

COUNCIL	AGENDA ITEM No. 14(b)
10 JULY 2013	PUBLIC REPORT

APPROVAL OF THE UPDATED CHILDREN IN CARE PLEDGE

R E C O M M E N D A T I O N S
FROM : Executive Director of Children's Services
That Council: That Full Council approve the amended Children in Care Pledge

1. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

- 1.1 To present the updated Children in Care Pledge to Full Council for approval subsequent to full endorsement from the Corporate Parenting Panel.

2. BACKGROUND (& CONSULTATION)

- 2.1 Care Matters: Transforming the lives of children and young people in care: was published in 2007 and introduced the expectation that Local Authorities would set out their 'Pledge' to children in care. The purpose of the pledge was to set out the services and support children in care should expect to receive.
- 2.2 In October 2010 the Full Council signed off the Pledge that Peterborough made to its Children in Care and so the Pledge has been in place since then. It was based on extensive work undertaken by Elected Members, Young People, Foster Carers and Officers. The original promise was based on the legislation that was in place at the time.
- 2.3 The promise was reviewed by the Children in Care Council over the summer of 2012 and approved by the Corporate Parenting Panel in September 2012. The agreed pledge has not yet been presented to Full Council.

3. IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 All members and staff of Children's Services are responsible for ensuring that they deliver on the promises set out in the Pledge and to ensure the health, wellbeing and safety of all children in care.
- 3.2 The Pledge will be monitored by the Corporate Parenting Panel and the Children in Care Council.
- 3.3 In addition when Ofsted conduct regulatory activity and inspections of services for Looked After Children, they will have an expectation that there will be a Pledge in place and that the impact of the Pledge in improving outcomes for children, is regularly monitored.

4. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

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

- 4.1 Appendix – Children in Care Pledge

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