2018;</i>	J Lewis/ C Hiorns	Not applicable		
	Performance Report <i>(standing item)</i>	A O'Reilly	Not applicable		

Committee date	Agenda item	Lead officer	Reference if key decision	Deadline for draft reports to Sarah-Jane Smedmor	Approved reports to Democratic Services by
	Sub-Committee Workshop/ Training Plan <i>(standing item)</i>	A O'Reilly	Not applicable		
	Young People's Participation <i>(standing item)</i>	J Barry & C Betteridge	Not applicable		
	Workforce Development <i>(standing item)</i>	S-J Smedmor	Not applicable		
	Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee: Draft First Annual Report to the Children and Young People Committee	S-J Smedmor	Not applicable		
	Child and Adolescent Mental Health issues for Cambridgeshire's Looked After Children: Update <i>(bi-meeting update)</i>	P Parker	Not applicable		
	Actions taken by the Council in response to child sexual exploitation and county lines/ gang exploitation.	J Goode	Not applicable		
	Refreshed NEET Strategy: Reducing the number of Looked After Children who are Not in Education, Employment or Training	M Cowdell	Not applicable		
	The Local Offer	K Knight/ C Sutton	Not applicable		
	Early Permanence	J-A Saunders/ A O'Reilly	Not applicable		
	Forward Agenda Plan	R Greenhill	Not applicable		

Committee date	Agenda item	Lead officer	Reference if key decision	Deadline for draft reports to Sarah-Jane Smedmor	Approved reports to Democratic Services by
Wednesday 22 May 2019 – 4.00pm - venue tbc					
	Minutes and Action Log	Democratic Services	Not applicable		
	Virtual School (<i>Standing item</i>)	C Hiorns	Not applicable		
	Performance Report (<i>standing item</i>)	A O'Reilly	Not applicable		
	Sub-Committee Workshop/ Training Plan (<i>standing item</i>)	A O'Reilly	Not applicable		
	Young People's Participation (<i>standing item</i>)	J Barry & C Betteridge	Not applicable		
	Workforce Development (<i>quarterly standing item</i>)	S-J Smedmor	Not applicable		
	Fostering Service Annual Report 2018/19	J Heron	Not applicable		
	Agenda Plan	Democratic Services	Not applicable		
Wednesday 17 July 2019 – 4.00pm – venue tbc					
	Minutes and Action Log	Democratic Services	Not applicable		
	Virtual School (<i>Standing item</i>)	C Hiorns	Not applicable		

Committee date	Agenda item	Lead officer	Reference if key decision	Deadline for draft reports to Sarah-Jane Smedmor	Approved reports to Democratic Services by
	Performance Report (standing item)	A O'Reilly	Not applicable		
	Sub-Committee Workshop/ Training Plan (standing item)	A O'Reilly	Not applicable		
	Young People's Participation (standing item)	J Barry & C Betteridge	Not applicable		
	Child and Adolescent Mental Health issues for Cambridgeshire's Looked After Children: Update (bi-meeting update)	P Parker	Not applicable		
	Independent Review Officers' Annual Report: April 2018-March 2019	Olly Grant	Not applicable		
	Agenda Plan	Democratic Services	Not applicable		
Wednesday 18 September 2019 – 4.00pm – venue tbc					
	Minutes and Action Log	Democratic Services	Not applicable		
	Virtual School (Standing item)	C Hiorns	Not applicable		
	Performance Report (standing item)	A O'Reilly	Not applicable		
	Sub-Committee Workshop/ Training Plan (standing item)	A O'Reilly	Not applicable		

