

CORPORATE PARENTING SUB-COMMITTEE



Date: Wednesday, 21 February 2018

Democratic and Members' Services

Quentin Baker

LGSS Director: Lawand Governance

16:45hr

Shire Hall

Castle Hill

Cambridge

CB3 0AP

**Meeting Room 2, Huntingdon Library, Princes' Street,
Huntingdon PE29 3PA
[Venue Address]**

AGENDA

Open to Public and Press

- | | | |
|----------|---|----------------|
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| | <i>Guidance on declaring interests is available at</i> | |
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Date of Next Meeting

The Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee will meet next on Wednesday 25 April 2018 in Room 128, Shire Hall, Cambridge. Please note that the meeting will now start at 4.30pm, and not 4.00pm as previously advertised.

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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Council and political Group Leaders which can be accessed via the following link or made available on request: <http://tinyurl.com/ccc-film-record>.

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CORPORATE PARENTING SUB-COMMITTEE: MINUTES

Summary

The minutes of a meeting say when the meeting happened, who was there, what they talked about and what decisions were taken.

At the meeting on 13 December 2017 the county councillors said how important the Looked After Children in Cambridgeshire, their carers and care leavers are to them. They are going to meet every two months to talk about what is working well and what can be made better. Two young people who know what it is like to be a Looked After Child will be invited to all of these meetings so they can tell councillors what they think.

If you would like more information about anything in the minutes please contact Richenda Greenhill at Richenda.Greenhill@cambridgeshire.gov.uk or on 01223 699171.

Date: Wednesday 13 December 2017

Time: 4.00-6.55pm

Present: Councillors L Every (Chairman), A Hay (Vice Chairman), A Bradnam and C Richards

Apologies: Councillor A Costello

Observer: P Asker (until 6.10pm)

1. NOTIFICATION OF CHAIRMAN/WOMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN/WOMAN

The Democratic Services Officer reported that on 14 November 2017 the Children and Young People Committee had appointed Councillor Lis Every as Chairman and Councillor Anne Hay as Vice Chairman of the Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee for the remainder of the 2017/18 municipal year.

Councillor Every stated that the decision to establish the new Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee (CPSC) in place of the Corporate Parenting Partnership Board was taken by Council on 17 October 2017 and reflected the importance which Members attached to their role as Corporate Parents. It also made clear the Council's commitment to working closely and transparently with its Looked After Children, their carers, care leavers and all those services and organisations who worked with them. The CPSC would meet in public and its reports, discussions and decisions would be open to public inspection in accordance with Council practice. The Children and Young People Committee would remain responsible for policy decisions relating to the Council's Corporate Parenting functions, but its new Sub-Committee would enable Members to drill down in detail into specific issues, develop closer working relationships with key partners and stakeholders and provide constructive challenge to officers and hold them to account. The importance of supporting the county's Looked After Children and care leavers could not be over-emphasised and members of the Sub-Committee would be undergoing a rolling

programme of training and workshops to equip them with the skills and knowledge they would need to fully discharge their role. Members were also committed to putting the voice of Looked After Children and care leavers at the heart of the Sub-Committee's work through participation in its public meetings, input from the Voices Matter panel and private meetings and workshops.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Apologies were noted from Councillor Costello. There were no declarations of interest.

3. CO-OPTION OF YOUNG PEOPLE'S REPRESENTATIVES

The Chairman offered a warm welcome to Poppy Asker, a young care leaver and member of the Voices Matter panel who was attending the meeting as an observer. She invited Ms Asker to join the discussion of all items on the agenda.

The Head of Countywide and Looked After Children's Services stated that Members had given a clear steer that they were keen to co-opt two young people as an integral part of the membership of the new Sub-Committee. Officers had discussed the practicalities of this with Councillor Every in her capacity as the Chairman of the Corporate Parenting Partnership Board, the body which had preceded the creation of the new CPSC. In particular, both the Chairman and officers were mindful of the need to balance the wish to open up participation as widely as possible with the potential safeguarding issues arising from the fact that meetings would be held in public and participants' names would be placed in the public domain. On this basis, it has been agreed that young people would probably need to be aged 12 or over to sit as co-opted members. Officers had talked to members of the Voice Matter panel about the new CPSC and the role envisaged for its co-opted young people and had written to all Looked After children aged 12 or over inviting expressions of interest.

The following points were raised in discussion of the report and in response to questions from Members and those present:

- The timing and location of future meetings should be reviewed to make sure that they were accessible to the young people appointed as co-opted members. If possible, it would be good to schedule CPSC meetings just after the Voices Matter panel so that the panel could see the agenda and reports and feedback any comments. Members suggested that Huntingdon would provide quite a central location if a suitable venue could be found;
(**Action:** Democratic Services Officer/ Participation Manager)
- The observer commented that the reports for the meeting were very long and not always easy to understand. It was agreed that whilst sufficient detail was required to enable Members to make fully informed decisions in future each report would also include a brief summary containing the key points in easily accessible language to make them accessible to the widest possible audience;
- (**Action:** Democratic Services Officer/ All report authors)
- Those children and young people with the most chaotic lifestyles could also be the most vulnerable and needed to have their views reflected;
- The need to establish a dialogue with young people who were not members of the Voices Matter panel and with younger Looked After Children. This might include

written communications, social media, use of the Youthoria website and briefing carers and other services. Members emphasised the importance of this being a two-way conversation and the Chairman stated that she would want children and young people to feel able to generate ideas about subjects the Sub-Committee should look at as well as commenting on the reports generated by Members and officers.

Summing up, the Chairman re-stated the Sub-Committee's commitment to ensuring the county's Looked After Children and care leavers were placed at the centre of its work. She also highlighted the need to establish a range of mechanisms to encourage an open two way conversation between Members and young people.

It was resolved to:

- a) note the report and indicate views on the proposed way forward.

4. THE ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF CORPORATE PARENTS

The Assistant Director: Children and Families stated that Cambridgeshire County Council currently had 702 Looked After Children (LAC) in its care. The duties of a corporate parent were the same as those of any good parent – to support the health, education and wellbeing of the child and to nurture their talents, skills and aspirations. Corporate parents would stay alongside the young people in their care until the age of 25 and during this time they needed to ensure and demonstrate that they were caring about them as well as caring for them. Whilst acknowledging the complexity of issues involved, officers advocated asking the question 'Would this be good enough for my child?' when considering the services and support provided to the county's LAC.

The following points were raised in discussion of the report and in response to questions from Members:

- Members reviewed and noted the Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee's Terms of Reference;
- The establishment of the new CPSC was an important step in strengthening the role of Members as Corporate Parents;
- Officers stated that Leeds City Council had been rated Outstanding in relation to its services to Looked After Children and that they were looking at examples of its practice to see how these might inform services in Cambridgeshire;
- The Vice Chairman emphasised the importance of ensuring that the work of the Sub-Committee made a positive difference to the experience of Looked After Children and their carers.

It was resolved to:

- a) note the roles and responsibilities of the Corporate Parent for Cambridgeshire's Looked After Children.

5. PERFORMANCE REPORT

The Service Development and Commissioning Manager stated that the report contained some key data relating to Looked After Children (LAC) within the county and that

officers were seeking a steer from Members on the type of information and level of detail they would find useful going forward. It was intended that this would be a standing agenda item so that Members would over time have the benefit of comparative month on month data to help identify both trends and anomalies. Officers in the Business Intelligence Team were currently working on the Corporate Parenting data set and it was hoped that a refined version would be available in time for the next meeting.

Officers highlighted the following points in the report:

- An increase of 10 children in care between April and October 2017. Children could only be taken into the county's care with the personal approval of either the Service Director or Assistant Director (Cambridgeshire) for Children and Families so officers were satisfied that all children and young people entering the care system in Cambridgeshire did so appropriately;
- All LAC received the same level of care, but within this group there were lots of smaller cohorts with specific needs (for example, those with special educational needs or disabilities and Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC)) so data was collected both for the group as a whole and for subsets within it;
- An improvement between April and October 2017 in the number of LAC visits carried out within the required timescale from 70.3% to 88.3%. It was noted that monthly visits were not always required in settled placements;
- Out of county placements were generally considered less positive because they took children away from familiar surroundings and people and were often more costly, but in some cases they were the best option. For example, quite a high proportion of UASC were accommodated in Peterborough as the city offered some services and cultural support networks which were not readily available elsewhere;
- Officers worked in close co-operation with colleagues across the Eastern region to accommodate UASC. Under arrangements agreed with central Government Cambridgeshire would accept up to 92 UASC;
- Officers apologised for the omission of some figures from the tables in the report. This would be corrected in future versions.

The following points were raised in discussion of the report and in response to questions from Members and those present:

- The Chairman stated that there had been some issues with the availability of data in the past which she hoped would not be repeated. It was imperative for officers to have access to accurate and up to date information in order to provide accurate reports and for Members to effectively scrutinise the service provided and to make informed decisions. If this information was not forthcoming Members would wish to be made aware so that they could take this up at an appropriate level;
- Members asked that future reports should either avoid the use of acronyms or include an explanatory table or footnote;

- Members noted that accommodation for care leavers was not subject to inspection by Ofsted and identified the issue of 'care leavers in suitable accommodation' as one which they would wish to look at in more detail in future;
(**Action:** Democratic Services Officer/ Head of Countywide and Looked After Children)
- The county had exceeded the target set by central government in relation to adoption timescales in the current year. Targets were tightened each year in order to provide on-going challenge;
- The presentation of the table relating to 17-21 year olds should be revised in future reports to make clear what it is showing. Acronyms should be removed or explained;
(**Action:** Service Development and Commissioning Manager)
- Officers undertook to provide definitions for the acronyms 'RHOM' and 'NREQ'
(**Action:** Service Development and Commissioning Manager)
- LAC visits: Members asked for more information on why children were not always being visited within the specified timescales and by how long visits were overdue;
(**Action:** Head of Countywide and Looked After Children)
- Members noted an increase in the number of LAC with three or more changes of placement within the year in the period from April to October 2017 and asked for some analysis of who these children were and why this was happening;
(**Action:** Head of Countywide and Looked After Children)
- Members asked that the table of information on LAC accommodated out of county should also show the number of LAC accommodated in-county and that the total LAC population figure should also be included. They would also like an indication of how the out of county were accommodated, for example with foster carers, in children's homes or living independently;
(**Action:** Service Development and Commissioning Manager)
- The observer acknowledged that in some circumstances a move out of area or to another part of the county could offer a young person a fresh start. However, for others moving even a relatively short distance from home could be unsettling and upsetting. In her own case she was told initially that she would have to change schools during an exam year, she had been given very little information about where she would be taken and she was not able to contact either her allocated social worker or a duty social worker as it was a weekend.

Officers stated that there was an expectation that a support network would be in place when a child was taken into care, but they acknowledged that weekends posed a particular challenge as most social workers were off duty. They would always endeavour to keep a child at their existing school unless there were good reasons not to, but if foster places were not available locally it was not always achievable;

- A Member asked whether children were told that a placement might only be temporary when it was necessary for operational reasons to place them away

from their local area. They felt it was important that the child should be kept informed about what was happening and why. The observer stated that it was sometimes said that children were too young to understand, but in her experience they would want to have the option of knowing.

