

**CORPORATE PARENTING ADVISORY COMMITTEE
17 November 2015**

Forward Plan 2015/16

Reason for this Report

1. To consider the Forward Plan of matters for consideration by the Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee in 2015/16.

Background

2. Draft version 0.1 of the Suggested Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee Work Programme 2015 – 2016 was considered at the 22 September 2015 Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee meeting.
3. The programme has been refined and updated since that meeting and returns to the agenda for any further refinement by Committee members.
4. Further scheduling adjustments might be necessary as the year progresses or as new matters of interest arise.
5. The Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee's Terms of Reference provide the Committee with responsibility in the following areas:
 - a) To actively promote real and sustained improvements in the life chances of Looked After Children, Children in Need, Care Leavers and children and young people in the criminal justice system and to work within an annual programme to that end;
 - b) To develop, monitor and review a corporate parenting strategy, and ensure its effective implementation through work plans and corporate parenting training programmes;
 - c) To seek to ensure that the life chances of Looked After Children, Children in Need and care leavers are maximised in terms of health, educational attainment, and access to training and employment, to aid the transition to a secure and productive adulthood;
 - d) To recommend ways in which more integrated services can be developed across all Council directorates, schools and other stakeholders to lead towards better outcomes for Looked After Children, Children in Need and care leavers;

- e) To ensure that mechanisms are in place to enable Looked After Children, Children in Need and care leavers, to play an integral role in service planning and design, and that their views are regularly sought and acted upon;
- f) To ensure performance monitoring systems are in place, and regularly review performance data to ensure sustained performance improvements in outcomes for Looked After Children, Children in Need and care leavers,
- g) To receive all relevant Children's Services inspection and annual reports, including: Children's Homes Quality of Care Report; Case Practice Reviews, Fostering Annual Quality of Care Report; Adoption Fostering Annual Quality of Care Report; 4C's Commissioning; Out of Area Annual Report; Annual Report of Brighter Futures (with education); Children's Complaints reports; and Advocacy Annual Report;
- h) To report to the Cabinet at least twice a year;
- i) To make recommendations to the Cabinet where responsibility for that function rests with the Cabinet;
- j) To report to the Children and Young People's Scrutiny Committee as necessary;
- k) To recommend the appointment of co-opted Committee Members for approval by Council;
- l) To develop and undertake a programme of consultation, listening and engagement events with Looked After Children and care leavers, as well as visits to services providing support and advice to Looked After Children, Children in Need and care leavers;
- m) To submit an Annual Report on the work of the Committee to Full Council.

Issues

- 6. The proposed work programme for the Committee reflects the Committee's terms of reference and the Council's Corporate Parenting Strategy (currently being finalised).

Legal Implications

- 7. There are no legal implications arising from this report.

Financial Implications

- 8. There are no direct financial implications arising from the report.

RECOMMENDATION

- 9. The Committee is recommended to consider the suggested work programme for 2015/16, as set out in **Appendix A**, and advise officers how it wishes to progress the various items or topics contained therein.

Tony Young
Director of Social Services
10 November 2015