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### **CORPORATE PARENTING COMMITTEE**

# WEDNESDAY 22 NOVEMBER 2023 6.00 PM

Bourges/Viersen Room - Town Hall

### **AGENDA**

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2.	Declarations of Interest	
	At this point Members must declare whether they have a disclosable pecuniary interest, or other interest, in any of the items on the agenda, unless it is already entered in the register of members' interests or is a "pending notification " that has been disclosed to the Head of Legal Services	
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### Committee Members:

Councillors: Allen, Bi (Vice Chairman), Bond, Cole, Howard, Jones (Chairman), S Lane, G Nawaz, D Over, Sainsbury and Seager

Substitutes: Councillors: Barkham, Bisby, G Casey and Hemraj

Further information about this meeting can be obtained from Karen Dunleavy on telephone 01733 452233 or by email – karen.dunleavy@peterborough.gov.uk



# MINUTES OF THE CORPORATE PARENTING COMMITTEE MEETING (FORMAL) HELD AT 6:00PM, ON WEDNESDAY, 19 July 2023 BOURGES/VIERSEN ROOMS, TOWN HALL, PETERBOROUGH

**Committee Members Present:** Councillor Bi, (Chairman (Chair), Councillors Jackie Allen, Casey, Cole, Over, S Bond, Lane and Tyler, Hemraj, Seager

Other Councillors in attendance: Sabeel Ahmed and Afran Khan

Officers Present: John Gregg, Executive Director for Children and Young People's

Service

Gary Jones, Service Director, Children's Social Care and Targeted

Support

Shalina Chandoo, Lead for Quality Assurance, Participation and

Independent Visiting

Marie Saunders, Deputy Safeguarding Lead Geoffrey Fredderick, Independent Chair Jo Banks, Head of Regional Adoption Agency

Brian Relph, Service Director, Fostering and Adoption for

Peterborough and Cambridgeshire

Katie Liddle, Designated Nurse for Children in Care

Dr Aslam, Consultant Paediatrician, Designated Doctor for Looked

After Children

Sue King, Fostering Service Manager

Karen S Dunleavy, Democratic Services Officer

Also Present: Glen Crossland, Foster Carer Committee Representative

### 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Denise Jones and Ayres. Councillors Hemraj and Jackie Allen were in attendance as substitute.

### 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

## 3. MINUTES OF THE CORPORATE PARENTING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 15 MARCH 2023

The minutes of the meeting held on 15 March 2023 were agreed as a true and accurate record.

### 4. UPDATE FROM FOSTER CARERS COMMITTEE

The Corporate Parenting Committee received a report in relation to updates from the Foster Carer Committee.

The purpose of the report was to update the Committee about the activities of the Foster Carer Committee (FCC). Key points highlighted included:

- The Working Group progress for mentoring, retention and recruitment.
- Information provision for cost of living.
- Social events with coffee mornings and lunch meet up.
- Five households had recently left the fostering service.
- Recruitment Ambassador update to encourage more people to foster.
- Mentoring scheme which involved one to one session for new foster carers.
- Feedback loops held to understand what was happening in the foster world had been positive.
- An update was provided on the progress of Mockingbird, transformation programmes feedback loops for Foster Carers.

The Foster Carer Representative introduced the report and asked Members to note the contents and raise any queries they had with representatives.

The Corporate Parenting Committee debated the report and in summary, key points raised and responses to questions included:

- Foster Carers (FCs) had received a government increase in the basic allowances
  they received, and this was in line with the cost-of-living increase of 12.43% from 1
  April 2023. Although Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Foster Carers were paid
  higher than the government basic rate, they were being paid lower than the national
  average on one element of the allowance. Members were assured that discussions
  were underway to negotiate a better rate for FCs, and this would be settled by the
  end of the month.
- Some teenage foster placements had broken down to a variety of reasons such as not being active in education or employment, self-harming, aggressive behaviours, and traumatic issues and theft.
- There had been success in prospective foster carer applications due to the success of the recruitment campaigns conducted.
- Retention of Foster Carers for special needs CiC had been successful due to the link respite service. In addition, there were some FC families that had made a commitment to care for CiC with significant special needs. Furthermore, there had been no issues with the retention of Foster Carers for children with special needs, as the team had been working to increase the number of these carers.

The Corporate Parenting Committee considered the report and **RESOLVED** (Unanimously) to note the contents of the report.

### 5. CHILDREN IN CARE COUNCIL (CICC) PARTICIPATION REPORT

The Corporate Parenting Committee received a report in relation to the work of the Children in Care Council and the outcome of their discussions at meetings and events organised.

The purpose of the report was to update Members on the Children in Care Council activities and participation services.

The Quality Assurance Lead for Participation and Independent Visiting introduced the report and asked Members to note the contents and raise any queries they had with Officers.

Key points raised in the discussion included:

- CiCC Summer programme activities which take place physically and virtually;
- Annual art exhibition to include a physical display this year.
- Mental health awareness video developed by the CiCC.
- Children in Charge Youth Club project of post boxes and posters for children and families to submit feedback about the Contact Centres.
- Peterborough Care Leaders requested an update from Corporate Parenting Committee Members about the Council Tax exemption and Protected Characteristic status for care experienced people.
- Young Trainers had been involved in delivery of a training programme for student Social Workers
- The Young Recruiters and development of themed questions to be used by adoption panels.
- A video on Every Word Matters was being developed to provide guidance to Councillors and Council Staff on the preferred language that CiC and CL would expect to be used about services to them.
- Public Speaking course for Care Leavers

The Quality Assurance Lead introduced the report and asked Members to note the update and raise any queries they had with officers.

The Corporate Parenting Committee debated the report and in summary, key points raised and responses to questions included:

- Members confirmed that a Motion on Protected Characteristics for Care Leavers (CLs) due to be presented to a Full Council meeting.
- Members commented that there could be work experience opportunities through the Council and its partners to support the public speaking training ambition for CLs
- Members complimented the work undertaken by the CiCC on the development of the mental health support video.

The Corporate Parenting Committee considered the report and **RESOLVED** (Unanimously) to note the contents.

### **AGREED ACTIONS**

The Corporate Parenting Committee noted the report and agreed that:

1. The Participation Team would inform the Leaving Care Service that there could be work experience opportunities available through Council departments and partners to support the public speaking initiative for CLs.

### 6. APPOINTMENT OF CHAMPION MEMBERS

The Corporate Parenting Committee received a report in relation to the Champion positions and nominations to those roles.

The purpose of the report was to set and approve the Corporate Parenting Committee Champion roles and positions.

The Service Director, Children's Social Care and Targeted Support introduced the report and asked Members to appoint to the relevant Champion positions.

The Corporate Parenting Committee considered the report and **RESOLVED** (Unanimously) to the appointment of Corporate Parenting Committee Champions and roles.

### **ACTION AGREED**

The Corporate Parenting Committee noted the report and **RESOLVED** (Unanimously) to the following Champion roles and appoint Councillors to those positions as nominated:

- I) Support for Care Experienced Young People (Housing, Finance and Asylum Issues), Councillor Sandra Bond
- II) 0-25 Education, Employment and Training (including the Combined Authority and Partners), Councillor Cole
- III) 0-25 Physical and Mental Health and Emotional Well Being , Councillor Hemraj
- IV) Citizenship, Participation and Leisure activities, Councillor Casey
- V) Foster Carer Retention, Councillor Bi
- VI) Foster Carer Marketing and Recruitment , Councillor Jones

### 7. DRAFT WORK PROGRAMME 2023 – 2024 AND REVIEW OF WORK IN 2022 - 2023

The Corporate Parenting Committee received a report in relation to the draft Work Programme 2023 – 2024 and Review of Work conducted in 2022 – 2023.

The purpose of the report was to enable the Committee to discuss its objectives and priorities and approve the draft work programme for 2023/24.

The Democratic Services Officer introduced the report and asked Members to note the contents and raise any queries with officers.

The Corporate Parenting Committee considered the report and **RESOLVED** (Unanimously) to note the contents and agreed the Work Programme for 2023-2024

### 8. ANNUAL FOSTERING SERVICE REPORT

The Committee received an annual report in relation to the Fostering Service.

The purpose of the report was to keep the Corporate Parenting Committee informed of activity undertaken by the Fostering Service and to update on Fostering Service developments. Members were also advised that there were plans in place to increase the recruitment of new Foster Carers.

The Fostering Service Manager introduced the report and asked Members to note the contents and raise any queries with officers.

The Corporate Parenting Committee debated the report and in summary, key points raised and responses to questions included:

- Members were advised that there was a shared fostering service with Cambridgeshire County Council, although some parts of the service were separate.
   Furthermore, some of the staff were shared across both Councils as part of a wider Fostering Agency.
- Members commented that Peterborough Fostering recruitment campaigns should be sited in as many locations as possible such as supermarkets.

- Members were provided with an outline of how the shared Fostering Service for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough had operated such as fostering and recruitment campaigns. Furthermore, some of the services that had not been shared included recruitment panels, FC reviews, fostering support and governance.
- Members commented that recruitment leaflets should be inclusive and displayed in prime locations such as places of worship to cover all ethnic backgrounds. Members also commented that there had been good links within ethnic communities and that the information would be shared with the Foster Carer Recruitment Team.

