

<b>CORPORATE PARENTING COMMITTEE</b>	<b>AGENDA ITEM No. 6</b>
<b>26 FEBRUARY 2024</b>	<b>PUBLIC REPORT</b>

Report of:	John Gregg, Executive Director of Children's Services	
Cabinet Member(s) responsible:	Cllr Ray Bisby, Cabinet Member for Children's Services	
Contact Officer(s):	Gary Jones, Service Director, Children's Social Care and Targeted Support	Tel. 01733 863624

## **CORPORATE PARENTING ANNUAL REPORT 2022-2023**

<b>RECOMMENDATIONS</b>	
<b>FROM:</b> John Gregg, Executive Director of Children's Services	<b>Deadline date:</b> N/A
<p>It is recommended that Corporate Parenting Committee:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Note the content of the report and raise any queries with the lead officer.</li> <li>2) Agrees that the annual report is an accurate reflection of the work of the Committee over the last 12 months.</li> <li>3) Agree to submit the annual report to the Children and Education Scrutiny Committee for noting as per the Corporate Parenting Committee's Terms of Reference.</li> </ol>	

### **1. ORIGIN OF REPORT**

- 1.1 This report fulfils the Council's obligation to present an annual update to the Corporate Parenting Committee on outcomes for Children in Care and Care Leavers, in line with the Children's and Social Work Act 2017 and The Care Planning, Placement and Case Review Regulations (2010).

### **2. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT**

- 2.1 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.

2.4.6.4 The Corporate Parenting Committee will report to the Cabinet Member for Children's Services and to the Scrutiny Committee on an annual basis or more frequently if required.

#### **2.2.**

The purpose of this report is to provide the Corporate Parenting Committee with an evaluation of how effective services have been in meeting the needs of children in care and care leavers during the reporting year 2022 to 2023. The Corporate Parenting Committee should ensure that all services directly provided for children and young people in care and care leavers are scrutinised to deliver to a high standard and to all statutory requirements.

#### **2.3.**

The annual Corporate Parenting report has been developed using the Local Government Association (LGA) effective Corporate Parenting self-evaluation tool. The tool can be used to self-assess against all the principles or can be adapted to support focus on specific areas.

2.4 This report links to all the Children in Care Promises and provides evidence of how well these were achieved during the reporting year, and actions to improve during the next reporting year.

This report links to all the pledges in the Children in Care Promise. The formal and informal Peterborough Corporate Parenting Committees have strived to ensure that children and young people in our care have had their needs understood and met throughout this period. There is a great deal to undertake in 2023-2024 to ensure that our children and young people receive excellent care to enable them to thrive and achieve their potential in all areas of life as they transition from children through to adult life.

**3. TIMESCALES**

Is this a Major Policy Item/Statutory Plan?	<b>NO</b>	If yes, date for Cabinet meeting	
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**4. BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES**

4.1 Please see the Corporate Parenting Annual Report 2022-2023 attached.

**5. CORPORATE PRIORITIES**

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

*1. The Economy & Inclusive Growth*

- *Environment*
- *Carbon Impact Assessment: 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.*
- *Homes and Workplaces*
  - *Jobs and Money – providing higher education, apprenticeship opportunities for care leavers enabling them to secure employment and to reduce our NEET cohort.*

*2. Our Places & Communities*

- *Places and Safety (including any rural implications) We will need to find ways to accelerate high quality and energy efficient affordable housing provision in and around our City so that our Care Leavers are afforded the opportunity to be prioritised for local housing, considering they have protected characteristics.*
- *Lives and Work Unemployment is particularly stark amongst our young population (aged 18-24) and we expect this demographic group to struggle finding well paid employment as the economy falters and as their skill set and experience do not match future job opportunities.*
- *Health and Wellbeing - many children and young people experienced a considerable negative impact during the first lockdown of 2020, with increased loneliness and social isolation – this is reflected in the number of mental health referrals amongst our younger residents. Our young people need access to mental health services in accordance with their need.*

### 3. *Prevention, Independence & Resilience*

- *Educations and Skills for All*
- *Children* - our children still lag the national average at every level of qualification, creating a possible wedge between supply and demand for those future higher skilled, higher income jobs – if not addressed, this trend is likely to create a productivity gap within our future City workforce, slowing down growth opportunities.

