

**MINUTES OF THE CORPORATE PARENTING COMMITTEE MEETING (FORMAL)
HELD AT 6:00PM, ON
MONDAY, 26 FEBRUARY 2024
BOURGES/VIERSEN ROOMS, TOWN HALL, PETERBOROUGH**

To be read in conjunction with the agenda for the meeting.

[\(Public Pack\)Agenda Document for Corporate Parenting Committee, 26 February 2024, 6.00pm
\(peterborough.gov.uk\)](#)

Should you wish to listen to the debate had, please visit download the audio recording at:

[Corporate Parenting Committee - 26 February 2024, 6.00pm \(audio recording\)](#)

Committee Members Present: Councillor Jones, (Chairman (Chair), Councillors Jackie Allen, Bisby, Cole, Howard, Over, S Bond, Sabir and Seager

Other Councillors in attendance: A Bond

Officers Present: John Gregg, Executive Director for Children and Young People Services.
Michaela Berry, Acting Head of Corporate Parenting
Shalina Chandoo, Quality Assurance Lead, Participation and Independent Visiting
Tessa Bilson, Team Manager/Clinical Nurse Specialist For The Children In Care Health Team
Lucy Brumpton Service Manager - Community Paediatrics and 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

26. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Nawaz, Sainsbury and Bi. Councillor Sabir was in attendance for Cllr Bi as substitute.

27. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

28. MINUTES OF THE CORPORATE PARENTING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 22 NOVEMBER 2023

The minutes of the meeting held on 22 November 2023 were agreed as a true and accurate record.

29. 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).

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

- The Mockingbird system and language used such as constellation was intrinsic to the software programme, so it was difficult to change the words used.
- Regional Eastern Hub (REH) was a first step enquiry route for prospective foster carers that all councils that were part of the hub, would use.
- The payments issue highlighted within the report was due to a one-off system error.
- It was noted that the equality and diversity training would be useful for foster carers.

AGREED ACTION

The Corporate Parenting Committee considered the report and **RESOLVED** (Unanimously) to note the contents of the report and agreed that the Fostering Service Manager would provide Members with the Regional Eastern Hub data reported to DfE for initial foster carer enquiries, in the annual fostering report going forward.

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

- There were ten regular attendees to the Youth Club (YC) events, and engagement on the type of activities the children would like organised was regularly reviewed. Although, the number of attendees seemed small, there were lots of groups organised that made the overall participation much larger.
- Councillors were welcome to attend the CiCC if invited, to look at the work being undertaken
- The group activities organised included an Easter event for Separated Migrant Children and football coaching with Peterborough United Football club.
- There were no faith and religion participation groups for children in care that had come into care out of county, as foster carers would provide bespoke support for all cultural backgrounds.
- There was a participation online event organised for December and rescheduled for Easter. The online sessions were not as popular as they used to be, however, for young people living out of the area, one to ones were available.
- The Promise posters were being developed to highlight each individual promise to children in care and these were hoped to act as a reminder to officers.

AGREED ACTIONS

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

31. CORPORATE PARENTING ANNUAL REPORT 2022-2023

The Corporate Parenting Committee received a report in relation to the Corporate Parenting Annual Report 2022-2023.

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

- The report highlighted whether children in care had a Personal Education Plan (PEP), rather than the quality of them. Nevertheless, the quality of PEPs would be something for the new Virtual Head to review.

ACTION AGREED

The Corporate Parenting Committee noted the report and **AGREED** (Unanimously) to submit the annual report to the Children and Education Scrutiny Committee for noting as per the Corporate Parenting Committee's Terms of Reference.

32. ANNUAL HEALTH REPORT

The Corporate Parenting Committee received a report in relation to the Annual Health Report.

- Regular monitoring was being undertaken on MMR vaccine take up and missed vaccines and this information would be shared with Social Workers (SW). In addition, there were vaccine drop in session dates shared with SW and Foster Carers.
- The Authority agreed to receive Separated Migrant Children from a national transfer scheme up to a maximum of 1 % of the population, this was to support the high numbers of children in Kent. Peterborough has close to this number currently. Once the level had been reached, the Authority would come off the rota, however a decision could be made to support more. The health assessments carried out would require a longer time slot and these figures would be reflected in the data to ensure that the pressure was captured.
- There was no extra support provided for Foster Carers for Separated Migrant Children, other than additional training and mentoring.
- The Authority would support Separated Migrant Children within Peterborough where appropriate, however, where necessary homes, would be found in specialist areas such as Luton or London.
- The Lead Nurse from ICB was a regular attendee at the Authority's Children's Improvement Board and any underperforming health assessment figures were being highlighted in that forum.
- Work was underway to improve the consent and referral for health assessments, and a new form was being developed.

AGREED ACTION

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

33. 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 December 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. Members were also advised of the recent training provided to assist them in effectively reviewing the performance report and scorecard.

AGREED ACTIONS

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

34. 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 7:00PM