The Corporate Parenting Committee considered the report and **RESOLVED** (Unanimously) to note the contents.

### AGREED ACTION

The Corporate Parenting Committee noted the report and agreed:

- The Service Director, Fostering and Adoption for Peterborough and Cambridgeshire to provide Members with an organisation chart and associated information on the shared fostering service provision.
- 2. Members of the Committee would share any ethnic community group links they had with the Foster Carer Team, to help with the Foster Carer recruitment campaign.

### 9. Annual Adoption Report Regional Adoption Arrangements

The Committee received an annual report in relation to the Regional Adoption Arrangements.

The purpose of the report was to provide an Annual Report on the business of the Regional Adoption Agency (RAA) for Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Adoption.

The Head of Regional Adoption Agency introduced the report and asked Members to note the contents and raise any queries with officers.

The Corporate Parenting Committee debated the report and in summary, key points raised and responses to questions included:

- The budget underspend referenced on page 21 of the report in relation to £64.757m had been a pooled budget between Cambridge and Peterborough. This had resulted in the £64,757m being added to reserves for the joint Regional Adoption Agency. The plan had been to spend the reserves on interagency adoption arrangements and unplanned costs.
- Members commented that it would be useful for the Adoption Service Plan to be RAG rated to highlight any service slippage.

The Corporate Parenting Committee noted the report and **RESOLVED** (unanimously) and agreed for future service plans to be RAG rated.

### **AGREED ACTIONS**

The Committee noted the report and agreed that the Head of Regional Adoption Agency would provide a RAG rated Service Plan for future annual reports.

### 10. ANNUAL INDEPENDENT REVIEW OFFICER (IRO) REPORT 2022 - 2023

The Committee received an annual report in relation to the Independent Reviewing Officer (IRO) service.

The purpose of the report was to provide Members with the statutory review and analysis of the Independent Reviewing Service

The Deputy Safeguarding Lead introduced the report and asked Members to note the contents and raise any queries with Officers.

The Corporate Parenting Committee debated the report and in summary, key points raised and responses to questions included:

- The IROs had been involved in the Celebration Day events to promote service information.
- Members commented that a suggestion of Children in Care completing a Pen Profile
  to help them settle in with new foster families and this issue had been raised at the
  informal meeting held on 14 June 2023. Members were advised that a CiC Pen
  Profile system could be explored with the CiCC.
- Members were advised that foster families would provide profiles to the CiC moving into their homes, to help them settle in.
- Members were advised that a CiC profile was included on their care plans, which would describe their hobbies, likes and dislikes.

The Corporate Parenting Committee noted the report and **RESOLVED** (unanimously) that the IRO service would develop and implement a Pen Profile feature for CiC.

### **AGREED ACTIONS**

The Corporate Parenting Committee noted the report and agreed that the Deputy Safeguarding Lead

- Would work with the CiCC to explore the implementation of a Pen Profile feature written by CiC.
- Feedback the progress to Members of the Committee in relation to the creation of a Pen Profile feature for CiC.

### 11. CHILDREN IN CARE THAT GO MISSING

The Committee received an annual report in relation to Children in Care that go missing.

The purpose of the report was to provide Members with an update in respect of the numbers of children in care that go missing and the details behind the data presented.

The Service Director, Children's Social Care and Targeted Support introduced the report and asked Members to note the contents and raise any queries with officers.

The Corporate Parenting Committee debated the report and in summary, key points raised and responses to questions included:

Members were advised that the reasons behind why children in care (CiC) go missing
would be assessed to consider how they were reported in future as in some cases
they had been with friends.

The Corporate Parenting Committee noted **RESOLVED** (unanimously) noted the report.

### 12. PERFORMANCE REPORT

The Corporate Parenting Committee received a report in relation to Performance Data for Children in Care and Care Leavers.

The purpose of the report was to update Members in respect of the numbers of children and young people being looked after by the Council as of 31 May 2023 and to provide a breakdown of the types of homes in which they were living in. The report also provided information about the age, gender and ethnicity of those children and young people.

The Service Director, Children's Social Care and Targeted Support introduced the report and asked Members to note the contents and raise any queries with Officers.

The Corporate Parenting Committee debated the report and in summary, key points raised and responses to questions included:

- Members were advised that the family safeguarding cases that had increased could include some narrative in future reports.
- Members commented that it would be helpful if the Performance report showed a breakdown of the reasons why children came into care.
- There had been a variety of reasons some children had been in care for a lengthy period, such as historic practice, placements with other family members or those primary carers that had not wanted a permanent care arrangement. Furthermore, a piece of work could be conducted by the Safeguarding Team to explore whether some children could return to their family members with the provision of additional support.

The Corporate Parenting Committee considered the report and **RESOLVED** (Unanimously) to note the contents and agreed that additional information would be included in Performance reports, where possible, in relation to family safeguarding caseloads and the reasons why children came into care.

### **AGREED ACTIONS**

The Corporate Parenting Committee noted the report and **AGREED** that the Service Director, Children's Social Care and Targeted Support would provide Members with:

- 1. Some narrative within future reports in relation to why performance figures had increased for family safeguarding caseloads;
- 2. Why children had come into care within future performance reports, where feasible.
- 3. A briefing note on the findings of whether some children in care could return to their family home with the provision of extra support, where appropriate.

### 13. HEALTH REPORT

The Corporate Parenting Committee received a report on the performance of the health needs of children and young people in care.

The purpose of the report was to provide Members with update on health and dental services for children in care (CiC). The report also provided and overview of the Integrated Care Board's (ICB) activities to ensure robust monitoring and quality assurance systems were in place to meet the health needs of Peterborough's Children in Care, which included those with a disability.

Designated Nurse for Children in Care introduced the report and asked Members to note the contents and raise any queries with officers.

The Corporate Parenting Committee debated the report and in summary, key points raised and responses to questions included:

- Members were advised that all children's health needs were assessed with no priority given as to whether they had a care status. However, referrals conducted by partners such as Younite, would indicate whether it was for a CiC with mental health concerns.
- There had been no staff capacity to extend appointment times to complete the health questionnaires. Furthermore, health questionnaires needed to be complete prior to the CiC assessment, to allow assessors the chance to analyse the forms and identify any key areas of concern.
- Access to a CiC health information would resume for birth parents if the child had returned to their care and this would need to be applied for and an end of looked after status would need to be present.

The Corporate Parenting Committee considered the report and **RESOLVED** (Unanimously) to note the contents.

### 14. MEMBERS ISSUES

Members that were not part of the core CPC membership, but held corporate parenting responsibilities, were invited raise issues they had in relation to the services provided to Children in Care (CiC).

The Corporate Parenting Committee considered and **RESOLVED** that there were no issues to raise.

CHAIRMAN END 7:39PM

CORPORATE PARENTING COMMITTEE	AGENDA ITEM No. 4
22 NOVEMBER 2023	PUBLIC REPORT

Report of:		John Gregg Executive Director Children and Young People's Service	
Cabinet Member(s) responsible:		Councillor Ray Bisby Cabinet Member for Children's Services	
Contact Officer(s): Gary Jones Targeted So		, Service Director, Children's Social Care and upport	Tel:01733 863624 or 07484076824

### FOSTER CARER COMMITTEE REPORT

RECOMMENDATIONS			
FROM:			Deadline date: N/A
	1 1 1 1 1 0		

It is recommended that the Corporate Parenting Committee:

- 1. Notes the content of this Corporate Parenting Committee Report which updates the committee of service changes further to the decoupling between Peterborough City Council and Cambridgeshire County Council.
- 2. Comment on the proposed service changes with officers.
- 3. Monitor the ongoing commitment to providing support, training and clarity of expectations to foster carers to achieve excellent and high-quality care.

### 1. ORIGIN OF REPORT

1.1 This report is submitted to the Corporate Parenting Committee as a regular work programme item from the Peterborough City Council Fostering Service.

### 2. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

- 2.1 The purpose of this report is to advise the Corporate Parenting Committee of service changes further to the decoupling between Peterborough City Council and Cambridgeshire County Council.
- 2.2 This report is for the Corporate Parenting Committee to consider under its Terms of Reference No. 2.4.4.6 This report is to support the Corporate Parenting Committee to monitor the quality of care delivered by the City Council and review the performance of outcomes for children and young people in care, (d) Hold meetings with children and young people in care, frontline staff and Foster Carers to inform the committee of the standards of care and improvement outcomes for looked after children.
- 2.3 How does this report link to the Children in care Promise?

This report links to the Children in Care Promise, pledge 5, 6, 9 - We will work to keep you in a supportive and caring environment where you feel safe and happy. We will support you to maintain a healthy lifestyle and help look after your physical and mental health. We will work with you to give you all the help and support you need to make a success of moving on from care to adult life.