Officers stated that there was a balance to be struck between giving enough information to provide reassurance without providing so much that it became overwhelming. Information would also be tailored according to the age and circumstances of each child;

- A Member asked that figures for numbers of foster carers should be included in the report each month, including recruitment figures;
(**Action:** Service Development and Commissioning Manager)
- To include data on the number of health assessments carried out each month and how many of these were not carried out within the required timescale. This would be followed up with the local Clinical Commissioning Group if appropriate.
(**Action:** Service Development and Commissioning Manager)

Summing up, the Chairman stated that the performance report would be a standing agenda item at all future meetings and Members would want to shape it over time to ensure it contained the all of the key information they needed.

It was resolved to:

- a) consider the data;
- b) highlight key themes;
- c) review the performance and outcomes for Looked After Children and care leavers;
- d) identify any additional information Members would want to see included in future reports.

6. FORWARD AGENDA PLAN

Members discussed the list of possible future business items contained in paragraph 2.2 of the report and reviewed the draft Forward Agenda Plan attached at Appendix 2. The Chairman stated that she would want officers and Looked After Children to advise the Sub-Committee of any areas of concern to them or any issues which they felt the Sub-Committee should consider at future meetings.

The following issues were identified for initial inclusion in the Sub-Committee's Forward Agenda Plan. Additional items would be added as identified:

- Mental Health/ Child and Adolescent Mental Health (CAMH), including information on criteria and thresholds
- Health assessment issues
- Access to further and higher education: current data and experience of young people and what could be done to further improve outcomes
- Foster carer recruitment, including marketing information and qualitative information
- Bright Spots report (produced bi-annually): developed by Coram Voice with the aim of improving the wellbeing of children and young people in care by identifying and promoting practices that have a positive influence on them

- Youth offending
- Workforce development: A monthly report to provide assurance that all Looked After Children had an allocated social worker and that appropriate training arrangements were in place
- Fostering Service Annual Report
- Adoption Service Annual Report

Members noted that some local authorities offered care leavers exemptions or discounts on council tax. Officers reported that some local district councils had asked for more information about this and work was in hand to try to scope what this would mean in real terms for each district and city council. Members felt that it would be important to establish whether such discounts or exemptions would have a knock-on effect on any other benefits young care leavers might be receiving. Members noted that the Children's Society had produced a briefing on council tax exemption for care leavers and that the Department for Communities and Local Government had written to local authorities about the options and asked for sight of both of these documents.
(**Action:** Head of Countywide and Looked After Children)

The Chairman stated that the Communities and Partnership Committee had appointed Lead Members for each District and City Council and suggested officers might usefully liaise with them on this subject. An update report on council tax exemptions and discounts for care leavers should also be brought to the Committee's next meeting.
(**Action:** Head of Countywide and Looked After Children)

Members agreed that meetings should be held bi-monthly for the remainder of the current municipal year and that provisional dates should be set for the 2018/19 municipal year. The frequency of meetings would be subject to periodic review as the extent of the Sub-Committee's workload became clearer.

It was resolved to:

- a) review and comment on the draft Forward Agenda Plan attached at Appendix 1;
- b) discuss additional items to be added to the Forward Agenda Plan;
- c) agree to meet bi-monthly for the remainder of the current municipal year and to set provisional bi-monthly meeting dates for 2018/19.

7. CORPORATE PARENTING SUB-COMMITTEE WORKSHOP/ TRAINING PLAN

Officers proposed that the Sub-Committee's workshop and training plan should initially be designed to provide Members with the key information they needed to know, an introduction to the services supporting Cambridgeshire's Looked After Children (LAC) and care leavers and to provide a good sense of the child's perspective.

The following comments arose in discussion of the report and in response to questions from those present:

- Members welcomed the Assistant Director's suggestion that they include visits to the spaces where decisions were made, such as LAC reviews, and talk directly to the officers involved in this crucial work;
(**Action:** Assistant Director: Children and Families/ Service Development and Commissioning Manager)

- The Chairman commended the loyalty and commitment of the officers she had met so far who were involved in supporting the county's LAC;
- Members asked that either a single initial training session should be arranged between 10.00-4.00pm or two half day sessions to cover the items described at paragraph 2.1 of the report. Members' availability should be canvassed by doodle poll.
(**Action:** Service Development and Commissioning Manager)

Summing up, the Chairman emphasised the need for all members of the Sub-Committee and of the Council to receive the training needed to enable them to properly understand their role and responsibilities as corporate parents and to discharge these duties properly. She noted that the Members' Seminar on 12 January 2018 would include training on safeguarding and corporate parenting responsibilities.

It was resolved to:

- a) consider the appropriateness of the training proposal;
- b) make additional suggestions;
- c) agree preferred times and dates for training and visits.

8. FOSTERING SERVICE ANNUAL REPORT

Members reviewed and discussed the Fostering Service Annual Report 2016/17. The following comments and questions were offered by those present:

- A Member emphasised the importance of focusing on the quality of foster care places as well as the quantity;
- Officers confirmed that in-house foster care placements were generally preferred as they tended to keep children closer to their local communities, enabled joined-up provision around clinical and other support mechanisms, allowed officers to develop close working and support relationships with the foster carers and cost less than independent placements. However, it was not currently possible to accommodate all of the county's Looked After Children (LAC) with in-house foster care providers. In some cases independent foster care might also offer the best solution to a child's particular needs;
- The Chairman asked what could be done to raise the profile of this new Sub-Committee amongst foster carers as a demonstration of the Council's commitment to the vital work which they did and to ensure that their voice was heard. Officers stated that they were currently seeking the views of foster-carers on what support they would most like to see offered and that a new interim Foster Care Manager had recently been appointed to drive this work forward. The Chairman asked that the Sub-Committee should be updated on the outcome of this work when it was available;
(**Action:** Interim Foster Care Manager)
- Members noted the reference to private fostering arrangements at paragraph 15 of the annual report and sought more information. Officers stated that this related to young people staying with families other than their own under a private arrangement, for example whilst attending a language school or college. As

these were not LAC this was primarily a safeguarding issue and so a matter for the Local Safeguarding Children Board. Members noted this, but asked that their wish to ensure that this issue was actively monitored by the appropriate body should be noted;

- Members noted that the Children and Young People Committee appointed two Member representatives to the Fostering Panel. Currently these were Councillor Simon King and Councillor Peter Topping;
- Members noted that all children in foster care received an annual review and that any cases causing concern, where significant variations were suggested to the fostering arrangements or where allegations had been made would be referred to the Fostering Panel;
- A Member questioned the significant drop in the number of short breaks. Officers stated that current figures were higher and that these figures related solely to short breaks for children with disabilities;
- A Member welcomed the appointment of new social workers and foster carers, but questioned whether this was having an impact on the service provided whilst they settled into their new roles. Officers stated that there was less staff churn amongst staff in the foster care service and that this ensured a level of continuity and experience;
- The Assistant Director: Children and Families stated that councillors had a key role to play in spreading the message within their communities that the Council was actively seeking to recruit new in-house foster carers and to make people more aware of the opportunities and support packages on offer. All Members expressed their willingness to actively support this work and asked officers to keep them informed about what they could do to help;
(**Action**: Assistant Director: Children and Families)
- A Member emphasised the importance of supporting and retaining existing in-house foster carers as well as actively seeking to recruit more;
- Members noted that difficulties finding suitable accommodation could be a factor in discouraging social workers from considering vacancies in Cambridgeshire. They stated that work being done within the Education team to identify accommodation for teachers and suggested officers might usefully liaise with the Senior Adviser: Curriculum, Teaching and Leadership about this.
(**Action**: Assistant Director: Children and Families)

It was resolved to:

- a) note the report.

9. YOUNG PEOPLE'S PARTICIPATION

Members reviewed a report suggesting various ways in which they could get to know the county's Looked After Children and care leavers, and for the young people to get to know them. Officers confirmed that they would invite some young people to the initial training session requested by the Sub-Committee so that they could let Members know in person the things which were most important to them.

The following points were raised in discussion of the report and in response to questions from Members:

- The Chairman emphasised the importance of keeping young people informed of the decisions being made as a result of their input and to ensure two-way communication between members of the Sub-Committee and young people;
- Members re-stated their wish to establish an appropriate mechanism to ensure that the voices of younger Looked After Children and those who chose not to engage with representative groups like Voices Matter should still be heard. Officers undertook to reflect collectively on how best this might be achieved and how to most effectively communicate the Sub-Committees' discussions and decisions to young people;
(**Action:** Participation Manager)
- Members asked for advice on whether they 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;
(**Action:** Assistant Director: Children and Families and Democratic Services Officer)
- Members endorsed the suggestions contained in the report for ways in which they could meet and start to get to know the LAC and care leavers;
- The Assistant Director: Children and Families offered bespoke safeguarding training to all members of the Sub-Committee as required.

It was resolved to:

- a) consider the various ways suggested to engage with Looked After Children;
- b) decide which methods are to be implemented.

10. VIRTUAL SCHOOL

The Head of the Virtual School introduced her report which set out the role of the Virtual School, provided the most current data on educational achievement for Cambridgeshire's Looked After children (LAC) and described the relationships between the Virtual School, the Accelerating the Achievement of Vulnerable Groups Steering Group and the Educational Achievement Board. She reported that a consultation on the role of the Virtual School and Headteacher and of the Designated Teacher in each school had recently taken place and that the results would be available in the new year. The Virtual School provided support to Cambridgeshire LAC from Early Years to the age of 18 and a seconded member of staff had been appointed to work with those at the top end of the age range to support their transition to Post-18 provision.

The following points were raised in discussion of the report and in response to questions from Members:

- The Chairman noted that Councillor Costello was one of two elected Members who sat on the Accelerating the Achievement of Vulnerable Groups Steering Group which would provide a useful perspective for the Sub-Committee on its work;

- The Head of the Virtual School reported that her team regularly visited schools which had Looked After Children on roll to offer support, including attending Personal Education Plan (PEP) meetings where appropriate;
- A Member noted that there was no alternative provision within the county for girls under the age of 11 and asked what support was available to this group. The Head of the Virtual School confirmed that this was the case and that currently two girls within this age group were being provided with bespoke support packages. The Head of Special Educational Needs and Disability Services was carrying out a review of the support provided to children with emotional and behavioural difficulties (EBD) and social, emotional and mental health (SEMH) needs and this would be used to inform decisions about the shape of future provision;
- Pupil Premium Plus payments for Looked After Children were made to the Head of the Virtual School who was responsible for their allocation, so they were always used to benefit the child for whom they were intended;
- Personal Education Plans were subject to quality assurance every term;
- Due to the relatively small number of Looked After Children and the unique nature of each child's particular needs it was difficult to draw meaningful comparisons with the educational performance of their peers, or even in comparison with other LAC in the county or nationally. A different dashboard was being developed which it was hoped would address this issue and this should be available for the next meeting. Members welcomed this work, but stated that they would still want the report to contain one-off achievement figures too.

It was resolved to:

- a) note and comment on the report.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Committee will meet next in February 2018, date and venue to be arranged.

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 councillors can check that everything is being done.

