

CORPORATE PARENTING PANEL: 10 May 2011

Care Leavers Forum Awards Ceremony – April 2011

AGENDA ITEM: 8

Reason for this Report

1. To inform members of the Corporate Parenting Panel on the Care Leavers Forum Awards Ceremony that took place on 18 April 2011 at City Hall

Background

3. This was the 3rd Annual Care Leavers Forum Awards ceremony. The Forum first came up with the idea as a Christmas celebration and the ceremony is usually held around Christmas time. In 2010 the forum decided to defer the meeting until the new year. Arrangements were made for it to take place around Easter time.

4. The ethos of the ceremony is very simple - to celebrate the achievements of care leavers. Social workers who work with care leavers make anonymous nominations and the forum selects the winners.

Annual Care Leavers Forum Awards 2010/11

5. There were a number of award categories:
- Outstanding Achievement in Education/Employment/Training
 - Young Parent of the Year
 - Development of Life Skills
 - Carer of the Year.

This year there were also two Special Achievement Awards.

The Forum also gives an award to an agency or organisation that it considers has improved outcomes for Young People Leaving Care. This year the award was made to Coleg Glan Hafren in recognition of its work on developing the EVS Course. Careers Wales have previously received this award.

6. The event was hosted by the Care Leavers' forum and attended by young people, carers, families, staff from a variety of agencies, elected members. The Children's Commissioner gave the keynote address.
7. The event was an opportunity to acknowledge the achievements of care leavers and was a successful and enjoyable occasion.

8. The forum is considering the possibility of expanding the range of awards to so that the other achievements of care leavers are acknowledged.

Actions / Recommendation

Members are invited to note the information in this report.

Children's Services
May 2011