### 3. TIMESCALES

Is this a Major Policy	NO	If yes, date for	
Item/Statutory Plan?		Cabinet meeting	

### 4. BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

4.1 This report has been prepared to update the Corporate Parenting Committee on participation activity and collaborative working with Peterborough Foster Carers, and to provide an overview of relevant service development activity.

### 4.2. Overview of fostering service and priorities post decoupling.

Following the wider 'decoupling' of children's services between Peterborough City Council and Cambridgeshire County Council, the decision has been made to move away from a shared fostering service. The decision to separate was a mutual decision agreed upon by the Leader and Lead Member for Children's Services in both Councils and the Chief Executives.

The separation allows each local authority to focus its efforts on providing stable, high-quality foster care placements for children of all ages. It will see each local authority invest in a dedicated and comprehensive fostering service that actively works to meet the diverse needs of the children and Foster Carers in their region. It is important that as we embark on our Children's Services Improvement Journey more of our Peterborough children can live with Peterborough carers in Peterborough.

The official date of the separation of service is the 1<sup>st</sup> November 2023. The Support and Supervision Team will transfer over on this date, since those staff members have continued to support PCC foster carers since the two services came together in 2020. Therefore, there is minimal disruption to this team or service.

There are several vacancies in the PCC staff structure, particularly in assessment that need to be recruited to and this work is currently underway. Therefore, the PCC and CCC fostering services are currently working to a shared 'uncoupling' plan, whereby different parts of the fostering service will 'uncouple' in a strategic and planned manner.

Training will continue to be delivered jointly for PCC and CCC foster carers until at least 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024, so there will no change to the booking system. If anyone is booked onto a training course after 1<sup>st</sup> November 2023 they should plan to attend.

We will continue with our fostering recruitment joint branding into the new year and marketing campaigns will continue jointly until January 2023. To this point the recruitment of carers will remain jointly until PCC have recruited to the vacancies in the recruitment service.

### 4.2 Fostering Working Groups – Progress Briefing

The Fostering Service remains committed to the ongoing development of services provided to children in our care. Close collaboration continues with members of the Peterborough Foster Carer Committee (PFCC) and the broader fostering community to ensure that the voices and perspectives of Peterborough Foster Carers are pivotal in the planning of our fostering service.

The Peterborough Foster Carer Committee (PFCC) continue to meet bi-monthly. Foster Carers representatives on the PFCC are Mandy Nicholson, Chair of the Peterborough Foster Carer Community, Glen Crossland, Vice Chair, Andrea Hughes, Secretary & Events Coordinator and Lisa Callow as Treasurer (Lisa Callow still to be voted in officially).

The Peterborough Ambassadors continue to bolster recruitment activities within the service, increasing foster care applications from April to October 2022 to the current year. This augmentation can be attributed to an intensified focus on the 'Refer a Friend' Scheme, soliciting support from various teams and services, and targeted outreach efforts.

Cllr Jones and Cllr Bi, fostering champions have been instrumental in supporting recruitment and retention, leading to an anticipated net gain in foster carers. Peterborough Foster Carers Committee (PFCC), in tandem with the service, have introduced an informative welcome pack for new foster carers, delineating the additional support available from the fostering committee and the wider fostering community within Peterborough. This work will also include a report for senior managers citing any deficits and proposals from a foster carers point of view.

### 4.3 Family time, friendships and contact

Further to the decoupling of Peterborough City Council (PCC) from Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC), it is envisaged that the family time service for PCC will revert to independent operation from CCC starting mid-November.

The PCC family time service, having operated with its own dedicated staff group, will facilitate this transition with minimal complications, albeit under the management of Michaela Berry, succeeding Service Manager Andrea Markham. Peterborough Foster Carers Committee have not reported any issues with the Family Time Service and foster carers regularly provide feedback.

### 4.4 Fostering Service Annual Report

The Fostering Services Regulations of 2011 mandate the submission of an annual written report, covering management, outcomes, and financial aspects of the Local Authority's Fostering Service. This requirement has been met for the year 2022-2023. The report encapsulates an overview of the activities of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Fostering Service for the last financial year and mirrors the collaborative nature of the shared fostering service.

### 5. CORPORATE PRIORITIES

5.1 Consider how the recommendation links to the Council's Corporate Priorities:

The PFCC continues to ensure that the lives of children and young people are at the centre of its work, through its continued support of the fostering community in Peterborough.

With regard to the 'Prevention, Independence and Resilience', the PFCC continues to promote fostering through meetings and social media platforms, and work alongside the service to ensure that the educational, social, emotional and health needs of children and young people are met to a high standard. This enables us to support the 'Sustainable future' our young children and young people in the city.

- 3. The Economy & Inclusive Growth
  - Environment (including a summary of the outcome of a completed Carbon Impact Assessment, to be submitted in full to the Transport and Environment Team)
  - Homes and Workplaces
  - Jobs and Money

### Summary

The report contains no proposals for changes to service delivery and therefore there is no decision to take which may impact carbon emissions of the council or the city.

### 6. CONSULTATION

6.1 None

### 7. ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES OR IMPACT

Corporate Parenting Committee is updated on the significant changes to the shared fostering service between Peterborough City Council and Cambridgeshire County Council and the impact of each Local Authority having direct control of their respective fostering services.

Peterborough City Council foster carers will be directly supported by Peterborough City Council staff and not via a shared service.

7.1 *N/A* 

### 8. REASON FOR THE RECOMMENDATION

8.1 Corporate Parenting Committee is asked to note the changes to the Local Authority's fostering service.

Corporate Parenting Committee is invited to scrutinise the changes to the fostering service.

### 9. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

9.1 None to be considered

### 10. IMPLICATIONS

### Financial Implications

- 10.1 The financial implications have been modelled by calculating the current establishment further to decoupling and developing the proposed interim delivery model. All roles will initially be covered with agency staff pending permanent recruitment to deliver on our statutory responsibilities.

  Legal Implications
- 10.2 Sections 22A to 22D of the Children Act 1989 make provision for the accommodation and maintenance of a Child in Care.

### **Equalities Implications**

None

### 10.3 Other Implications

This report relates to the services provided for Children in Care and Care Leavers and ties into the Pledge and Charter that the Local Authority respects the differing wants and needs for all.

### 11. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

11.1 None

### 12. APPENDICES

12.1 None

CORPORATE PARENTING COMMITTEE	AGENDA ITEM No. 5
22 NOVEMBER 2023	PUBLIC REPORT

Report of:		John Gregg, Director of Children's Services	
Cabinet Member(s) responsible:		Cllr Ray Bisby, Cabinet Member for Children's Services	
Contact Officer(s): Shalina Cha		andoo, QA Lead	Tel. 01733 452540

### CHILDREN IN CARE COUNCIL PARTICIPATION REPORT

RECOMMENDATIONS		
FROM: Gary Jones, Service Director, Children's Services Deadline date: N/A		
It is recommended that the Corporate Parenting Committee:		
1. Notes the content of the report.		
2. Raise any queries they have with the lead officers.		

### 1. ORIGIN OF REPORT

1.1 This report is submitted to each formal and informal Corporate Parenting Committee.

### 2. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

- 2.1 The purpose of this report is to provide an update from the Children in Care Council and the Participation Service.
- 2.2 This report is for the Corporate Parenting Committee to consider under its Terms of Reference:
  - 2.4.4.1 To act as advocates for looked after children and care leavers.
  - 2.4.4.6 To monitor the quality of care delivered by the City Council and review the performance of outcomes for children and young people in care.
  - (a) Raise the profile of the needs of looked after children and care leavers through a range of actions including through the organising of celebratory events for the recognition of achievement.
  - (b) Ensure that leisure, cultural, further education and employment opportunities are offered and taken up by our looked after children and care leavers.
  - (c) Promote the development of participation and ensure that the view of children and young people are regularly heard through the Corporate Parenting Committee to improve educational, health and social outcomes to raise aspiration and attainments.
  - (d) Hold meetings with children and young people in care, frontline staff and foster carers to inform the committee of the standards of care and improvement outcomes for looked after children.
- 2.3 This report links to the Children in Care Promise under:

Respecting You: We will do everything we can to make you feel cared about, valued and respected as an individual.

Making Decisions Together: We will involve you in decision making so your views are listened to, and will explain when we make a decision you may not like or agree with.

**3. TIMESCALES** [If this is not a Major Policy item, answer **NO** and delete the second line of boxes.]

Is this a Major Policy	NO	If yes, date for Cabinet
Item/Statutory Plan?		meeting
Date for relevant Council meeting		Date for submission to
		Government Dept.
		(Please specify which
		Government Dept.)