Introduction:

This log lists the actions agreed at Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee meetings and gives updates on progress. **It was last updated on 12 February 2018.**

Minutes of 13 December 2017

3.	Co-option of Young People's Representatives	Richenda Greenhill/ Michelle Dean	To arrange future meetings just after the Voice Matter panel meets if possible, and to look for a suitable venue in Huntingdonshire.	27.12.17: Dates of future Voices Matter meetings received and the Huntingdonshire Site Facilities team asked to identify suitable venues within the Council estate.	On-going
		Richenda Greenhill	To revise the Sub-Committee report template to reflect the requirement to include a short summary containing the key points in easily accessible language to make it accessible to the widest possible audience.	01.01.18: A revised report template circulated to all regular contributors.	Completed

5.	Performance Report	Richenda Greenhill/ Fiona MacKirdy	Suitable accommodation for care leavers was identified as a subject Members would wish to look at in more detail in future.	01.01.18: Provisionally added to the Forward Agenda Plan for April 2018.	Completed
		Jacqui Barry	The presentation of the table relating to 17-21 year olds should be revised in future reports to make clear what it is showing. Acronyms should be removed or explained.	18/12/18: Fiona Mackirdy contacted Tom Barden (Data Analysis Team) with the Member feedback about the reports. Future reports will include explanations of any acronyms which are used.	Completed
		Jacqui Barry	Officers to provide definitions for the acronyms 'RHOM' and 'NREQ'	08/01/18: RHOM = Returned Home NREQ = No Longer Required	Completed
		Fiona MacKirdy	Looked After Children (LAC) visits: Members asked for more information on why children were not always being visited within the specified timescales and by how long visits were overdue.	02/01/18: Jacqui Barry contacted Olly Grant and Lisa Reid to ask for this information.	On-going
		Fiona MacKirdy	Members noted an increase in the number of LAC with three or more changes of placement within the year in the period from April to October 2017 and asked for some analysis of who these children were and why this was happening.	02/01/18: Jacqui Barry contacted Olly Grant to ask for clarification	On-going

		Tom Barden	Members asked that the table of information on LAC accommodated out of county should also show the number of LAC accommodated in-county and that the total LAC population figure should also be included. They would also like an indication of how the out of county were accommodated, for example with foster carers, in children's homes or living independently.	12/02/18: Information on the number of LAC accommodated in-county and the total figure for in-county and out of county placements included in February's report. Information on how out of county children are accommodated will be included next month with comparable information on children accommodated in-county to provide a comprehensive comparison.	On-going
		Jacqui Barry	Figures for numbers of foster carers to be included in the report each month, including recruitment figures.	02/01/18: Jacqui Barry contacted John Heron to ask for clarification	On-going
		Tom Barden	To include data on the number of health assessments carried out each month and how many of these were not carried out within the required timescale. This would be followed up with the local Clinical Commissioning Group if appropriate.	12/02/18: Included in the February committee report.	Completed

6.	Forward Agenda Plan	Fiona MacKirdy	To circulate copies of the briefing document produced by the Children's Society on council tax exemption for care leavers and the Department for Communities and Local Government's letter to local authorities about the options available.	01.01.18: Copies circulated to all members of the Sub-Committee by email on 14.12.17 and 29.12.17.	Completed
		Richenda Greenhill/ Fiona MacKirdy	An update report on council tax exemptions and discounts for care leavers should also be brought to the Committee's next meeting.	01.01.18: Added to the Forward Agenda Plan for February 2018.	On-going
7.	Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee Workshop/ Training Plan	Sarah-Jane Smedmor/ Jacqui Barry	To arrange visits for Sub-Committee members to the spaces where decisions were made, such as LAC reviews, to see and talk directly to the officers involved in this work.	02/01/17: JB contacted Olly Grant in respect of LAC reviews and Sarah-Jane regarding attendance at the Threshold and Resources Panel and Children and Families Leadership Team for dates for Members to attend.	On-going
		Jacqui Barry	To arrange either a single initial training session between 10.00-4.00pm or two half day sessions to cover the items described at paragraph 2.1 of the report. Members' availability should be canvassed by doodle poll.	05/02/18: Doodle poll sent to all members to canvass dates.	On-going

8.	Fostering Service Annual Report	Interim Foster Care Manager John Heron	Members asked to see the outcome of the work currently being done to seek the views of foster-carers on what support they would most like to see made available to them.	02.01.18: Jacqui Barry contacted John Heron 02/01/18 asking for this info by mid-January.	On-going
		Sarah-Jane Smedmor	To keep members of the Sub-Committee informed about ways in which they can help spread the message within their communities that the Council was actively seeking to recruit new in-house foster carers and to make people more aware of the opportunities and support packages on offer.		
		Sarah-Jane Smedmor	Officers to liaise with Helen Manley about the work being done by her team on identifying accommodation for teachers.		
9.	Young People's Participation	Michelle Dean	To reflect collectively on how to establish an appropriate mechanism to ensure that the voices of younger Looked After Children and those who chose not to engage with representative groups like Voices Matter should still be heard and how to most effectively communicate the Sub-Committees' discussions and decisions to young people.		

		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.	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.	On-going
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VIRTUAL SCHOOL

To: **Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee**

Meeting Date: **21 February 2018**

From: **Richenda Greenhill
Democratic Services Officer**

Electoral division(s): **All**

Purpose: **To consider the content and timing of future reports on the Virtual School.**

Recommendation: **Members are invited to:**

a) Comment on their preferred timing and the content of future reports on the Virtual School.

<i>Officer contact:</i>		<i>Member contact:</i>	
Name:	Joanna Pallett	Names:	Councillor Lis Every
Post:	Learning Directorate Lead for Vulnerable Groups Head of Virtual School	Role:	Chairman, Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee
Email:	Joanna.Pallett@cambridgeshire.gov.uk	Email:	Lis.Every@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
Tel:	01223 715412	Tel:	(office) 01223 706398

Summary:

The Virtual School makes sure that all Looked After Children in Cambridgeshire get the chance to do the best that they can at their pre-school or nursery, through primary and secondary school and on to further education in the sixth form or at college.

Councillors are being asked what things they would like to find out more about.

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The Virtual School is a statutory requirement of the Local Authority. Its role is to ensure that all of Cambridgeshire's Looked After Children (LAC), wherever they are, have the opportunity to fulfil their educational potential. The Virtual School supports children from Early Years through to the completion of their Post 16 education.

2. MAIN ISSUES

- 2.1 At the meeting on 13 December 2017 members of the Sub-Committee considered a report which set out the role of the Virtual School, data relating to educational attainment and the relationship between the work of the Virtual School and other Local Authority activities. Members said that they would like to have a report on the Virtual School as a standing item on the Forward Plan.
- 2.2 It would be helpful to have a steer on how often Members would like to receive a report and what particular issues they would like to see covered. The Head of the Virtual School provides termly reports to the Virtual School Governing Body. If Members agree, these could form the basis of future reports to the Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee.
- 2.3 Members may also want to identify specific areas of interest where they would like to see more detailed information, for example:
- i. Early Years provision and take-up rates;
 - ii. Post-16 provision;
 - iii. Provisional and validated examination results.

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

Source Documents	Location
Virtual School – report to the Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee, 13 December 2017	https://cmis.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/ccclive/Meetings/tabid/70/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/397/Meeting/904/Committee/46/SelectedTab/Documents/Default.aspx

PERFORMANCE REPORT

To: **Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee**

Meeting Date: **21 February 2018**

From: **Lisa Reid
Head of Partnerships and Quality Assurance**

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 comment on the themes and trends identified in this report.**

<i>Officer contact:</i>		<i>Member contact:</i>	
Name:	Lisa Reid	Names:	Councillor Lis Every
Post:	Head of Partnerships and Quality Assurance	Role:	Chairman, Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee
Email:	Lisa.Reid@cambridgeshire.gov.uk	Email:	Lis.Every@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
Tel:	01223 699342	Tel:	(office) 01223 706398

Summary:

- As of the 31 January 2018 there are 702 Looked After children supported by the Council
- 57% of Looked After children are male, 43% are female
- 8% have a disability
- 53% of the current placements are in-county, with 47% of placements out of county
- 75% of unaccompanied asylum seeking young people are placed out of county
- The proportion of Looked After children being visited within the statutory timescales has been improving through the year, from 70.3% in April 2017 to 84.0% in December 2017
- The number of Looked After children who were reported missing within the month, and the number of individual instances where a Looked After child went missing, fell in December 2017
- The numbers of children and young people who are at risk of Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) and Gang Exploitation are reducing

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 This report provides the Sub-Committee with an overview of performance of services for Looked After Children (LAC) and Care Leavers. The full performance report can be found in Appendix A.

2. MAIN ISSUES

- 2.1 This report has been re-designed since the previous Sub-Committee, to include sections on:

- LAC population
- LAC demographics
- Placements
- Visits, reviews and health assessments
- Care Leavers and Adoption
- Missing children
- Sexual and gang exploitation

- 2.2 The report takes account of the following points discussed at the last Sub-Committee meeting:

- Reports should avoid the use of acronyms – acronyms are now explained in notes on data and definitions
- The table on 17-21 year care leavers has been revised to make it clear what it

- shows, acronyms have been removed or explained
 - The information on LAC accommodated in county has been added to the section on LAC placements
 - Data on the proportion of health assessments carried out within timescale has been included in the report
- 2.3 Further improvements to this report are currently being worked on. These will include topics highlighted by the Sub-Committee including:
- Breakdown of LAC placements (both in and out of county)
 - Information on foster carers, including recruitment figures
 - Further information on education of Looked After Children
- 2.4 As of the 31 January 2018 there are 702 Looked After children supported by the Council. 57% of these children are male, 43% are female. 8% have a disability.
- 2.5 Although there has been a 2.6% increase in the number of Looked After children since April 2017, this equates to a rate of 52.8 per 10,000 of population. The national average is 60.0 per 10,000 of population, meaning Cambridgeshire is performing favourably compared to national figures.
- 2.6 53% of the current placements are in-county, with 47% of placements out of county. 75% of unaccompanied asylum seeking young people are placed out of county and this is due to lack of availability of accommodation in Cambridge. These placements are mostly in Peterborough. This area is better placed to serve some of the cultural needs of this cohort of young people and it is relatively close to our borders, making statutory visits and keeping in touch manageable.
- 2.7 The proportion of Looked After children being visited within the statutory timescales has been improving through the year, from 70.3% in April 2017 to 84.0% in December 2017. Capacity issues are the largest contributing factor to late visits. Individual cases have management oversight and where there are capacity issues, the priority is given to the most vulnerable children. Steps are being taken to reduce late visits. There are also other mechanisms in place designed to safeguard children and these include visits to foster carers, where children are seen, school attendance and visits from other professionals. Performance on children having their Looked After review in timescales is strong and this activity also supports the monitoring children's wellbeing.
- 2.8 The proportion of children who wait less than 14 months between entering care and moving in with their adoptive family is generally high in Cambridgeshire. Performance was reported at 100% in six of the last nine months, although it dipped to 66.7% in December 2017.
- 2.9 The number of Looked After children who were reported missing within the month, and the number of individual instances where a Looked After child when missing fell in December. 18 Looked After children were reported

missing in the month, compared to 24 in November. 29 instances were reported in December compared to 47 in November. On average there are 43 missing incidents reported per month.

