

Corporate Parenting Performance Report May 2021

To: Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee

Meeting Date: 14 July 2021

From: Nicola Curley Assistant Director Early Help and Children's Social Care

Electoral division(s): All

Forward Plan ref: n/a

Key decision: No

Outcome: This report is submitted to each formal and informal Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee as part of the standing work programme item in relation to performance.

Recommendation: The Sub-Committee is recommended to:

- a. Note the content of the report
- b. Raise any questions with the lead officer

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1. Summary

- 1.1 This report is presented to each formal and informal meeting of the Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee to update members on the numbers of children in care, care leavers and their placements.

2. Background

- 2.1 The purpose of this report is to update the Corporate Parenting Sub Committee in respect of the numbers of children and young people being looked after by the Council as of 31 May 2021 by providing a breakdown of the types of placements in which they are living. The report also provides information about the age, gender and ethnicity of those children and young people. Details are provided in Appendix 1.

2. Main Issues

- 2.1 As of 31 May 2021, there were 664 children in care they were in the following placements:
- 242 children were placed with in house foster carers providing placements for the Local Authority.
 - 212 children were in foster care and placed with independent fostering agencies (IFAs). The agencies work with the Local Authority on a contractual basis to provide foster placements.
 - 83 post 16 year olds were living on their own, with support (independent living) but still classed as Children in Care with an allocated social worker.
 - 16 children have a court order (Placement Order) that allows them to live with their prospective adoptive parents whilst they are awaiting a final adoption order.
 - 41 children were placed with family or friends' carers (connected person). These carers are formally assessed in the same way that our other in-house carers are assessed and are presented to the Fostering Panel for approval in the same way. They are paid the same level of allowances as other in house foster carers.
 - 9 children were living with their parents but considered as looked after children because they are subject to a full care orders, so the local authority still shares parental responsibility with the birth parent. Placements with parents are often made pending a plan for reunification with the parent and in some cases will result in an application for care orders to be discharged.
 - 54 children and young people (without disabilities) were placed in residential care which provides intensive support in a residential setting. These placements are most usually made when it is clear that foster care is not able to meet the child or young person's needs. Residential care is nearly always accessed by adolescents and only very rarely used for younger children.

3. Alignment with corporate priorities

- 3.1 A good quality of life for everyone
There are no significant implications for this priority.
- 3.2 Thriving places for people to live
There are no significant implications for this priority.
- 3.3 The best start for Cambridgeshire's children
There are no significant implications for this priority.
- 3.4 Net zero carbon emissions for Cambridgeshire by 2050
There are no significant implications for this priority.

4. Significant Implications

- 4.1 Resource Implications
There are no significant implications within this category.
- 4.2 Procurement/Contractual/Council Contract Procedure Rules Implications
There are no significant implications within this category.
- 4.3 Statutory, Legal and Risk Implications
There are no significant implications within this category.
- 4.4 Equality and Diversity Implications
There are no significant implications within this category.
- 4.5 Engagement and Communications Implications
There are no significant implications within this category.
- 4.6 Localism and Local Member Involvement
There are no significant implications within this category.
- 4.7 Public Health Implications
There are no significant implications within this category.

5. Source documents

5.1 None

6. Appendices

6.1 Appendix 1: Corporate Parenting Scorecard May 2021

An accessible version of the appendix is available on request from Myra.O'Farrell@peterborough.gov.uk or on 01733 864391.