### 4. BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

- 4.1 The Participation Team continues to promote opportunities for children and young people under the care of Peterborough City Council (PCC) through regular newsletters, as well as creating event-specific publications to encourage engagement. Recent newsletters have updated young people on the work of the Children in Care Council (CiCC), Peterborough Care Leaders (PCL), 'Children in Charge' Youth Club and other participation groups including the Young Inspectors, Young Recruiters and Young Trainers and activities during the October half term holiday. Newsletters have also promoted relevant opportunities with external organisations such as the national charities Article 39 and Become.
- 4.2 The Participation Team promotes the voice of children and young people in care. All feedback, including suggestions and ideas from children and young people, is communicated to services on a regular basis, and responses on action taken is shared with the CiCC and PCL for final review.
- 4.3 A final art workshop was held in the October half term at the request of children and young people, in the run up to the CiCC Art Exhibition at Peterborough Museum on Friday 27 October 2023. More than 100 children, carers, staff and members of the public attended the event to view the artwork, share their feedback and add to the communal artwork a button tree. Some of the artwork was also displayed at Sand Martin House in early November for staff to enjoy, before being donated to the family Contact Centre in Welland.
- Children and young people in Participation groups were recently recognised for their work at Coram Voice's national Amplify event in London. The Children in Care Council and Peterborough Care Leaders won Coram Voice's national Digital Award for their 'Every Word Matters' project and <a href="mailto:animated video">animated video</a>. The Young Inspectors group also won the Community Award for their inspections of the care provided for children with severe disabilities at Cherry Lodge, having also won a national Coram Voice award last year for their inspections of supervised contact centres.

Four young people from Children in Care Council, Peterborough Care Leaders and Young Inspectors groups attended the Coram Voice Amplify event in London with the Participation Team on 25 October 2023, to hear the results and collect their awards in person.

4.5 To accompany the 'Every Word Matters' original video, produced by the PCL and CiCC in conjunction with Cambridgeshire County Council CiCC, children and young people are finalising a glossary of words for professionals. This will be used as a key training resource for professionals, as well as informing language used when meeting children and young people and in documents raising from policies to job descriptions. The groups are also in the process

of finalising videos in a podcast style on Personal Education Plans and the difference between Fostering and Adoption.

- 4.6 The CiCC continues to be consulted by services and co-production, and recently worked with the service to refine the Child Protection consultation booklets and shared their views on the 'All About Me' child profiles, which they continue to be involved in. They will be reviewing the existing profiles for younger children, and plan to work with the service to create a new version for an older cohort.
- 4.7 The 'Children in Charge' Youth Club has recently welcomed new members to the group and decided to create artwork to be displayed at the CiCC October art exhibition. The group has completed their project of decorating a feedback post-box for the Welland family Contact Centre and this has been sent to Welland so that children and families can use it to share their suggestions and feedback.
- 4.8 The PCL has been involved in consultations on apprenticeship taster opportunities and fed back that they would like more Public Relations and Health and Social Care taster day opportunities. The PCL worked on a consultation with the Commissioning Team around supported accommodation providers to help design a new contract and framework and share experiences of support in these settings.
- 4.9 The PCL marked National Care Leavers' Week 2023 with a visit to Anglia Ruskin University (ARU), followed by lunch. The group had a comprehensive tour of the Peterborough site with presentations around financial support and social work courses to supplement their awareness of course modules and the teaching approach. The PCL found the tour useful and inspiring, and commented that they felt reassured and well-informed on accommodation and finances whilst at university.
- 4.10 To mark the end of National Care Leavers' Week, the Participation Team worked with the Chair of Peterborough Care Leaders (PCL) to produce a <u>new information video</u> with tips to all professionals who work with children. This video has added to the suite of training materials produced by Participation groups for social workers and other professionals.
- 4.11 At the request of the PCL, public speaking training was organised for Care Leavers in November. Young people who attended the training have been invited to practice their new skills by delivering speeches to Anglia Ruskin University social work students.
- 4.12 The Participation Team led a focus group with separated migrant children to capture feedback on social care experience when first entering the country. The group discussed information they felt was essential to know as a child or young person new to the country, such as how to use public transport, health and housing as well how lonely some of them had felt when they first arrived in the UK. Following the focus group, the Participation Team arranged a football training session with a Peterborough United coach for the young people during the October half term and National Care Leavers' week, to engage more young people and gather feedback.
- 4.13 The Young Inspectors have continued to interview professionals and corporate parents on the Promise to Children in Care. They plan to create a poster for professionals to remind them of the importance of keeping the promise, and a separate leaflet for children.
- 4.14 The Young Recruiters continue to be involved in the recruitment of staff and most recently formed a Young Person's panel to interview candidates for the roles of Service Director for Education and Service Director for Targeted Support and Safeguarding.

### 5. CORPORATE PRIORITIES

5.1 This report provides an update on activities linked the Council's Corporate Priority:

### Prevention, Independence & Resilience

- Children
- 3. The Economy & Inclusive Growth
  - Environment (including a summary of the outcome of a completed Carbon Impact Assessment, to be submitted in full to the Transport and Environment Team)
  - Homes and Workplaces
  - Jobs and Money

### Summary

The report contains no proposals for changes to service delivery and therefore there is no decision to take which may impact carbon emissions of the council or the city.

### 6. CONSULTATION

6.1 This report was completed in consultation with members of the Children in Care Council.

### 7. ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES OR IMPACT

7.1 Improved engagement with Children in Care and Care Leavers and improved services.

### 8. REASON FOR THE RECOMMENDATION

8.1 *N/A* 

### 9. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

9.1 There are no changes required.

### 10. IMPLICATIONS

### **Financial Implications**

10.1 There are no financial implications.

### **Legal Implications**

10.2 There are no legal implications, as the report is for information only.

### **Equalities Implications**

10.3 Participation is an essential service for Children in Care and Care Leavers and this report demonstrates the level of participation in various events and activities.

### 11. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

11.1 *N/A* 

### 12. APPENDICES

12.1 *N/A* 

CORPORATE PARENTING COMMITTEE	AGENDA ITEM No. 3
22 NOVEMBER 2023	PUBLIC REPORT

Report of:		John Gregg	
		Executive Director Children and Young People's Service	
Cabinet Member(s) responsible:		Councillor Bisby Cabinet Member for Education, Skills, and Children's Services	
Contact Officer(s):	Zoe Lattimer Virtual School Head Teacher		Tel. 07901 750994

### PETERBOROUGH VIRTUAL SCHOOL

RECOMMENDATIONS			
FROM: Zoe Lattimer		Deadline date: NA	
It is recommended that members of the Corporate Parenting Committee:			
<ol> <li>Note the content of the report</li> <li>Raise any questions with the lead officer</li> </ol>			

### 1. ORIGIN OF REPORT

1.1 This report is submitted to the Corporate Parenting Committee as part of the standing work programme item in relation to performance.

### 2. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

- 2.1 The purpose of this report is to provide additional or background information requested by the Committee including:
  - Exam results
  - The position for Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET)
  - The position for Children in Care with Special Education Needs
- 2.2 2.4.4.6 To monitor the quality of care delivered by the City Council and review the performance of outcomes for children and young people in care:
  - (b) Ensure that leisure, cultural, further education and employment opportunities are offered and taken up by our looked after children and care leavers.
  - (c) Promote the development of participation and ensure that the view of children and young people are regularly heard through the Corporate Parenting Committee to improve educational, health and social outcomes to raise aspiration and attainments

2.3



This report links directly to point 8 of the children in care promise by focussing on the educational outcomes for children and young people in care.

### 3. TIMESCALES

Is this a Major Policy	NO	If yes, date for	
Item/Statutory Plan?		Cabinet meeting	

### 4. BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

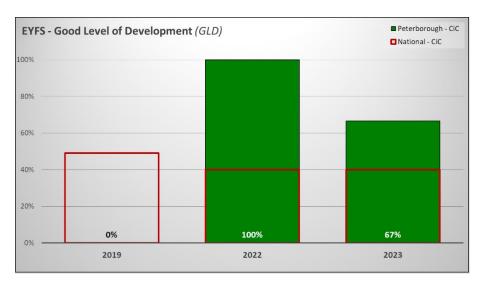
### 4.1 **EXAM RESULTS**

For the purposes of this report attainment data has been reported on from Early Years through to Key Stage 4. The data within this report refers to the eligible cohort which includes children in care for 12 months or longer in March 2023 for assessments being completed in the summer of 2023.

There is no 2020 or 2021 data available due to the COVID-19 pandemic; this is why the three-year trend starts at 2019.

### 4.1.1 Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

Children are defined as having reached a Good Level of Development (GLD) at the end of the EYFS if they have achieved the expected level for the Early Learning Goals (ELGs) in the prime areas of learning and the specific areas of mathematics and literacy.

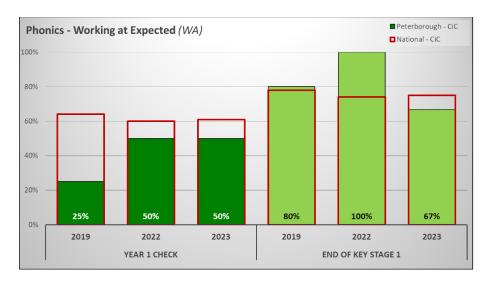


Peterborough - CiC Cohort			
2019	2		
2022	1		
2023	3		

The cohorts contain so few pupils that the data set is statistically unmeaningful.

