



Annual Corporate Parenting Report 2023-2024

Report author:	Cllr John Howard Chair of Corporate Parenting Committee
Responsible Director:	John Gregg Executive Director Children and Young People's Service
Cabinet Member(s) responsible:	Cllr Katy Coles, Cabinet Member for Children's Services

Executive Summary: This report fulfils the Council's obligation to present an annual update to the Children and Executive Scrutiny Committee on 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).

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the Children and Education Scrutiny Committee:

1. Acknowledges the content of the report.
2. Raise any queries they have with the lead officers.
3. Propose actions for the Corporate Parenting Committee

1. Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide the Children and Education Scrutiny 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 2023 to 2024 and how the Corporate Parenting Committee have monitored and moved forward with changes during the municipal year.

The annual Corporate Parenting report was 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. Background and key issues

2.1 Please see Appendix 1 – Annual Corporate Parenting Report 2023-2024

3. Corporate Priorities

3.1 **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.

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.

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.

Sustainable Future City Council

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

4. Consultation

4.1 The Annual Corporate Parenting Report is considered at Corporate Parenting Committee before being presented to the Children and Education Scrutiny Committee.

5. Financial Implications

5.1 There are no financial implications

6. Value for money

N/A

7. Legal implications

7.1 There are no direct legal implications as the report is for the Committee's information.

8. Equalities

8.1 This report provides information on how Children In Care and Care Leavers have been supported to achieve their potential in all areas of need.

8.2 This report sets out priorities that will ensure our Children In Care and Care Leavers receive the support they need.

9. Options considered

9.1 None

Children and Education Scrutiny Committee

10. Background documents

10.1 Corporate Parenting Scorecard

Corporate parenting committee papers for the informal and formal committee meetings

Virtual School Annual Report 2023-2024

Annual Participation Report 2023 - 2024

11. Appendices

11.1 Appendix 1 – Annual Corporate Parenting Report 2023 –24

Appendix 2 – Corporate Parenting Score Card