

CORPORATE PARENTING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

15th March 2022

Corporate Parenting: Look to the year ahead

Reasons for the Report

1. This report provides the Committee with a background to the development of the refreshed Corporate Parenting Strategy 2021- 2024, the progress made in its implementation and future plans.

Background

2. In May 2021 the refreshed Corporate Parenting Strategy 2021- 2024 was agreed by Cabinet. The Corporate Parenting Strategy sets out 5 key priorities that have been developed by the views, experiences and aspirations of care experienced young people in Cardiff.

These are:

- **Priority 1:** Improving emotional well-being and physical health
 - **Priority 2:** Better connections, improved relationships
 - **Priority 3:** A comfortable safe stable home whilst in care and after
 - **Priority 4:** Educational achievement, employment, and training
 - **Priority 5:** Celebrating our children and young people
3. The development of the strategy included engagement and feedback from over 250 care experienced children and young people. 70 professionals and members of the Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee also provided contributions.

Operational group

4. In order to extend Corporate Parenting responsibilities and to monitor progress of the strategy, an Operational Group was established. The group has representation from a wide range of external and internal partners at a senior level.

Membership to the Operational group includes:

- Looked After Children in Education
 - Housing
 - Third Sector
 - Police
 - NHS
 - Children Services
 - Child Friendly Cities
 - Tourism & Leisure
 - Human Resources
 - Department for Works and Pensions
 - Cardiff University
5. The group has met 3 times since May 2021 with a further meeting to take place at the end of March. The main purpose of the group is for senior officers to work together to develop projects and services that would help and support Children Looked After and Care Leavers in Cardiff. It is also to share good practice.
 6. A shared action plan has been developed which outlines key delegated tasks to officers with set timelines used to help galvanise staff and monitor progress. Each action outlined in the plan has set realistic timelines for completion with a red, amber and green status attached to each, helping to maintain momentum.

7. Members of the Operational group have provided suggestions of how they would be able to deliver real improvement outcomes to care experienced young people for the future and the support they would need from other members of the group. Details of these suggestions are provided in the presentation

Next Steps

8. The suggestions from the group will be worked through at the next operational group meeting and plans will be put in place to help measure the impact projects will have on our young people.

Financial Implications

9. Where additional costs are to be incurred as a result of any actions agreed then the source of funding needs to be identified prior to implementation. The two sources of funding to be explored are existing budget allocation and any external funding such as grants. Where Grant funding is identified then consideration should be given to both the terms and conditions of the grant and the duration of the financial support

Legal Implications

10. There are no legal obligations arising from this report.

RECOMMENDATION

The Committee is recommended to:

- a) Note the report
- b) To make any recommendations they would like to see to help progress with extend Corporate Parenting responsibilities

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2nd March 2022