### 4.1.2 National Phonics Screening Check

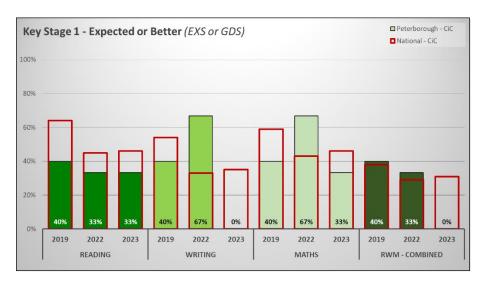
This data covers the attainment of both year 1 pupils taking the test for the first time and year 2 pupils who did not reach the required standard in Year 1 and therefore were required to resit.



Peterborough - CiC Cohort			
Year 1 Check			
2019 4			
2022	2		
2023	4		

Peterborough - CiC Cohort			
End of Key Stage 1			
2019 5			
2022 3			
2023 3			

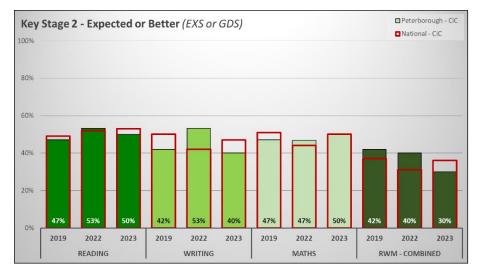
### 4.1.3 Key Stage 1



Peterborough - CiC Cohort			
2019	5		
2022	3		
2023	3		

Of the 3 children in Year 2, none achieved the expected standard in reading, writing and maths combined. One child achieved the expected standard in reading and a different child achieved the expected standard in maths. The child who did not achieve expected standard in any subject has an EHCP and will be moving to a special school next academic year.

### 4.1.4 Key Stage 2



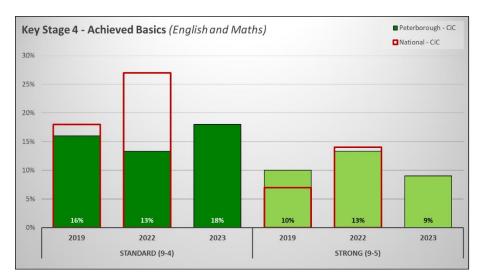
Peterborough - CiC Cohort			
2019	19		
2022	15		
2023	10		

30% of Peterborough children in care (3 children) achieved reading, writing and maths combined at the end of Year 6. This is compared to 36% of children in care nationally and 52.4% of all children in Peterborough schools. Two more were very close; one child scored 99/120 in reading (100/120 is required for expected) and another missed only in writing. Four children did not reach expected standard in any area; all of these children have an EHCP.

### 4.1.5 **Key Stage 4**

After the use of teacher- and centre-assessed grades in 2020 and 2021, this academic year saw the return of grades to pre-pandemic levels. This cohort had experienced a disrupted KS4 education due to the Covid pandemic.

The data below is unvalidated; validated data will be released by the DfE in March 2024. Therefore, there are currently no national comparisons.



Peterborough - CiC Cohort				
2019	31			
2022	22			
2023	34			

The Key Stage 4 core cohort was 34. Seven young people achieved a grade 4 or higher in Maths and seven young people achieved a grade 4 or higher in English. Of these young people, six achieved both English and Maths at grade 4 or higher and 3 of these achieved both at grade 5 or higher. Three young people achieved attainment 8 grades of 52, 57 and 58 respectively.

Analysis of the group of six young people who achieved shows common characteristics of their iourneys:

- No disruption to secondary education all attended 1 secondary school only
- All achieved age related expectations at the end of Year 2 and Year 6
- School attendance was high >97%
- Pupil premium plus grant was spent on academic interventions including tuition
- Minimal changes of home placement 4 had only 1 home, 1 had 2 and the 3<sup>rd</sup> had 3
- On average they had been in care for 8 years
- All have progressed onto level 3 courses

A range of additional qualifications were gained by young people beyond GCSEs. These included functional skills qualifications in both English and Maths, BTEC level 1s and 2s and AQA single awards. One young person with complex SEND achieved her functional skills in English, City and Guilds for Working Life and a double WEJEC Humanities Pathway.

### 4.2 Not in education, Employment or Training (NEET)

The cohort of NEET young people fluctuates across the academic year; to be considered NEET a young person must be beyond statutory school age (Year 12 and upwards) and not accessing any education, employment or training. Consequently, a young person identified as NEET will always be either unemployed or economically inactive. Specific trigger points include the end of October which is the point at which colleges review engagement and officially enrol the young person, and a second trigger point is Christmas.

	Sep- 2022										Jul- 2023
Total Cohort	91	87	86	82	76	82	84	83	74	70	0
Not NEET	81	72	63	66	59	60	55	66	59	56	0
NEET	10	15	23	16	17	22	29	17	15	14	0
% NEET	11.0%	17.2%	26.7%	19.5%	22.4%	26.8%	34.5%	20.5%	20.3%	20.0%	

The above table shows number of NEET young people (aged 16 and 17) in care over the 2022-2023 academic year. This year the average percentage was higher than previous years due to high number of withdrawals and disengagement sometimes linked to emotional mental health. It should be noted that the decline in numbers within the total cohort declines over the academic year when young people reach their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday.

- 4.2.1 There has been an increase in the number of Separated Migrant Children placed in the care of Peterborough City Council due to increases in the national transfer scheme. This has placed a significant strain on college places due to limited ESOL (English as a Second Language) places. Typically, the number of separated migrant children arriving increases in the Spring due to improving weather conditions and therefore NEET figures peaked in March 2023. Considerable strategic work was undertaken by Peterborough Virtual School in partnership with Further Education providers at this point and almost all young people requiring ESOL provision were able to start on a bespoke ESOL Transition programme by Peterborough College in April 2023. The limited availability of ESOL provision remains a priority for the forthcoming year.
- 4.2.2 There are currently 14 young people classified as NEET on the role of the Virtual School; half of these young people are actively seeking education, employment or training. Other barriers include housing, custody and mental health difficulties leading to non-engagement.

  Of the 14 young people:
  - 5 are female
  - 2 are separated migrant young people
  - 3 have an EHCP

All of these young people are supported by the Post-16 officer who unlocks support from specialist teams within the local authority and beyond.

National data runs a year behind and therefore the most recent published data for care leavers who are need (18-24 years) shows that in 2022 38% of care leavers in the care of Peterborough City Council were NEET. This data is the same as regional and national data which also sits at 38% and is slightly better than statistical neighbours which was 44% in 2022.

### 4.3 Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

Nationally, 49.5% of Children in Care (DfE Eligible) have a SEN need of social, emotional, and mental health.

National data for SEND also runs a year behind and therefore the most recent comparative data for SEND shows that in 2022 31.4% of Peterborough children in care had an EHCP. The national figure at this time was 30.2% and the statistical neighbour average is 30.1%. Additionally 21.9% of Peterborough children in care were supported at SEN support in 2022.

2023 internal data shows a drop in the number of Peterborough children in care with EHCPs. The most likely primary area of need for children in care is social, emotional and mental health.

### 4.3.1

Special Educational Needs	Pupils	% of Total Cohort
<ul> <li>Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs)</li> <li>28 of the children attend mainstream settings</li> <li>49 attend special schools</li> <li>3 are awaiting a school placement (unmatched)</li> <li>3 attend alternative provision</li> <li>1 is employed</li> <li>2 are NEET</li> <li>1 is in a Secure Unit</li> </ul>	87	24%

Academic Year Groups of SEND Cohort	Pupils	% of SEN Cohort
Reception	1	1%
Year 1	0	0%
Year 2	1	1%
Year 3	2	2%
Year 4	0	0%
Year 5	8	9%
Year 6	7	8%
Year 7	4	5%
Year 8	12	14%
Year 9	7	8%
Year 10	19	22%
Year 11	13	15%
Year 12	9	10%
Year 13	4	5%

4.3.2 Following moves of their home address, children with an EHCP are more likely to be out of education for extended periods of time. This is attributable to the admissions process where an EHCP requires that there be a consultation period and there are not equivalent powers of direction in place. Transfer of paperwork and administrative responsibilities as well as the legalities of the Belonging Regulations can also contribute to drift and delay. This is a national concern and currently it is on the national agenda for the DFE and NAVSH (National Association of Virtual School Heads).

Of the 36 children who have been recorded as having at least one period of unauthorised attendance, 10 have SEND (4x EHCPs, 6x SEN Support) which means that children with SEND are under-represented in the unauthorised attendance data. This suggests that SEND may act as a protective factor against the likelihood of unauthorised absence.

Of the 100 children who have been recorded as having at least one session of authorised absence, 26 have SEND. This suggests that children with SEND are about half as likely to have an authorised absence as children with no SEND needs.

This academic year 12 students have been suspended; 2 of these have had EHCPs which means that children with EHCPs have been under-represented in the suspension data. This suggests that having an EHCP acts as a protective factor against the likelihood of suspension.

4.3.3 Peterborough Virtual School employs a specialist educational psychologist. Additional support was provided for 25 children in care last academic year. This work is well regarded by key partners, "Chloe was able to provide a high level of insight about our student, reframing and organising our existing information and understanding, contextualising behaviours in historic antecedents, and providing strategies and recommendations so that we can promote feelings of security and enable social emotional progress. I think the service provided by Chloe and Peterborough VS is wonderful and crucial service that directly benefits students and professionals."