Committee date	Agenda item	Lead officer	Reference if key decision	Deadline for draft reports to Sarah-Jane Smedmor	Approved reports to Democratic Services by
	Young People's Participation (standing item)	J Barry & C Betteridge	Not applicable		
	Workforce Development (quarterly standing item)	S-J Smedmor	Not applicable		
	Agenda Plan	Democratic Services	Not applicable		
Wednesday 20 November 2019 – 4.00pm – venue tbc					
	Minutes and Action Log	Democratic Services	Not applicable		
	Virtual School (Standing item) i. Un-validated exam results	C Hiorns	Not applicable		
	Performance Report (standing item)	A O'Reilly	Not applicable		
	Sub-Committee Workshop/ Training Plan (standing item)	A O'Reilly	Not applicable		
	Young People's Participation (standing item)	J Barry & C Betteridge	Not applicable		
	Agenda Plan	Democratic Services	Not applicable		
Wednesday 15 January 2020 – 4.00pm – venue tbc					
	Minutes and Action Log	Democratic Services	Not applicable		

Committee date	Agenda item	Lead officer	Reference if key decision	Deadline for draft reports to Sarah-Jane Smedmor	Approved reports to Democratic Services by
	Virtual School (<i>Standing item</i>) i. Validated exam results (if available)	C Hiorns	Not applicable		
	Performance Report (<i>standing item</i>)	A O'Reilly	Not applicable		
	Sub-Committee Workshop/ Training Plan (<i>standing item</i>)	A O'Reilly	Not applicable		
	Young People's Participation (<i>standing item</i>)	J Barry & C Betteridge	Not applicable		
	Workforce Development (<i>quarterly standing item</i>)	S-J Smedmor	Not applicable		
	Agenda Plan	Democratic Services	Not applicable		
Wednesday 25 March 2020 – 4.00pm – venue tbc					
	Minutes and Action Log	Democratic Services	Not applicable		
	Virtual School (<i>Standing item</i>)	C Hiorns	Not applicable		
	Performance Report (<i>standing item</i>)	A O'Reilly	Not applicable		
	Sub-Committee Workshop/ Training Plan (<i>standing item</i>)	A O'Reilly	Not applicable		

Committee date	Agenda item	Lead officer	Reference if key decision	Deadline for draft reports to Sarah-Jane Smedmor	Approved reports to Democratic Services by
	Young People's Participation (standing item)	J Barry & C Betteridge	Not applicable		
	Agenda Plan	Democratic Services	Not applicable		
Wednesday 20 May 2020 – 4.00pm – venue tbc					
	Minutes and Action Log	Democratic Services	Not applicable		
	Virtual School (Standing item)	C Hiorns	Not applicable		
	Performance Report (standing item)	A O'Reilly	Not applicable		
	Sub-Committee Workshop/ Training Plan (standing item)	A O'Reilly	Not applicable		
	Young People's Participation (standing item)	J Barry & C Betteridge	Not applicable		
	Workforce Development (quarterly standing item)	S-J Smedmor	Not applicable		
	Agenda Plan	Democratic Services	Not applicable		

Notice made under the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012 in compliance with Regulation 5(7)

1. At least 28 clear days before a private meeting of a decision-making body, public notice should be given which must include a statement of reasons for the meeting to be held in private.
2. At least 5 clear days before a private meeting of a decision-making body, further public notice must be given which must include a statement of reasons for the meeting to be held in private, details of any representations received by the decision-making body about why the meeting should be open to the public and a statement of the Council's response to such representations.

Forward plan reference	Intended date of decision	Matter in respect of which the decision is to be made	Decision maker	List of documents to be submitted to the decision maker	Reason for the meeting to be held in private

Decisions to be made in private as a matter of urgency in compliance with Regulation 5(6)

3. Where the date by which a meeting must be held makes compliance with the above requirements impracticable, the meeting may only be held in private where the decision-making body has obtained agreement from the Chairman of the Council.
4. Compliance with the requirements for the giving of public notice has been impracticable in relation to the business detailed below.
5. The Chairman of the Council has agreed that the Committee may hold a private meeting to consider the business referred to in paragraph 4 above because the meeting is urgent and cannot reasonably be deferred for the reasons stated below.

Date of Chairman's agreement	Matter in respect of which the decision is to be made	Reasons why meeting urgent and cannot reasonably be deferred

For further information, please contact Fiona McMillan, Deputy Monitoring Officer on 01733 452361 or at Fiona.McMillan@peterborough.gov.uk