- 2.10 The numbers of children and young people who are at risk of Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) and Gang Exploitation are reducing. There are various mechanisms used to monitor and keep children safe, and to collate and share this information across agencies. There is a clear difference in the high numbers of girls versus boys at risk of CSE (on average there are 18 boys identified as being at risk of CSE per month compared to 70 girls), and the high number of boys compared to girls involved in gang exploitation (on average 24 boys identified as being at risk compared to 3 girls per month).

3. SIGNIFICANT IMPLICATIONS

3.1 Resource Implications

The number of children who are Looked After increased by 2.6% since April. Social workers and other staff are travelling distances to visit children placed out of County. Many of these children are in Independent Fostering Agency placements due to a lack of in-house provision that can meet their needs and this puts pressure on the placement budget.

3.2 Procurement/Contractual/Council Contract Procedure Rules Implications

None

3.3 Statutory, Legal and Risk Implications

Ofsted will consider the data and analysis available to the Sub-Committee when considering the effectiveness of the council's Corporate Parenting Function.

3.4 Equality and Diversity Implications

All children who become Looked After have access to the same service provision irrespective of their age, gender and ethnicity. There is a gap in suitable in-County provision for children and young people seeking asylum, with the majority of placements located in Peterborough.

3.5 Engagement and Communications Implications

None

3.6 Localism and Local Member Involvement

Relevant to all Members in the role as corporate parents.

3.7 Public Health Implications

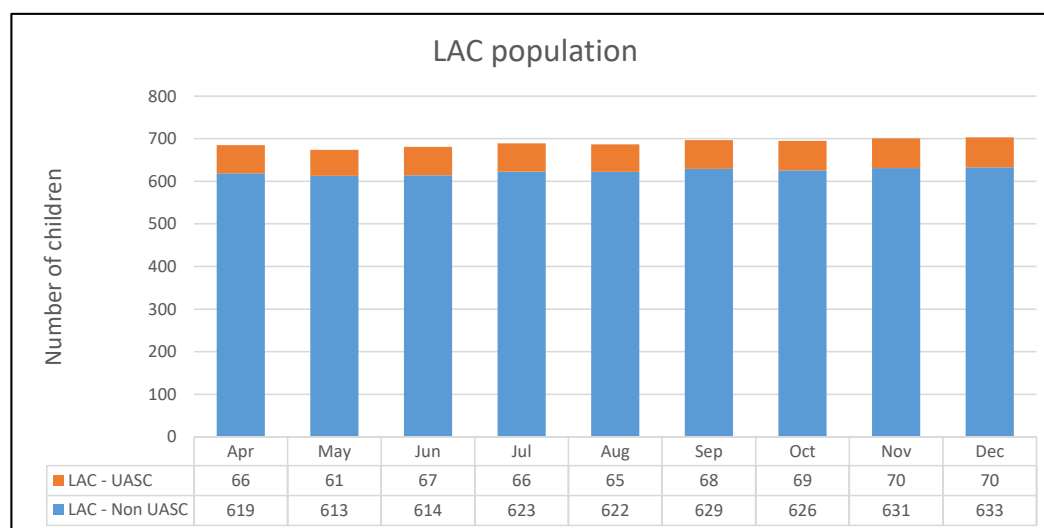
None

SOURCE DOCUMENTS

Source Documents	Location
Children's Service Performance Dashboard. Appendix A - Corporate Parenting Dashboard	Matthew Tullett (Interim) Senior Analyst Business Intelligence Cambridgeshire County Council Octagon, Shire Hall Cambridge CB3 0AP Matthew.Tullett@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Looked After Children - Population

Looked After Children (LAC)	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Trend	Average
LAC Population	685	675	681	689	687	697	695	701	703	702				692
LAC - Non UASC	619	613	614	623	622	629	626	631	633					623
LAC - UASC	66	61	67	66	65	68	69	70	70					67
UASC %	9.6%	9.0%	9.8%	9.6%	9.5%	9.8%	9.9%	10.0%	10.0%					9.7%
Rate per 10,000	51.5	50.7	51.2	51.8	51.6	52.4	52.2	52.7	52.8					51.9
Became Looked After	21	17	13	36	31	26	22	19	26					23
Ceased Looked After	17	26	19	38	22	23	25	21	21					24



Commentary:

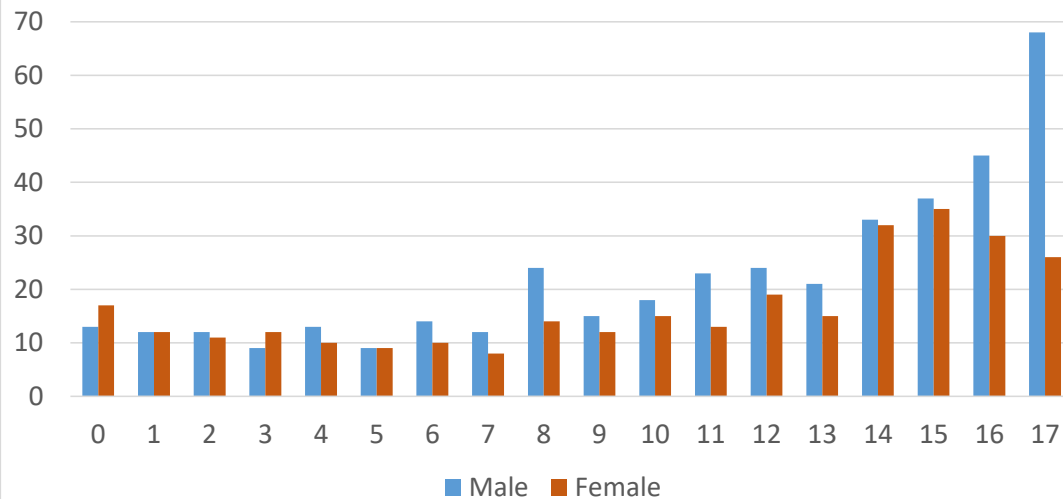
There has been a 2.6% increase in the number of looked after children since April 2017, representing steady and relatively manageable numbers. The total % of looked after children per 10,000 has increased by just over 1% 2017-2018. This means that Cambridgeshire continues to perform favourably, when compared to the figures for England which are 60 children per 10,000.

Notes on data and definitions:

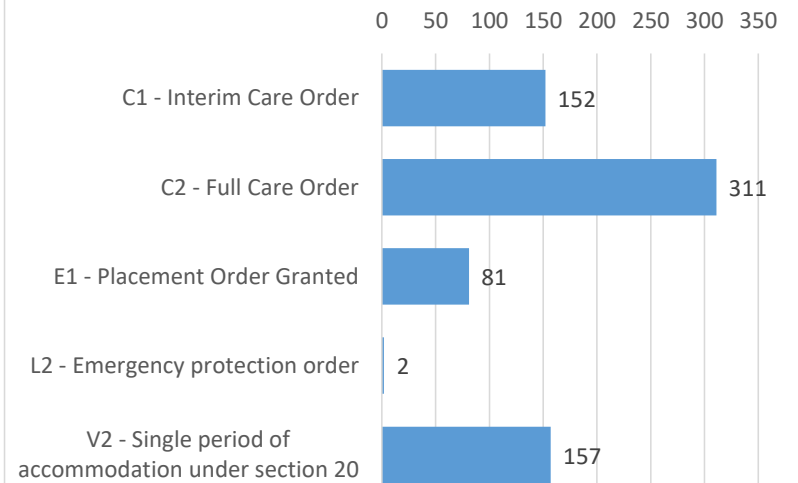
- The 'LAC population figure' measures the number of children who are in the care of the local authority at the end of each month.
- A 'UASC' is an Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Child. The cost of accommodating UASCs is met by the Government.
- The 'Became Looked After' and 'Ceased Looked After' are the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