The specialist educational psychologist also leads the relational practice training offer which promotes trauma informed and relational policy, practice and culture within schools and settings to further support the social and emotional needs of children in care.

In line with the NICE guidance (NG 205, para 1.6.8) stipulates that there should be SENCo expertise within Virtual Schools. One of the education advisors has therefore enrolled on the NASEN SENCo award training and will hold a strategic responsibility for this work. This will include working in close partnership with SEND colleagues within and beyond the local authority as well as leading on operational tasks which will impact on outcomes for children with SEND. Already this academic year amendments have been made to the ePEP template to ensure that children following the engagement model (non-subject specific study) have their progress accurately recorded.

### 5. CORPORATE PRIORITIES

- 5.1 This report links to the following Corporate Priorities:
  - 1. Our Places & Communities
    - Places and Safety (including any rural implications)
    - Lives and Work
    - Health and Wellbeing
  - 2. Prevention, Independence & Resilience
    - Educations and Skills for All
    - Adults
    - Children
  - 3. The Economy & Inclusive Growth
    - Environment (including a summary of the outcome of a completed Carbon Impact Assessment, to be submitted in full to the Transport and Environment Team)
    - Homes and Workplaces
    - Jobs and Money

### Summary

The report contains no proposals for changes to service delivery and therefore there is no decision to take which may impact carbon emissions of the council or the city.

### 6. CONSULTATION

6.1 NA

### 7. ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES OR IMPACT

- 7.1 Report for information only
- 8. REASON FOR THE RECOMMENDATION
- 8.1 No recommendations
- 9. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED
- 9.1 Report for information only
- 10. IMPLICATIONS

### **Financial Implications**

10.1 There are no financial implications as this report is for information only.

### **Legal Implications**

10.2 There are no legal implications as this report is for information only.

### **Equalities Implications**

- 10.3 Special educational needs and disabilities are not shown to be over-represented in attendance data.
- 10.4 Summarise here any implications related to this item, using the <u>checklist attached</u> as guidance and seek input from relevant service.

Does this report have any implications for Children In Care and Care Leavers? If so, include these in this section.

### 11. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

- Annual Report for Peterborough Virtual School
  - ePEP online platform (eGOV Solutions) dashboards
  - IRIS: Looked After Call online platform dashboards (attendance and suspensions)

### 12. APPENDICES

12.1 NA

CORPORATE PARENTING COMMITTEE (Formal)	AGENDA ITEM No. 7
22 NOVEMBER 2023	PUBLIC REPORT

Report of:		Adesuwa Omoregie, Interim Director of Legal and Governance and Monitoring Officer			
Contact Officer(s):	Karen S Du	nleavy, Democratic Services Officer	Tel. 01733 296334		

### CORPORATE PARENTING COMMITTEE MEETING START TIME 2024-2025

RECOMMENDATIONS				
FROM: Adesuwa Omoregie, Interim Director of Legal and	Deadline date: N/A			
Governance and Monitoring Officer				
It is recommended that the Corporate Parenting Committee agree the start time for all formal and informal Corporate Parenting Committee meetings for the Municipal Year 2024-25.				

### 1. ORIGIN OF REPORT

1.1 This report is submitted to the Corporate Parenting Committee meeting following the Full Council decision on 24 July 2019 to allow Committees to decide their own start times for the Municipal Year 2024-25.

### 2. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

- 2.1 The purpose of this report is to allow the Corporate Parenting Committee to discuss and agree the start times for meetings from the beginning of the Municipal Year 2024-25. The draft schedule of meetings will be agreed at Full Council on either 24 January or 20 March 2024.
- 2.2 This report is for the Corporate Parenting Committee to consider under Council Standing Order section 4.4.1

The timings of normal committee meetings will be agreed by the committee for the next municipal year in January of the preceding municipal year (or as near to this time as possible).

### 3. TIMESCALES

Is this a Major Policy	NO	If yes, date for	
Item/Statutory Plan?		Cabinet meeting	

### 4. BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

- 4.1 At the Constitution and Ethics Committee on 8 July 2019 the Committee agreed by majority to recommend to Council that all Committees can agree their start times for the Municipal Year 2020-21. This was again agreed by majority at the Full Council meeting on 24 July 2019.
- 4.2 The Council standing orders have been updated to reflect this decision and gives Committees the opportunity to decide their own start time.
- 4.3 In order for the start times to be incorporated into the draft meeting schedule it is important for the Committee to make a decision on this before the January 2024 Full Council meeting.

- 4.4 Council standing orders allow the Committee to agree its start time every Municipal Year, thereby allowing the Committee to change the start times if it is felt that the start time was not suitable.
- 4.5 The Committee will need to decide the best start time and will need to weigh up attendance at meetings and the impact on the Council and members of the public.
- 4.6 The Committee start time over the past three years has been 6.00pm for the formal meetings and 5.30pm for informal meetings. The formal meetings are public and the informal meetings are non-public and attended by the Children in Care Council. There is generally no public interest in the formal meetings and there have been no public in attendance recently.

### 5. CONSULTATION

5.1 Consultation has already taken place with the Constitution and Ethics Committee and all Councillors at Full Council.

The members of the Children in Care Council have also been consulted in regard to their preference to the start time of informal meetings.

### 6. ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES OR IMPACT

6.1 It is anticipated that the Committee will agree a start time for both formal and informal meetings for the Municipal Year 2024-25 and this will be proposed as part of the draft meeting schedule.

### 7. REASON FOR THE RECOMMENDATION

7.1 The recommendation allows the Corporate Parenting Committee to debate the start time of the meeting and make recommendations following debate.

### 8. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

8.1 N/A

### 9. IMPLICATIONS

### **Financial Implications**

9.1 There are no financial implications.

### **Legal Implications**

9.2 There are no legal implications

### **Equalities Implications**

9.3 There are no equalities implications

### 9.4 Children in Care

It is important to seek the Children in Care Council's opinion in order to promote continuity of participation of the young people in care.

### 10. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

10.1 Minutes of the Constitution and Ethics Committee 8 July 2019 Report to Full Council 24 July 2019

### 11. APPENDICES

11.1 There are none.

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CORPORATE PARENTING COMMITTEE	AGENDA ITEM No. 8
22 NOVEMBER 2023	PUBLIC REPORT

Report of:		John Gregg Executive Director Children and Young People's Service	
Cabinet Member(s) responsible: Councillor Bisby Cabinet Member for Education, Sk Children's Services		Skills, and	
Contact Officer(s):		Gary Jones, Service Director Children's Social Care and Fargeted Support	

# PERFORMANCE DATA FOR CHILDREN IN CARE AND CARE LEAVERS SEPTEMBER 2023

RECOMMENDATIONS			
FROM: Gary Jones, Service Director Children's Social Care	Deadline date: N/A		
and Targeted Support			
It is recommended that members of Corporate Parenting Committee:			
Note the content of the report, and			
2. Raise any questions with the lead officer.			

### 1. ORIGIN OF REPORT

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

### 2. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

- 2.1 The purpose of this report is to update the Corporate Parenting Committee in respect of the numbers of children and young people being looked after by the Council as of 30<sup>th</sup> September 2023 providing a breakdown of the types of homes in which they are living. The report also provides information about the age, gender and ethnicity of those children and young people.
- 2.2 This report is for Corporate Parenting Committee to consider under its Terms of Reference No. 2.4.4.6 To monitor the quality of care delivered by the City Council and review the performance of outcomes for children and young people in care.
- 2.3 This reports to the Children in Care Promise by focussing on the placements for children in care and care leavers.

### 3. TIMESCALES

Is this a Major Policy	NO	If yes, date for	
Item/Statutory Plan?		Cabinet meeting	

### 4. BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

- 4.1 As of 30 September 2023, there were 410 children in care.
  - 132 children placed with in house foster carers.
  - 124 children placed with agency foster carers outside of the city boundaries. These agencies work with the council to provide foster placements on a contractual basis.
  - 25 children were placed with family or friends (connected persons). These carers are formally assessed in the same way that in house foster carers are assessed and are presented to the Fostering panel for approval through the same process and standard. They are supported through the foster carer allowance.
  - 13 children were living with their parents but are still considered to be 'looked after' because they are subject to full care orders. The Council is sharing parental responsibility with the birth parent. Such placements are made when there is a plan for reunification.
  - 3 children were placed for adoption.
  - 1 child was placed in a residential educational placement.
  - 113 children are placed in residential provision. The placements in these homes are most usually made when foster care is not sufficient to meet the child or young person's needs. Residential care is nearly always accessed for older children and only used for younger children in very special circumstances. These are reviewed regularly to ensure children can step down to a foster placement when they are ready. This figure includes 16, 16–18-year-olds living in semi-Independent accommodation where the focus is preparation for adulthood.
  - Of external placements 44% were within 20 miles from home address; 32% within 50 miles; 8% within 70 miles and 16% over 70 miles. There is a national shortage of placements which makes it harder to place children in care close to home.
  - In response to a request from the Corporate Parenting Committee, the score card now includes information on the current breakdown of the ethnicity of children in care.
  - The request from Corporate Parenting Committee for the performance report to be RAG Rated in terms of performance is going to be in development by Children's Services during November 2023.