### 4. *Sustainable Future City Council*

- *How we Work*
- *How we Serve*
- *How we Enable*

*Further information on the Council's Priorities can be found here - [Link to Corporate Strategy and Priorities Webpage](#)*

## 6. **CONSULTATION**

6.1 The Children in Care Participation lead, Shalina Chandoo noted that the information within the report has been shared with the Children in Care Council and Peterborough Care Leaders through the Informal Corporate Parenting Committee and their regular meetings.

Peterborough Care Leaders Chair noted:

"A good corporate parent is passionate about making a difference, specifically about being proactive in children's rights rather than caps on services and costs. You can tell who is there to make a difference and who is there to just turn up."

6.2 Suggest here other consultation(s) which could be undertaken.

6.3 *Has this recommendation been considered by the below? If not, please provide reasoning.*

The annual corporate parenting report is considered at Corporate Parenting Committee and then Education and Scrutiny Committee.

- *Corporate Leadership Team (CLT)*
- *Cabinet Policy Forum (CPF)*

*Please also consider whether the recommendation should also be considered by the following:*

- *Financial Sustainability Working Group (FSWG)*
- *Group Leaders' Meeting*
- *All Party Policy (APP)*

*Guidance on the items each group should see can be found here - [Meetings Pathway Guidance Link](#)*

## 7. **ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES OR IMPACT**

7.1 To provide a robust overview of the impact of corporate parenting activity over the reporting year and to provide a clear focus for improvement for the next year. If the Corporate Parenting Committee agrees the recommendations in this report, it will be presented to the next Children and Education Scrutiny Committee in March 2024.

## 8. **REASON FOR THE RECOMMENDATION**

- 8.1 Strengthen and improve the corporate parenting responsibilities for our children in care and care leavers and ensure that the Committee and the Council discharges its corporate parenting responsibilities effectively.
- 8.2 It is recommended that the Corporate Parenting Committee review and provide comment on the contents of this report. This ensures the Corporate Parenting Committee are fulfilling their responsibility to monitor and scrutinise the activity of Peterborough City Council and its partners services over the past year, thus ensuring that adequate care and support is being provided to children in care and care leavers in the borough.
- 9. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**
- 9.1 N/A
- 10. IMPLICATIONS**
- Financial Implications**
- 10.1 There are no financial implications associated with this report.
- Legal Implications**
- 10.2 There are no legal requirements. This report is an evaluation of corporate parenting activity over the reporting period 2022-2023
- Equalities Implications**
- 10.3 This report provides information on how Children in Care and Care Leavers have been supported to achieve their potential in all areas of need.
- The report sets out priorities that will ensure our Children in Care and Care Leavers receive the support they need.
- 11. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**  
Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985
- 11.1 Corporate Parenting score card  
Corporate parenting committee papers for the informal and formal committee meetings  
Participation annual report  
IRO annual report 2022-2023  
CIC promise  
Corporate parenting strategy 2022-2023  
JSNA  
Virtual School annual report 2022-2023  
Annual Adoption report 2022-2023  
Annual Fostering report 2022-2023  
Annual Health report 2022-2023  
PCC Market Position CiC  
PCC Market Position addendum  
The Care Planning, Placement and Case Review Regulations (2010).
- 12. APPENDICES**
- 12.1 Appendix 1 - Corporate Parenting Annual Report 2022-2023  
Appendix 2 – Our Promise to Children and Young People in Care  
Appendix 3 – Corporate Parenting Strategy