Looked After Children - Demographics as at 31st Jan 2018

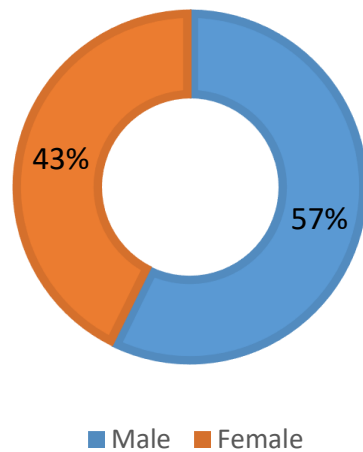
LAC - Age and Gender



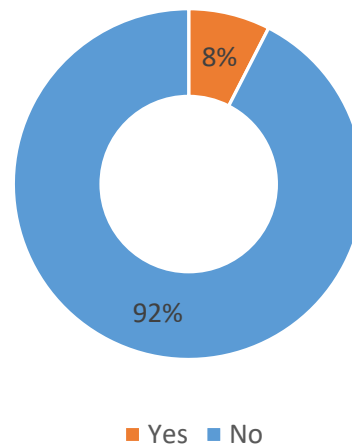
LAC - Legal Status



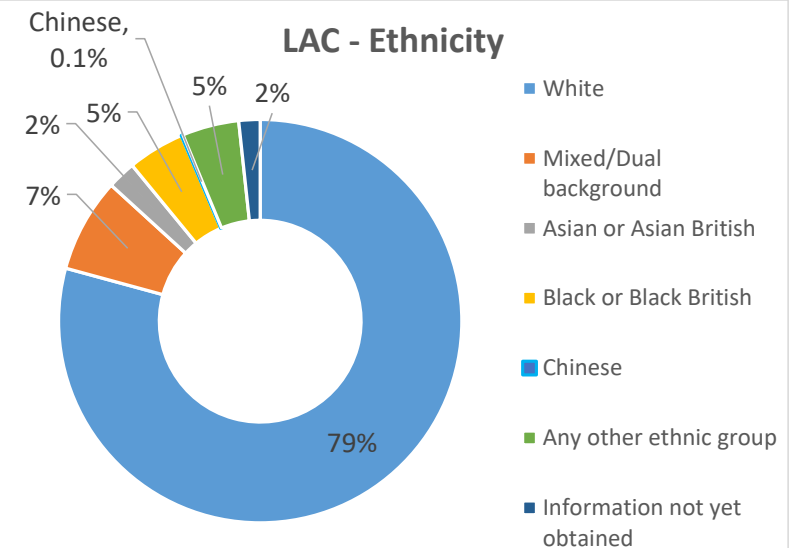
GENDER



LAC Disability



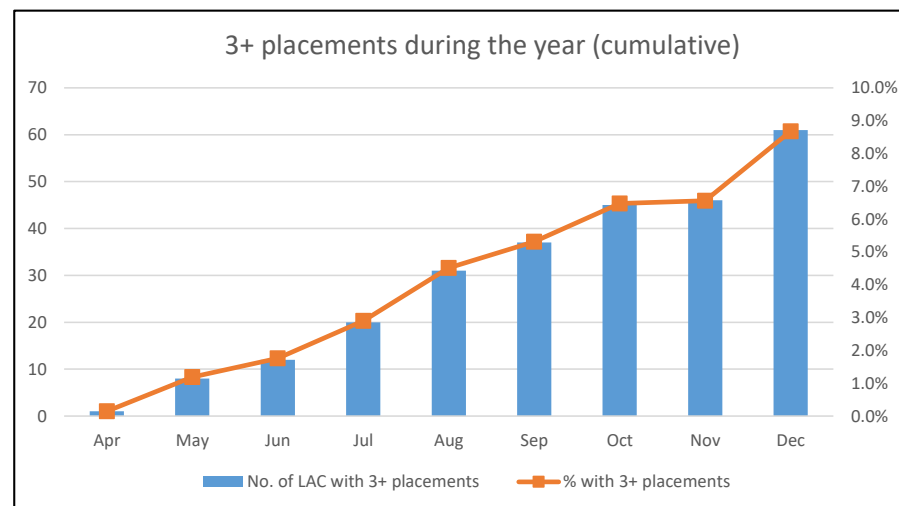
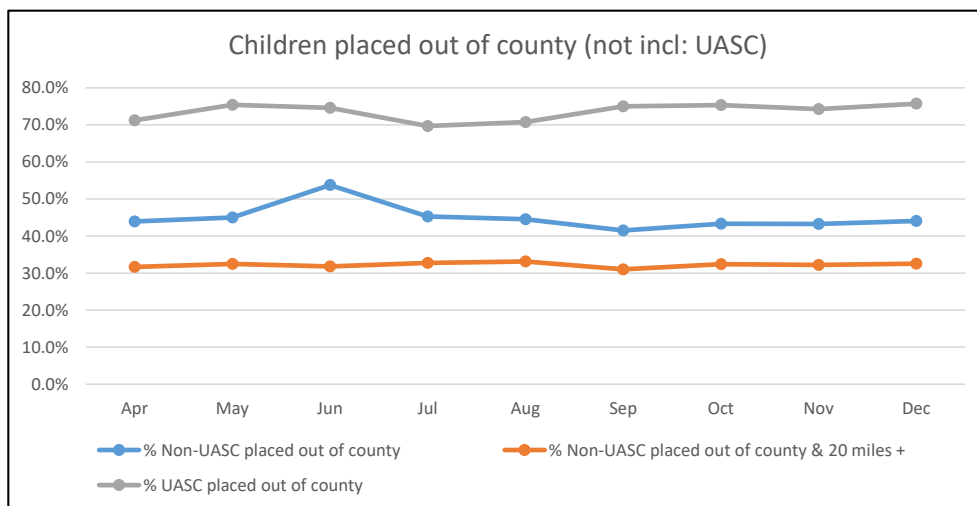
LAC - Ethnicity



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	366	353	301	361	364	385	372	376	371					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	272	276	330	282	277	261	271	273	279					280
% Non-UASC placed out of county	43.9%	45.0%	53.7%	45.3%	44.5%	41.5%	43.3%	43.3%	44.1%					45.0%
LAC placed out of county & 20 miles +	196	199	195	204	206	195	203	203	206					201
% Non-UASC placed out of county & 20 miles +	31.7%	32.5%	31.8%	32.7%	33.1%	31.0%	32.4%	32.2%	32.5%					32.2%
UASC placed out of county	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Trend	Average
UASC placed out of county	47	46	50	46	46	51	52	52	53					49
% UASC placed out of county	71.2%	75.4%	74.6%	69.7%	70.8%	75.0%	75.4%	74.3%	75.7%					73.6%

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	1	8	12	20	31	37	45	46	61				
% with 3+ placements	0.1%	1.2%	1.8%	2.9%	4.5%	5.3%	6.5%	6.6%	8.7%				
Target	0.4%	0.8%	1.3%	1.7%	2.1%	2.5%	2.9%	3.4%	3.8%				









Commentary:


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 Cambridge. These placements are mostly in Peterborough. This area is better placed to serve some of the cultural needs of this cohort of young people and it is relatively close to our borders, making statutory visits and keeping in touch manageable.

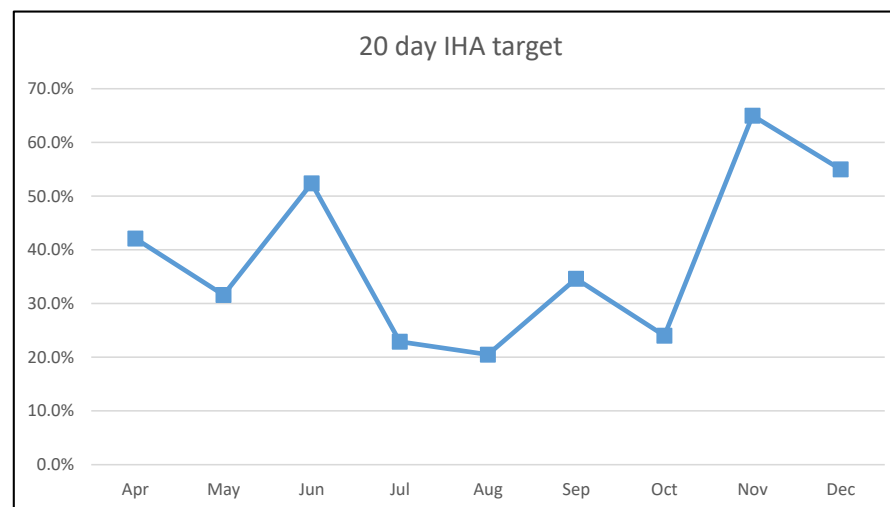
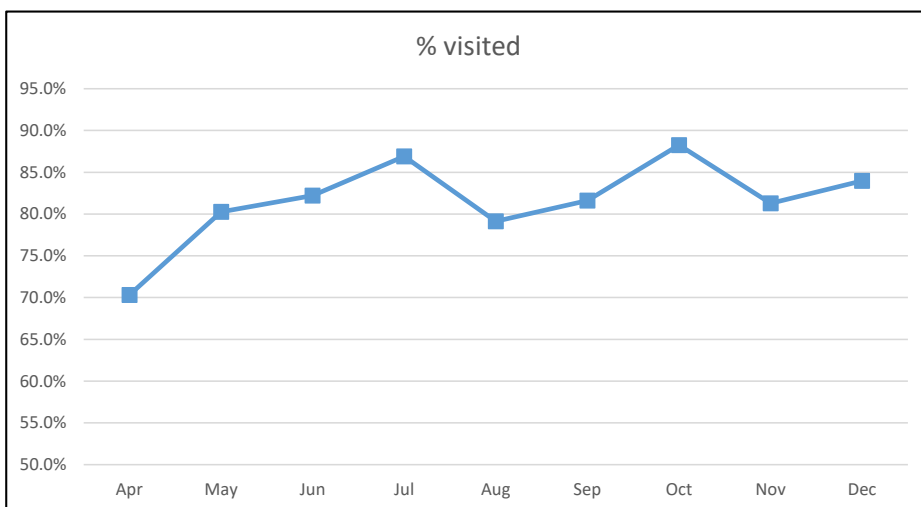
Notes on data and definitions:

- 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 -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	465	471	495	466	503	462	477	470	437					472
No. not seen in timescale	138	93	88	61	105	85	56	88	70					87
% visited	70.3%	80.3%	82.2%	86.9%	79.1%	81.6%	88.3%	81.3%	84.0%					81.6%
Late Reviews this month	4	0	7	1	3	9	5	3	1					4
Cumulative late reviews	4	4	11	12	15	24	29	32	33					
% reviews in timescale	97.3%	100.0%	95.3%	99.3%	98.2%	93.7%	97.3%	98.3%	99.5%					97.7%

Health	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Trend	Average
20 day IHA target	42.1%	31.6%	52.4%	22.9%	20.5%	34.6%	24.0%	65.0%	55.0%					



Commentary:

The numbers of children being visited within statutory timescales improved in December. Some children have not been seen at the required time and this is around capacity issues. Individual cases have management oversight and where there are capacity issues, the priority is given to the most vulnerable children. Steps are being taken to counter late visits. There are other mechanisms in place designed to safeguard children and these include visits to foster carers, where children are seen, school attendance and visits from other professionals. Performance on children having their Looked After review in timescales is strong and this activity also supports the monitoring children's well-being, as well as evaluating their care plan.

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	27	30	21	27	20	15	29	12	19					22
Care leavers in suitable accommodation - Yes	15	16	16	14	10	13	26	12	15					15
Care leavers in suitable accommodation - Unknown	10	12	3	3	1	0	1	0	0					3
Care leavers who are EET -Yes	6	5	9	13	8	9	23	8	12					10
Care leavers who are EET - Unknown	10	12	3	3	1	0	0	0	0					3
Care leavers in touch - Yes	23	21	21	23	18	12	24	11	14					19
Care leavers in touch - Returned Home	2	2	0	1	0	0	2	1	0					1
Care leavers in touch - No Longer Required	0	2	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	2	6	1	4	0	1	2	4	3					3
Average time between child entering care and moving in with its adoptive family (days)	365	310	938	352	N/A	168	381	284	617					427
Average time between an LA receiving court authority to place a child and the LA deciding on a match	146	127	757	132	N/A	46	179	111	226					216
Children who wait less than 14 months between entering care and moving in with their adoptive family	100%	100%	0%	100%	N/A	100%	100%	100%	66.7%					83.3%

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.

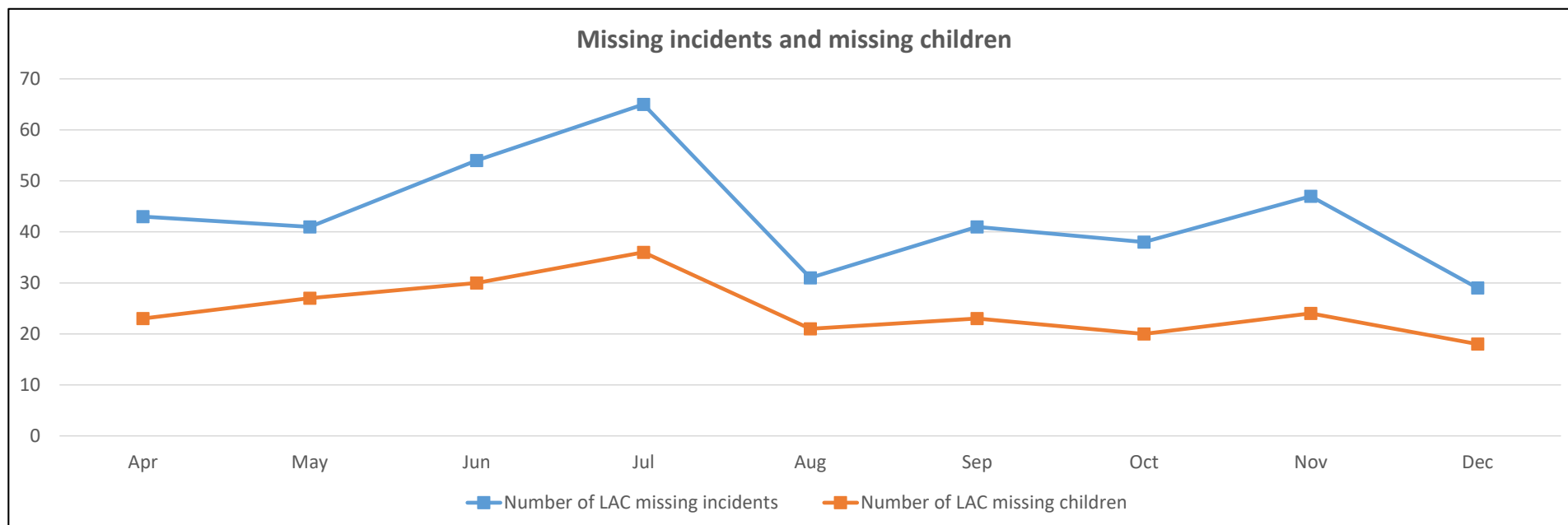
The Care Leaver Cohort are the Care Leavers whose 17th, 18th 19th, 20th and 21st birthdays fell within the reporting month. There are approximately 275 care leavers within the 15-25 service in total. Performance in relation to children waiting less than 14 months to be adopted has been 100% with the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

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 - Missing

LAC - Missing	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Trend	Average
Number of LAC missing incidents	43	41	54	65	31	41	38	47	29					43.2
Number of LAC missing children	23	27	30	36	21	23	20	24	18					24.7









Commentary:







There was a spike in missing incidents in July with a very slight corresponding spike in the number of missing children. This will be the result of one or more children with multiple missing incidents during July.