### 5. CORPORATE PRIORITIES

- 5.1 This report links to the following Corporate Priorities:
  - 1. Our Places & Communities
    - Places and Safety (including any rural implications)
    - Lives and Work
    - Health and Wellbeing
  - 2. Prevention, Independence & Resilience
    - Educations and Skills for All
    - Children
  - 3. The Economy & Inclusive Growth
    - Environment (including a summary of the outcome of a completed Carbon Impact Assessment, to be submitted in full to the Transport and Environment Team)
    - Homes and Workplaces

### Jobs and Money

### Summary

The report contains no proposals for changes to service delivery and therefore there is no decision to take which may impact carbon emissions of the council or the city.

### 6. CONSULTATION

6.1 N/A

### 7. ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES OR IMPACT

7.1 This is an accurate report of the current accommodation placements for children in care and care leavers.

### 8. REASON FOR THE RECOMMENDATION

8.1 The data included in this report is from the monthly performance report which includes live data.

### 9. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

9.1 No alternative options required for this report as this data is provided for information purposes only.

### 10. IMPLICATIONS

### 10.1 Financial Implications

There are no financial implications as this report is for information only.

### 10.2 Legal Implications

There are no legal implications as this report is for information only.

### 10.3 Equalities Implications

The current recruitment campaign for foster carers is focussed on increasing placements for specific groups linked to sibling placement, older children and Link carer for children with disabilities.

### 10.4 Other Implications

This is high level data concerning our children in care population in Peterborough and how we are performing on some key performance indicators.

### 11. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

### 11.1 Monthly Performance Report

### 12. APPENDICES

12.1 Appendix 1 – Performance Report September 2023

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### **HEADLINE FIGURES**

Number of children in care on the last day of September

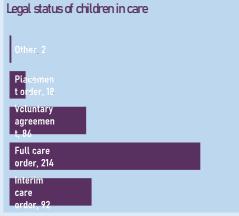
412

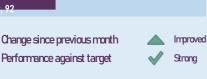
Target: Below 484



### Staffing

	Staff	Average Caseload	Change	Performance
Family Safeguarding Qualified social workers	28	16		-
Children in Care Qualified social workers	18.3	20		-
Leaving Care Personal Advisors	8	20		-
Independent Reviewing Officers	6	66	-	-







### **SERVICE STANDARDS**

% of child in care reviews which were held on time (year to date, and during each month)

99.6%





% of child in care statutory visits which were carried out on time (year to date, and during each month)

92.5%

Target: Above 98%

HOME



Home stability

10.4%

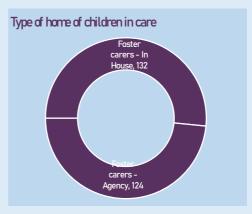
Target: below 8%

10.4% of children in Peterborough's care had 3 or more different homes in the last 12 months.

Out of those children who have been in care for over 2.5 years, 68.0% have been in their current home for two or more years.

68.0%

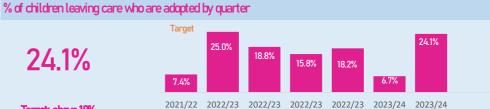
Target: above 70%





# 69.4%





01

Timeliness of adoption process

Target: above 18%

Time to placement

563

Target: below 400

For children adopted during the past 12 months, an average of 563 days passed between the child entering care and them moving into their adoptive placement. An average of 291 days passed between their placement order being granted and approval of a match with their adopters.

Q2

Q3

Q4

01

Q2

Time to match

Sep-23

**291** 

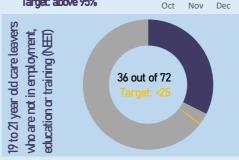
Target: below 120

### **CARELEAVERS**



Jan

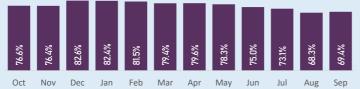


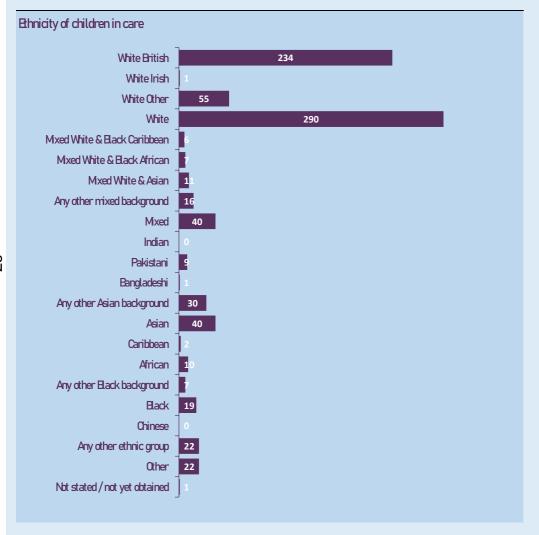




Target: above 93%

36





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CORPORATE PARENTING COMMITTEE	AGENDA ITEM No. 9
22 NOVEMBER 2023	PUBLIC REPORT

Report of:		Insert name of Director(s)	
Cabinet Member(s) r	esponsible:	Insert name and portfolio of Cabinet Member(s)	
Contact Officer(s):	Katie Liddle	, Designated Nurse Children in Care	Email: katie.liddle@ nhs.net

# **Health Report**

RECOMMENDATIONS		
FROM: Katie Liddle, Designated Nurse Children in Care	Deadline date: N/A	
It is recommended that the Corporate Parenting Committee:		
<ol> <li>Notes the content of the report</li> <li>Raise any queries with the lead officers</li> </ol>		

## 1. ORIGIN OF REPORT

1.1 This report is submitted to a formal Corporate Parenting Committee as part of a scheduled work programme item.

### 2. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

- 2.1 This report provides an update on health and dental services for children in care. The report provides an overview of the Integrated Care Board's (ICB) activities to ensure robust monitoring and quality assurance systems are in place to meet the health needs of Peterborough's Children in Care including those with a disability.
- 2.2 This report is for the Corporate Parenting panel to consider under its Terms of Reference No. 2.4.4.6
  - (c) Promote the development of participation and ensure that the view of children and young people are regularly heard through the Corporate Parenting Committee to improve educational, health and social outcomes to raise aspiration and attainments.
- 2.3 N/A
- 2.4 How does this report link to the Children in care Promise?

We will support you maintain a healthy lifestyle and help look after your physical and mental health.

### 3. TIMESCALES

Is this a Major Policy	NO	If yes, date for
Item/Statutory Plan?		Cabinet meeting

#### 4. BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

### 4.1 Joint Forward Plan and national guidance

Oral care and dental support for children and young people in care feature in the Joint Forward Plan (JFP). The JFP is a mandatory five year plan that the Integrated Care Board and partner NHS Trusts have produced to describe how they will work together, outlining steps to improve local services for local people.

National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) guidance regarding oral health for children states the longest interval between oral health reviews for patients younger than 18 years should be not more than 12 months.

### 4.2 **Dental update**

All children in care placed in Peterborough have their dental health reviewed during health assessments. Children seen for Initial Health Assessments (IHAs) have a mouth check completed by a paediatrician and every child that is seen for a Review Health Assessment (RHA) has their dental health and access to dental care discussed as part of their review with a specialist nurse.

The table below identifies children who did not have a mouth check over the last 4 years:

Timeframe	How many DID NOT have a mouth check during IHA
1st April 2019-31st March 2020	11
1st April 2020-31st March 2021	52
1st April 2021-31st March 2022	55
1st April 2022-31st March 2023	0

Children in care are advised of their local dental access centre if they are in pain or score red on the mouth check RAG rating system. All children in care are advised of the CHiC dental practices identified on the volunteer dentist map for routine dental check ups and preventative dental care.

Month	Number of CiC who had mouth Check completed (IHA)	Number of CiC who had mouth check discussed only (not physically examined) (RHA)	Number of CiC who did not have mouth check or discussion	Number of children in care advised of CHiC volunteer dental practices
Sep-22	13	27	0	40
Oct-22	6	15	0	21
Nov-22	4	31	0	35
Dec-22	17	15	0	32
Jan-23	30	30	0	60
Feb-23	8	19	0	27
Mar-23	18	20	0	38
Apr-23	5	15	0	20
May-23	12	18	0	30
Jun-23	5	20	0	25

#### 4.3 Bushfield Dental Practice

Bushfield dental practice have continued the commitment made in Jan 2023 to see children in Care living in Peterborough for routine dental assessments and completion of treatment required. There is a code to be used when the carer/young person makes an appointment which has been circulated widely across health and Social Care teams. This is so the reception team know to book them a appointment without question when the code is used. The practice manager has not kept a log of how many appointments have been offered to children in care and is keen that the code is not used to segregate them as a separate group of children and young people. The practice manager confirmed this week that the practice is happy to continue to support Children's Social Care by seeing children in care under the age of 18 who are placed in Peterborough without question.

