

**Agenda Item No: 6**

**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.**

<b>Officer contact:</b>	<b>Member contact:</b>
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**

<b>Source Documents</b>	<b>Location</b>
<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	<a href="https://cmis.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/ccs_live/Meetings/tabid/70/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/397/Meeting/904/Committee/46/SelectedTab/Documents/Default.aspx">https://cmis.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/ccs_live/Meetings/tabid/70/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/397/Meeting/904/Committee/46/SelectedTab/Documents/Default.aspx</a>