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 - those at risk of 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	11	13	12	6	25	27	26	25	21					18.4
Female	49	60	56	60	69	81	88	84	83					70.0
Age of children														
0-8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0					0.0
9-12	4	4	4	5	4	5	5	4	2					4.1
13-16	48	53	54	51	69	81	82	73	73					64.9
17+	8	3	10	10	21	22	27	32	29					18.0

Gang Exploitation (All Children)	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Trend	Average
Gender														
Male	27	25	22	25	27	23	22	22	19					23.6
Female	2	3	1	1	2	3	4	4	5					2.8
Age of children														
0-8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0					0.0
9-12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0					0.0
13-16	19	18	13	13	14	12	12	11	11					13.7
17+	10	10	10	13	15	14	14	15	13					12.7

Commentary:

In terms of the age of children at risk of Child Sexual Exploitation, it is likely that the numbers refer to the same individual children, rather than a new group of children each month. It is concerning that some children as young as 9 are recorded here, but these numbers are reducing and there are various mechanisms used to monitor and keep children safe, and to collate and share this information across agencies. There is a clear difference in the high numbers of girls versus boys at risk of CSE, and the high number of boys compared to girls involved in gang exploitation.

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'.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S PARTICIPATION: CO-OPTION OF TWO YOUNG PEOPLE'S REPRESENTATIVES

To: **Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee**

Meeting Date: **21 February 2018**

From: **Michelle Dean
Participation Manager**

Electoral division(s): **All**

Purpose: **To update the Sub-Committee arrangements to co-opt two young people's representatives onto the Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee.**

Recommendation: **Members are asked to:**

- a) note that two young people will be attending the meeting as observers with a view to joining as co-opted members in April 2018.**

Officer contact:	Member contact:
Name: Michelle Dean	Names: Councillor Lis Every
Post: Participation Manager	Role: Chairman, Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee
Email: Michelle.dean@cambridgeshire.gov.uk	Email: Lis.Every@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
Tel: 01223 703581	Tel: (office) 01223 706398

Summary

Councillors decided to ask two Looked After children or care leavers to join the new Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee so that they can come to the meetings and tell councillors what they think. It is really important to councillors to know what is working well and what can be done better for all Looked After children and care leavers in Cambridgeshire.

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The Sub-Committee has been constituted to enable two young people with recent (within the past five years) experience of being a Looked After child or care leaver to be co-opted members. Members discussed this at the meeting on 13 December 2017 and emphasised their commitment to ensuring the county's Looked After Children and care leavers were placed at the centre of the Sub-Committee's work. They also highlighted the need to establish a range of mechanisms to encourage an open two way conversation between Members and young people.

2. MAIN ISSUES

- 2.1 Young people were invited to observe and attend the Sub-Committee with a focus on being part of future meetings. A young person attended the last meeting on 13 December 2017 and from her attendance has shown an interest in becoming involved.
- 2.2 Following this meeting it was agreed that a letter was to be sent to all Looked After young people and care leavers asking to make contact if they were interested in becoming involved. Four responses were received and each of the young people were contacted. One response was from the young person who had attended the meeting on 13 December 2017 as an observer. One young person wishes to be involved in fostering training and not the committee. We are waiting for a further response from one young person who has moved out of county and one young person has been invited to attend the committee on 21 February 2018.
- 2.3 Two young people plan to attend the meeting on 21 February 2018 and a further meeting will be arranged after that with the Chairman, Councillor Every, to discuss, plan and agree their involvement and co-option to the committee. Areas of focus will include:

Commitments, practicalities on being able to attend meetings, meeting elected members, paperwork and consultation with other young people. In addition support for them as young people with information that is discussed at the meetings and support with their ongoing participation;

The work of Voices Matter (Children in Care Council) to link in with the work of the Sub-Committee and Councillor Every to be invited to future panel meeting dates.

- 2.4 Subject to the above it is hoped to formally co-opt two young people at the Sub-Committee's next meeting in April 2018.

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
N/A

3.4 Equality and Diversity Implications
We will need to consider the time and location of Sub-Committee meetings to make sure that the co-opted young people are able to attend.

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
<u>Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee 13 December 2017</u> Co-Option of Young People's Representatives – Fiona MacKirdy, Head of Countywide and Looked After Children's Services	https://cmis.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/ccs_live/Meetings/tabid/70/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/397/Meeting/904/Committee/46/SelectedTab/Documents/Default.aspx

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

To: **Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee**

Meeting Date: **21st February 2018**

From: **Sarah-Jane Smedmor
Assistant Director, Children's Services**

Electoral division(s): **All**

Purpose: Members asked for a regular report on workforce development.

Recommendation: Members are invited to:

- a) note and comment on the report.
- b) say what information they would find useful regarding workforce development in future, and in what format they would like to have this information delivered.

<i>Officer contact:</i>		<i>Member contact:</i>	
Name:	Anna Cullen/Jacqui Barry	Names:	Councillor Lis Every
Post:	Principal Child and Family Social Worker/ Service Development and Commissioning Manager	Role:	Chairman, Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee
Email:	Anna.cullen@cambridgeshire.gov.uk / jacqui.barry@cambridgeshire.gov.uk	Email:	Lis.Every@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
Tel:	01223 706377/01223 715530	Tel:	(office) 01223 706398

Summary:

This is a short update about the allocation of social workers and available training.

This report confirms that each Looked After Child (LAC child) has an allocated social worker and gives an overview of the training available to social workers.

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 A request was made by the Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee for further information about the allocation of a social worker to each Looked After Child (LAC), and confirming that appropriate training is available to social work staff.

2. MAIN ISSUES

- 2.1 All Looked After Children have a qualified social worker allocated to their case and is recorded on the Integrated Children's System (ICS).
- 2.2 Cambridgeshire County Council, in partnership with LGSS has a wide-ranging training and development offer in place for Children's Services. Social work staff have a defined training pathway for each stage of their social work career. The pathway is refreshed and updated each year, and courses are updated regularly to offer the latest guidance, policies and up to date practice. Staff have mandatory training that they must attend additional to their core corporate training. This covers a variety of subjects including domestic violence, undertaking child abuse investigations and courses with a focus for Looked After Children including child sexual exploitation and life story work. With the exception of the 14-25 team, social workers hold generic children's social work caseloads, so are expected to develop expertise throughout the child's social care journey – from Child in Need, Child Protection and associated work for looked after children. There is a specific course regarding looked after children available to all Children's Services staff, but especially aimed at social workers, fostering officers and so on which gives an in-depth guide to working with LAC children, the legal framework, understanding permanence and managing contact.
- 2.3 Alongside this core offer, there are a number of options available to workers to help them develop their practice in more depth and in a variety of learning styles. All Newly qualified workers undertake the Assessed and Supported Year in Employment, which has a set level of learning days, enhanced levels of supervision and a portfolio of work to provide for assessment. They are expected to show their development and application to increasingly complex social work tasks throughout their year, and good practice will see them have a managed caseload, which will in due course include work with a LAC child as appropriate.
- 2.4 Less formally, there are a number of in-house workshops available – Partnerships and Quality Assurance (PQA) has initiated a monthly workshop available across the county focusing on key social work skills and tasks – this is being developed by the Principal Social Worker and in February is focusing on the Voice of the Child. Future workshops will

concentrate on direct work with children (which will include life story work) and good practice around statutory visits. The needs of LAC children are considered in each workshop, as are those children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). Alongside this, our practice experts for court work and permanence meet with practitioners countywide both to offer individual advice and coaching and also offer bespoke training workshops on aspects of their work – again, aimed at the generic workload, but ultimately thinking of the welfare of and planning for LAC children.

- 2.5 Practice groups, District team workshops, e-learning courses and webinars and external conferences and workshops are also available to staff. These cover a wide-ranging number of topics and often meet local needs and current or emerging trends. This enables staff to access 'bite-sized' sessions of learning on topics ranging from working with specific cultures within Cambridgeshire, to trafficking, to information on County Lines drug-running – an emerging concern for Cambridgeshire and for our most vulnerable young people. Staff are encouraged to attend the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) practice groups, and can access LSCB training. Cambridgeshire also has a licence for Community Care Inform, Making Research Count and Research in Practice, who all have a wide-ranging set of resources to support social work staff.

3. SIGNIFICANT IMPLICATIONS

N/A

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

Source Documents	Location
None	

COUNCIL TAX DISCOUNTS AND EXEMPTIONS FOR CARE LEAVERS: UPDATE

To: **Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee**

Meeting Date: **21 February 2018**

From: **Fiona Mackirdy
Head of Countywide and Looked After Children's Services**

Electoral division(s): **All**

Purpose: **To provide the Committee with an update on progress
towards seeking Council Tax discounts for Care Leavers**

Recommendation: **The Sub-Committee is asked to note and comment on the
report.**

<i>Officer contact:</i>		<i>Member contact:</i>	
Name:	Fiona Mackirdy	Names:	Councillor Lis Every
Post:	Head of Countywide and Looked After Children's Services	Role:	Chairman, Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee
Email:	Fiona.Mackirdy@cambridgeshire.gov.uk	Email:	Lis.Every@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
Tel:	01223 715576	Tel:	(office) 01223 706398

Summary:

The council wants to make sure that care leavers are able to get as much help as possible to pay their bills and manage their money when they are adults

One way of doing this is by agreeing with other councils that care leavers don't have to pay council tax until they are aged 25. This needs all the six councils in Cambridgeshire to agree to this. Some have already agreed.

Some young people who don't live in Cambridgeshire might still have to pay council tax but the County Council could decide to give them a grant to cover the costs.

Lots of work is needed to find out how much this would cost and to get agreement from all the councils to do this for care leavers.

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 This Sub-Committee has previously heard that some local authorities offered care leavers discounts on council tax, reflecting the particular vulnerability care leavers experience in developing financial independence. At the meeting on 13 December 2017 Members asked for a report detailing more information.

2. MAIN ISSUES

- 2.1 Any decision to grant relief from council tax has to be applied by the collection authority – in Cambridgeshire's case, the District/City councils.
- 2.2 Under the implementation of the Children and Social Work Act 2017, which comes into effect in April 2018, all authorities need to demonstrate how they are exercising the Corporate Parenting Principles in the exercise of their functions. Providing relief on council tax is one way that authorities could provide evidence of taking account of their duties towards care leavers.
- 2.3 Once more specifics and details are agreed, the County Council may choose or be asked to fund the collection authority for providing the relief on the council tax amount. The cost of this is likely to be at a level and value which can be approved via the Children and Young People's Committee or the General Purposes Committee.
- 2.4 Any agreement from the District/City councils within Cambridgeshire to grant relief to care leavers in respect of council tax will only apply to those young people living within Cambridgeshire. The amount of relief will be after any existing council tax support measures (such as council tax benefit) are applied. Those living outside of Cambridgeshire may still have to pay council tax if the local authority where they live does not grant relief for care leavers.