In addition, Bretton Dental Practice have continued to see Separated Migrant Children and young people living in Peterborough without issue.

#### 4.4 Children in care who have seen a dentist within 12 months

Month	Total number of Peterborough children who have been in care for 12 months or more at month end.	Number of those children who had seen a dentist in the last 12 months	Number of those children who had <b>not</b> <b>seen a</b> <b>dentist</b> in the last 12 months	Percentage of children who <b>had</b> seen a dentist within last 12 months
April 2023	263	214	55	81%
May 2023	263	206	57	78%
June 2023	264	198	66	75%
July 2023	260	190	70	73%
August 2023	252	172	80	68%
Sept 2023	255	177	78	69%

The table above indicates that an average of 74% Children in Care looked after by Peterborough Local Authority between April – September 2023 have seen a dentist within the last 12 months. This is not exclusive for those children in care placed in Peterborough but considers all Peterborough children who are currently looked after including those placed out of area. It may be useful to consider how children in care and data regarding dental access is captured moving forward. The Designated Nurse for Children in Care will take this forward for consideration.

#### 5. CONSULTATION

- 5.1 N/A
- 5.2 N/A
- 5.3 N/A

#### 6. ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES OR IMPACT

To improve health and well-being, and health outcomes for children in care by ensuring adequate assessment of health and suitable health provision; addressing areas where there may be a lack of provision or improvements required.

### 7. REASON FOR THE RECOMMENDATION

7.1 Corporate Parenting Committee have requested a health update at all formal committees.

8.	ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED
8.1	N/A
9.	IMPLICATIONS
	Financial Implications
9.1	N/A
	Legal Implications
9.2	N/A
	Equalities Implications
9.3	N/A
9.4	N/A
10.	BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985
10.1	None
11.	APPENDICES
11.1	None





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14 June 2023 Informal	Theme: Homes	
	Part 1	
Priority	Topic	Contact Officer
2. Effective care planning	Update from Children in Care Council (CiCC) b)To encourage our children & Young people to express their views, wishes & feelings c) To take account of the views, wishes & feelings of our children & young people	CICC
		Shalina Chandoo/Marya Ali
2. Effective care planning	Children in Care Council Asked and We Did b)To encourage our children & Young people to express their views, wishes & feelings c) To take account of the views, wishes & feelings of our children & young people	Shalina Chandoo/Marya Ali
Priorities 2 - 6	Draft Work Programme 2023 - 2024 and Review of Work in 2022 - 2023	Karen Dunleavy/Gary Jones/Michaela Berry
Priorities 2 - 6	Role of Champion Members d) to help our children and young people gain access to, and make the best use of, services provided by the local authority and its relevant partners	Karen Dunleavy/Gary Jones/ Michaela Berry
Priorities 2 - 6	Update from Corporate Parenting Champions	Corporate Parenting Champions
All Priorities	Performance Update Presentation	Michaela Berry
Priorities 2 - 6	Part 2	
Priorities 2 - 6	Children In Care Experience – of the Care Provision	CiCC Representatives

Priorities 2 - 6	Members Issues	All Councillors
Priorities 2 - 6	Questions from the Children in Care Council	CiCC

19 July 2023 (Formal)	Theme: Homes	
Priority	Topic Tomes	Contact Officer
2. Effective Care Planning	Update from Foster Carers d) to help our children and young people gain access to, and make the best use of, services provided by the local authority and its relevant partners	Foster Carers/ Anita Hewson/Amanda Carter/Despina
2. Effective Care Planning	Youth Voice Coordinator Update for CICC d) to help our children and young people gain access to, and make the best use of, services provided by the local authority and its relevant partners	Marya Ali/Shalina Chandoo
Priorities 2 - 6	Appointment of Champion Members d) to help our children and young people gain access to, and make the best use of, services provided by the local authority and its relevant partners	Gary Jones/Karen Dunleavy
All Priorities	Annual Fostering Service Report	Sue King (Fostering)
Effective care planning	Annual Adoption Report Regional Adoption Arrangements	Jo Banks (Adoption)
2. Effective care planning	Annual Independent Reviewing Officer (IRO) Report 2022 - 2023	Anna Cullen TBC
	Children in Care that go Missing	Michaela Berry
	Members Issues	All Councillors
All Priorities	Performance Reports:      Homes of Children in Care     Scorecard     Health Report	Michaela Berry Designated Nurse for Looked After Children
Priorities 2 - 6	Draft Work Programme 2023 – 2024 and Review of Work in 2022 - 2023	Gary Jones/Michaela Berry/ Karen Dunleavy

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27 September 2023 (Informal)	Theme: Education	
(IIIIOIIIIai)	Part 1	
Priority	Topic	Contact Officer
2. Effective care planning	Ice Breaker and Update from Children in Care Council (CiCC) b)To encourage our children & Young people to express their views, wishes & feelings c) To take account of the views, wishes & feelings of those children & young people To include young inspectors update briefing note Cherry Lodge and the Welland Centre Every Word Matters video to be presented to Members	Children in Care
2. Effective care planning	Children in Care Council Asked and We Did b)To encourage our children & Young people to express their views, wishes & feelings c) To take account of the views, wishes & feelings of those children & young people	Shalina Chandoo
All Priorities	Performance Update Presentation	Myra O'Farrell
All Priorities	Update from Corporate Parenting Champions	Corporate Parenting Champion
Priorities 2 - 6	Part 2	
Priorities 2 - 6	Case Study: Personal Education Plans – Plan for Closing the Gap	Zoe Lattimer
Priorities 2 - 6	Work Programme	Karen Dunleavy/Gary Jones/Myra O'Farrell
Priorities 2 - 6	Questions from the Children in Care Council	CiCC

22 November 2023 (Formal)	Theme: Education	
Priority	Topic	Contact Officer
2. Effective care planning	Update from Foster Carers d) to help our children and young people gain access to, and make the best use of, services provided by the local authority and its relevant partners.  Report to include:  • Family time, friendships and contact.	Foster Carers/Myra O'Farrell

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	Report to include a brief overview of the fostering service and delivery post decoupling.	
2. Effective care planning	Youth Voice Coordinator for CICC d) to help our children and young people gain access to, and make the best use of, services provided by the local authority and its relevant partners	Shalina Chandoo/ Marya Ali
Priorities 2 - 6	Virtual School report to include:	Zoe Lattimer
	Members Issues	All Councillors
All Priorities	Performance Reports:      Homes of Children in Care     Scorecard     Health Report - Report to include an update on the progress of dental appointments for CiC.	Gary Jones/Myra O'Farrell Designated Nurse for Looked After Children
All Priorities	Annual Corporate Parenting Committee Report to Children and Education Scrutiny Committee – TO BE DEFERRED	Gary Jones/Myra O'Farrell
N/A	Start time of meetings for 2024/25	Karen Dunleavy
Priorities 2 - 6	Work Programme	Karen Dunleavy/Gary Jones/Myra O'Farrell

31 January 2024 Informal	Theme: Health	
	Part 1	
Priority	Topic	Contact Officer
2. Effective care planning	lce Breaker and Update from Children in Care Council (CiCC) b)To encourage our children & Young people to express their views, wishes & feelings c) To take account of the views, wishes & feelings of those children & young people	CICC
2. Effective care planning	You Asked We Did b)To encourage our children & Young people to express their views, wishes & feelings c) To take account of the views, wishes & feelings of those children & young people	Shalina Chandoo
All Priorities	Performance Update Presentation	Myra O'Farrell

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All Priorities	Update from Corporate Parenting Champions	Corporate Parenting Champion
Priorities 2 - 6	Part 2	
Priorities 2 - 6	Children in Care Experiences – in Health Provision	CiCC/Designated Nurse for Children in Care
Priorities 2 - 6	Work Programme	Karen Dunleavy/Gary Jones/Myra O'Farrell
	Questions from the Children in Care Council	CiCC

6 March 2024	Theme: Health	
(Formal)		
MEETING TO BE		
REARRANGED		
Priority	Topic	Contact Officer
2. Effective care planning	Update from Foster Carers d) to help our children and young people gain access to, and make the best use of, services provided by the local authority and its relevant partners.	Foster Carers
2. Effective care planning	Youth Voice Coordinator Update for CICC d) to help our children and young people gain access to, and make the best use of, services provided by the local authority and its relevant partners	Shalina Chandoo/ Myra O'Farrell
Priorities 2 - 6	<ul> <li>Annual Health Report - To include an update on:</li> <li>The work of the Integrated Care Board (ICB) in relation to Children (CiC) and Young People (YP) in Care</li> <li>The Dentistry Provision for CiC and YP</li> </ul>	Designated Nurse for Looked After Children

	The Mental Health Provision for CiC and YP	
Priorities 2 - 6	Members Issues	All Councillors
All Priorities	Performance Reports:	Gary Jones/Myra O'Farrell

To Be Confirmed Items

Quality Assurance Updates