- 2.5 Some county councils have therefore agreed to provide a support grant to care leavers to pay their contribution to council tax if they live in an authority that does not provide relief.
- 2.6 In Cambridgeshire, there has been some interest shown by some of the District/City councils to consider implementation of a relief scheme. Cambridge City Council are taking forward a proposal that from April 2019 care leavers would be exempt from council tax charges by designating care leavers as a Vulnerable Group and supported via the Council Tax Support Scheme for 100% of their council tax requirement. South Cambridgeshire District Council have requested further information about numbers and demographics of care leavers in their area in order to evaluate the impact.
- 2.7 At the end of November, some very approximate calculations were made on the potential financial implications for the councils in Cambridgeshire as follows:
- Of approximately 250 care leavers, about 26% were eligible to pay council tax (the others were in hostel-type accommodation, at university or were in county council funded accommodation (including asylum seeking young people awaiting an adult asylum status)).
 - Just over half (34) were living in authorities outside of Cambridgeshire and the others were as follows:
 - 13 Cambridge City
 - 3 E Cambs
 - 1 S Cambs
 - 6 Fenland
 - 6 Hunts
 - 4 Peterborough City
 - With the change of law in April extending care leaving responsibilities to aged 25 and the likelihood that, as young people become older they are more likely to be living in accommodation where there is a council tax liability, it is likely that approximately 35% of care leavers at any one time would be eligible for council tax. Calculations have shown that the care leavers population aged 18-25 may increase to just over 400 by 2019. Many young people will be living in shared accommodation, or eligible for single-person discount.
- 2.8 A working group has been convened to look at the implementation of the Children and Social Work Act 2017 and this strand of work could sit within the remit of this group.

3. SIGNIFICANT IMPLICATIONS

3.1 Resource Implications

Further work is needed to map any liability for the County Council if they were to provide either a Support Grant to care leavers to pay any council tax liability, or funding to the collection authorities to implement full council tax relief.

3.2 Procurement/Contractual/Council Contract Procedure Rules Implications

None

3.3 Statutory, Legal and Risk Implications

Local authorities have discretion to reduce council tax under section 13A(1)(c) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992. A scheme which exempts care leavers aged 18-25 who are living in Cambridgeshire is lawful and reasonable as it supports the corporate parenting principles under the Children and Social Work Act 2017.

3.4 Equality and Diversity Implications

None

3.5 Engagement and Communications Implications

None

3.6 Localism and Local Member Involvement

Many County Council members are also elected to District/City councils.

3.7 Public Health Implications

None

SOURCE DOCUMENTS

Source Documents	Location
None	

REPORT ON HEALTH ASSESSMENTS FOR LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN

To: Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee

Meeting Date: 21st February 2018

From: Deborah Spencer
Designated Nurse Looked After Children –
Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Clinical
Commissioning Group

Electoral division(s): All

Purpose: For the Corporate Parenting Panel to receive a regular update on the progress of Health Assessments in regards to quality, timeliness and breach of timescales.

Recommendation: Members of the Sub-Committee are invited to:

a) Note and comment on the content of the report.

<i>Officer contact:</i>		<i>Member contact:</i>	
Name:	Deborah Spencer	Names:	Councillor Lis Every
Post:	Designated Nurse Looked After Children Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Clinical Commissioning Group	Role:	Chairman, Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee
Email:	Deborahspencer1@nhs.net	Email:	Lis.Every@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
Tel:	07980 739171	Tel:	(office) 01223 706398

Summary:

- Background to health assessments for Looked After Children
- Report on Initial Health Assessments – number, timescales, how they are conducted and current issues
- Report on Review Health Assessments – number, timescales, how they are conducted and current issues
- Report from the quality audit of health assessments for Looked After Children conducted in November 2017

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The Statutory Guidance: “Promoting the Health and Well-being of Looked After Children” (DH, DfE, 2015) states that local authorities are responsible for making sure a health assessment of physical, emotional and mental health needs is carried out for every child they look after regardless of where that child lives. This encompasses children placed within Cambridgeshire and those placed out of county.
- 1.2 An Initial Health Assessment should be conducted by a Medical Practitioner within 20 working days of a child / young person becoming Looked After and a Health Action Plan should be available for the first statutory review meeting.
- 1.3 A review of the child’s health plan should be conducted by a Registered Medical Practitioner, Registered Nurse or Midwife every six months before a child’s fifth birthday and every 12 months after their fifth birthday.
- 1.4 Health assessments for Looked After Children (LAC) are commissioned by Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Clinical Commissioning Group (CPCCG) and conducted by the Children in Care Health Team within Cambridgeshire Community Services (CCS).
- 1.5 The Designated Professionals have developed a quality audit checklist tool derived from the Annex H “Payment by Results Guidance” (DH, 2013-14). Initial and Review Health Assessments have been audited in Autumn 2016 and Autumn 2017

2. MAIN ISSUES

The table below gives an overview of health assessments for children placed in and out of county

CAMBRIDGESHIRE COMMUNITY SERVICES		April 2017	May 2017	June 2017	July 2017	August 2017	September 2017	October 2017	November 2017	December 2017
No. Children Entered Care	No. Placed out of area	0	4	5	12	12	5	7	6	9
	No. Placed in area	19	18	16	23	27	21	18	14	11
IHA Completed within 20 days	No. In area completed within 20 days	8	6	11	8	8	9	6	9	6
	No. OOA completed within 20 days	N/A	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	5
	% IHA completed in 20 days	42%	27%	52%	23%	21%	35%	24%	65%	55%
Annual Health Review Assessments	No. In area Annual Review Assessments required	14	57	32	26	22	48	44	48	25
	No. OOA Annual Review Assessments required	7	9	7	8	5	20	17	7	3
	No. In area completed within 15 days	7	33	23	14	12	9	4	7	6
	No. OOA area completed within 15 working days	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	0	0
	% AHR completed within 15 working days	33%	50%	58%	41%	44%	21%	11.50%	14.50%	21%

* OOA – Out of Area

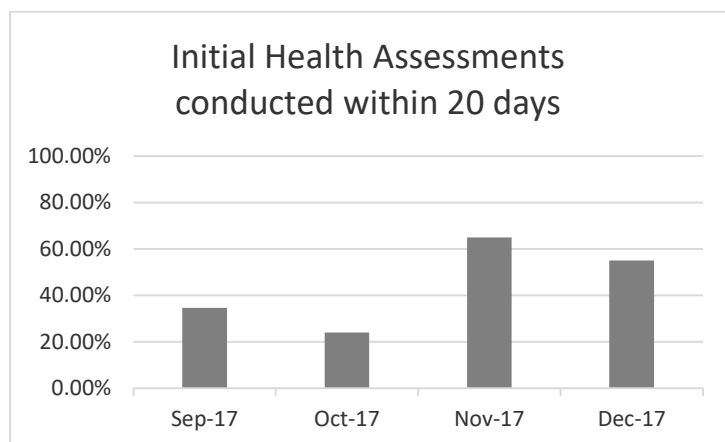
IHA – Initial Health Assessments

2.1 Initial Health Assessments (IHAs)

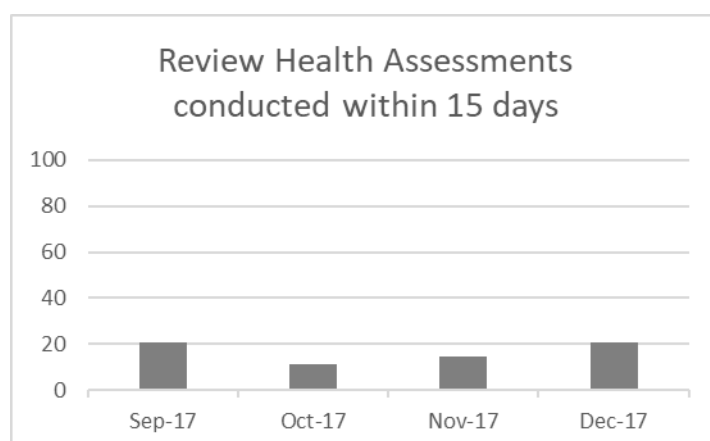
The Looked After Children Health team strive to meet the 20 day target for initial health assessments. The major challenges in meeting this result from several factors including:

- Cambridgeshire children being placed in other counties – The responsibility for organising health assessments remains with Cambridgeshire. A request for a health assessment is sent to the health provider local to where the child / young person lives. Therefore, we have little control over timelines. During the last year national guidance has been issued that Service Level Agreements (SLA) between counties for health assessments are no longer required. This has had a positive impact on speeding up health assessments for children placed in other counties.
- Lack of timely referral and receipt of consent – statutory guidance states that Social Care have five days after a child becomes Looked After to send a notification and consent to the health team in order that a health assessment can be undertaken. During 2017 the percentage of consents received within timescales fell, which impacted on the ability to conduct a health assessment within 20 days. Social Care and Health have worked closely together to improve this and a single point of access has been re-instated within Social Care. Weekly reporting and escalation of issues is in place between Social Care and the LAC health team. There has been a significant improvement in timely receipt of notifications and consent from 6% in July 2017 to 75% in December 2017.
- Carers and young people declining the first appointment offered to them. On occasions carers will decline the first appointment offered to them due to competing appointments / responsibilities. Young people will sometimes not wish to receive a health assessment or do not attend appointments made. Where they decline one of the Specialist Nurses will contact them to endeavour to engage them and also liaise with the Social Worker. Should they continue to refuse a health questionnaire may be sent instead.
- There are occasional issues with capacity when a large number of children come into care in a particular month. For initial assessments all children are seen by a paediatrician within a clinic setting in Cambridge, Huntingdon or Doddington

The graphs below show the percentage of children seen within 20 days for Initial Health Assessments (IHA) from September to December 2017 and the average time to IHA from May to December 2017. The target is 90% within 20days.



Became Looked After	Average time to initial assessment (days)
May-17	33
Jun-17	18
Jul-17	44
Aug-17	35
Sep-17	24
Oct-17	32
Nov-17	15
Dec-17	17

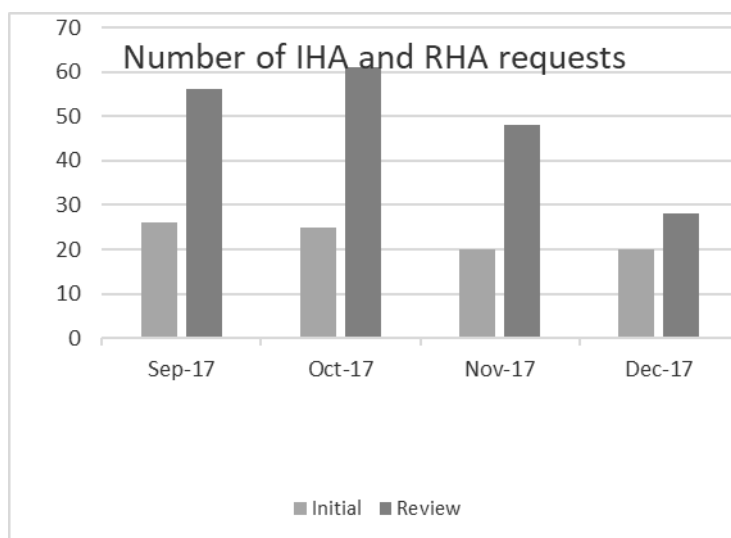


2.2 Review Health Assessments

The majority of review health assessments are conducted by Specialist Nurses. The assessments are conducted in the child / young person's home unless the carer or young person requests otherwise. The percentage of review assessments conducted within 15 days of the previous year's date has fallen over the last six months. This is largely due to capacity within the nursing team. The LAC nursing team comprises of a Lead Nurse 0.4 Whole Time Equivalent, one full time Specialist Nurse, and two part-time Specialist Nurses equivalent to one full time post. The team were without a Lead Nurse for several months although this post has now been filled. In addition, one of the other nurses has recently left the team and recruitment is underway to fill this post. In the meantime, the team have had some temporary staffing to undertake health assessments. The team are currently undertaking assessments that were due in January 2018 and earlier months where the assessment has not been attended or has required rescheduling. Dates are currently being allocated for assessments due in February 2018. Where a child has significant ongoing medical needs or they require an adoption medical they are reviewed by a paediatrician in

clinic.

The graph below shows the total number of requests for Initial and Review health assessments from September – December 2017.



2.3 Quality of Health Assessments

Health assessments are establishing holistically the physical and emotional wellbeing needs of Looked After children. A Quality standard tool has been developed by the CCG Designated Professionals for Looked After Children benchmarked against the National Checklist requirements for health assessments. An audit was conducted in November 2017 by the Designated professionals of eight assessments conducted by Paediatricians and eleven conducted by nurses.

The overall aim of the audit was to assure high quality health assessments for children/young people in care and to provide reassurance to the Corporate Parenting Panel, Local Safeguarding Children's Board and the Clinical Commissioning Group. The audit was to establish quality of health assessments for Looked After Children undertaken by the Cambridgeshire LAC Health Team (Cambridgeshire Community Services) and to provide support and guidance for further development.

This audit demonstrated that consistently high quality health assessments are being conducted by both Paediatricians and Nurses within Cambridgeshire Community Services. The audit results were compared to those from 2016 which showed high standards that have been maintained and in some areas improved.

Notable Improvements

1. Assessments conducted by both the nurses and the doctors are now producing Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic, and Timely (SMART) action plans as they have a timeframe included. Percentage improvement from 0% to 100%.
2. All assessments audited had a height, weight and Body Mass Indicator recorded. Percentage improvement from 58% to 100%.

3. The availability of a Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire (a brief emotional and behavioural screening tool) score at the assessment has improved from 0% to 66% for initial assessments and up to 86% for review assessments.
4. The question regarding lifestyle in those over 10 years old now encompasses specific questions regarding Child Sexual Exploitation and the risk this poses to the child / young person.
5. Paediatricians have improved recording of family history from 33% to 100% and vision screening dates from 60% to 100%.
6. Nurses have improved documentation of other health professionals involved from 75% to 100% and recording of dental dates from 45% to 100%.

The standard of the health assessments was extremely high and the Designated professionals have made some recommendations to work with the health team to improve them even further. Detailed feedback will be given to the team face to face later this month

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**
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
Promoting the Health and Wellbeing of Looked After Children, Departments for Education and Health, March 2017	https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/promoting-the-health-and-wellbeing-of-looked-after-children--2
Payments by Results Guidance, Department of Health, 2013-14	https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/payment-by-results-2013-14
Report of health assessment quality audit November 2017	Quality and Nursing Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Clinical Commissioning Group Lockton House Clarendon Road Cambridge CB2 8FH

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. Every training session is listed and a record is kept of which councillors attend.

February 2018

Below is an outline of dates and topics for potential Sub-Committee training sessions and visits:

	Subject	Desired Learning Outcome/ Success Measures	Priority	Date	Responsibility	Nature of Training	Audience	Attendance by:	% of the Committee Attending
1.	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	April 2018	<i>Jacqui Barry/Sarah Jane Smedmor</i>	Presentation and discussion	Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee members		

To be arranged:

- Meeting with Voices Matter (Young People's Council) (Michelle Dean / Sarah-Jane Smedmor) – open to all members and substitute members of the Children and Young People (CYP) Committee
- Visit to the Multi-agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) (Jenny Goodes) – open to all members and substitute members of the Children and Young People (CYP) Committee

CORPORATE PARENTING SUB-COMMITTEE FORWARD AGENDA PLAN

Updated 12 February 2018

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	Agenda despatch date
21.02.18 Meeting Room 2, Huntingdon Library PE29 3PA	Minutes of the meeting on 13 December 2017	Democratic Services	Not applicable	9 February 2018	
	Action Log	Democratic Services	Not applicable		
	Virtual School (<i>Standing item</i>)	J Pallett	Not applicable		
	Performance Report (<i>standing item</i>)	S-J Smedmor/ T Barden	Not applicable		
	Workforce Development (<i>standing item - A monthly report to provide assurance that all Looked After Children had an allocated social worker and that appropriate training arrangements were in place</i>)	S-J Smedmor	Not applicable		

Committee date	Agenda item	Lead officer	Reference if key decision	Deadline for draft reports	Agenda despatch date
	Council Tax Discounts and Exemptions for Care Leavers: Update Report	F MacKirdy	Not applicable		
	Young People's Participation: Co-option of Two Young People's Representatives	M Dean	Not applicable		
	Health assessment issues	Deborah Spencer, CCG	Not applicable		
	Sub-Committee Workshop/ Training Plan	F MacKirdy/ J Barry	Not applicable		
	Forward Agenda Plan	R Greenhill	Not applicable		
25.04.18 Room 128, Shire Hall, Cambridge	Minutes and Action Log	Democratic Services	Not applicable	12 April 2018	
	Action Log	Democratic Services	Not applicable		
	Virtual School (<i>Standing item</i>)	J Pallett	Not applicable		
	Performance Report and Sufficiency Strategy (<i>standing item</i>)	S-J Smedmor/ T Barden	Not applicable		
	Workforce Development (<i>standing item</i>)	S-J Smedmor	Not applicable		
	Sub-Committee Workshop/ Training Plan (<i>standing item</i>)	F MacKirdy/ J Barry	Not applicable		
	Young People's Participation (<i>standing item</i>)	M Dean	Not applicable		

Committee date	Agenda item	Lead officer	Reference if key decision	Deadline for draft reports	Agenda despatch date
	Workforce Development (standing item)	S-J Smedmor	Not applicable		
	Mental Health/ Child and Adolescent Mental Health (CAMH), including information on criteria and thresholds	tbc, CPFT	Not applicable		
	Suitable Accommodation for Care Leavers	F MacKirdy	Not applicable		
	Looked After Children Reducing 'Not in Education, Employment and Training' (NEET): Refreshed Strategy	F MacKirdy	Not applicable		
	Access to further and higher education: current data and experience of young people and what could be done to further improve outcomes	tbc	Not applicable		
	Foster Care Update: 1. Foster carer recruitment, including marketing information and qualitative information; 2. A focus on how change is going to be achieved (CYP setting the strategy, CPSC focusing on the process/ mechanisms by which this will be delivered)	F MacKirdy	Not applicable		
	Forward Agenda Plan	R Greenhill	Not applicable		
June 2018	Minutes and Action Log	Democratic Services	Not applicable		
	Virtual School (Standing item)	J Pallett	Not applicable		

Committee date	Agenda item	Lead officer	Reference if key decision	Deadline for draft reports	Agenda despatch date
	Performance Report and Sufficiency Strategy (standing item)	S-J Smedmor/ T Barden	Not applicable		
	Sub-Committee Workshop/ Training Plan (standing item)	F MacKirdy/ J Barry	Not applicable		
	Young People's Participation (standing item)	M Dean	Not applicable		
	Workforce Development (standing item)	S-J Smedmor	Not applicable		
	Forward Agenda Plan	R Greenhill	Not applicable		
August 2018	Reserve meeting date				
September 2018	Minutes and Action Log	Democratic Services	Not applicable		
	Virtual School <i>Standing item</i>	J Pallett	Not applicable		
	Performance Report and Sufficiency Strategy (standing item)	S-J Smedmor/ T Barden	Not applicable		
	Sub-Committee Workshop/ Training Plan (standing item)	F MacKirdy/ J Barry	Not applicable		
	Young People's Participation (standing item)	M Dean	Not applicable		
	Workforce Development (standing item)	S-J Smedmor	Not applicable		

Committee date	Agenda item	Lead officer	Reference if key decision	Deadline for draft reports	Agenda despatch date
	Forward Agenda Plan	R Greenhill	Not applicable		
November 2018	Minutes and Action Log	Democratic Services	Not applicable		
	Virtual School <i>Standing item</i>)	J Pallett	Not applicable		
	Performance Report and Sufficiency Strategy <i>(standing item)</i>	S-J Smedmor/ T Barden	Not applicable		
	Sub-Committee Workshop/ Training Plan <i>(standing item)</i>	F MacKirdy/ J Barry	Not applicable		
	Young People's Participation <i>(standing item)</i>	M Dean	Not applicable		
	Workforce Development <i>(standing item)</i>	S-J Smedmor	Not applicable		
	Fostering Service Annual Report	F MacKirdy	Not applicable		
	Forward Agenda Plan	R Greenhill	Not applicable		
January 2019	Minutes and Action Log	Democratic Services	Not applicable		
	Virtual School <i>Standing item</i>)	J Pallett	Not applicable		
	Performance Report and Sufficiency Strategy <i>(standing item)</i>	S-J Smedmor/ T Barden	Not applicable		

Committee date	Agenda item	Lead officer	Reference if key decision	Deadline for draft reports	Agenda despatch date
	Sub-Committee Workshop/ Training Plan (standing item)	F MacKirdy/ J Barry	Not applicable		
	Young People's Participation (standing item)	M Dean	Not applicable		
	Workforce Development (standing item)	S-J Smedmor	Not applicable		
	Forward Agenda Plan	R Greenhill	Not applicable		
March 2019	Minutes and Action Log	Democratic Services	Not applicable		
	Virtual School Standing item)	J Pallett	Not applicable		
	Performance Report and Sufficiency Strategy (standing item)	S-J Smedmor/ T Barden	Not applicable		
	Sub-Committee Workshop/ Training Plan (standing item)	F MacKirdy/ J Barry	Not applicable		
	Young People's Participation (standing item)	M Dean	Not applicable		
	Workforce Development (standing item)	S-J Smedmor	Not applicable		
	Forward Agenda Plan	R Greenhill	Not applicable		

Items to be included:

- Bright Spots report (produced bi-annually): developed by Coram Voice with the aim of improving the wellbeing of children and young people in care by identifying and promoting practices that have a positive influence on them
- Youth offending (going to the Children and Young People Committee in May 2018)
- Adoption Service Annual Report

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

For further information, please contact Quentin Baker on 01223 727961 or Quentin.Baker@cambridgeshire.gov.uk