

“Corporate Parenting Promise”

Our vision is that children and young people who come into the care of the local authority are provided with safe and stable care, will be looked after well and prepared for adult life. We want all children and young people in our care to grow into emotionally balanced and resilient young people.

We want Nottingham City Council to be an excellent Corporate Parent that achieves improved and sustainable outcomes for its Children in Care.

We want all Nottingham City Council services to know about their Corporate Parenting responsibility and to acknowledge this in their business planning.

We want all partner agencies to recognise the Corporate Parenting commitment of Nottingham City Council and to support this as fully as possible.

We want Nottingham City Council and partners to co-ordinate responses to new legislation and other changes that affect the lives of our Children in Care.

We want our children and young people in care to know about our Corporate Parenting promise.

Corporate Parenting Promise Action Plan 2010-2011

This document uses the term 'children in care' to include all children being looked after by a local authority, including those subject to a care order under section 31 of the Children Act 1989 and those looked after on a voluntary basis through an agreement with their parents under section 20 of that Act. (As with "Care Matters: Time to deliver for children in care").

1. Be Healthy

Headline Priority: Better health outcomes for Children in Care (CiC) and Care leavers, including completion of health and dental checks and promotion of healthier lifestyles.

We know:

The physical and emotional health needs of children who are looked after are addressed appropriately within the professional boundaries specified by the Statutory Guidance on Promoting the Health and Wellbeing of Looked After Children (DoH/DfES 2009).

Objective	Actions	Lead	Date to complete	Evidence	Progress: October 2010
Improved health outcomes for all CiC	All CiC over under 5 and over 5 years of age to have annual health check	CiC Health Team/Des. Nurse CiC	January 2011	Monthly Carefirst reports show up to date health check for all CiC (inc. Quarterly outturn) (Source: CF Int. Team)	<i>August: report shows all CiC for 3+ months, if they have assessment & if it is up to date.</i>
	Admin/Social Worker to record Healthcare Assessments on Carefirst	Head of Fieldwork		Case audit evidence.	<i>August: Not updated on Carefirst – audits showing information not inputted. Working group in place to address issues.</i>
	Health Care Plans to be in place for 28 day review and shared with foster carer (& child if appropriate).	Head of Fieldwork		Monthly Carefirst reports (Source: CF Int. Team) Reviewed by IRO at CiC Review	<i>Health Plans not shared. Need to be prioritised due to changes in National Minimum Standards. (Sharon C.)</i>
	Improved performance management system For	Des. Nurse CiC		Spreadsheet (performance management report)	

Corporate Parenting Promise Action Plan 2010-2011

	CLA Health Team.				
Improved dental hygiene for CiC	All CiC to have regular dental checks	Head of Fieldwork	September 2011	All CiC have had a dental check. (Source: CF Int. Team)	
Ensure CiC benefit from good sex & relationship education.	<p>Establish a baseline and regular data collection on the numbers of CiC and Care Leavers who become pregnant</p> <p>Ensure the workforce have the skills to support young people to delay sexual activity and support and safeguard young people who are sexually active</p> <p>Support foster carers to effectively communicate to children and young people about puberty, body changes, relationships and sex</p>	<p>Teresa Flower</p> <p>CiC Health Team/CAMHS - as part of health assessments & consultations.</p>	March 2011	<p>A baseline of teenage conceptions amongst the group has been established and levels of teenage conception reduce in this group.</p> <p>Increase in the number of foster carers accessing training and information through the Teenage Pregnancy Partnership.</p> <p>Improved sexual health and reduced teenage conceptions.</p>	<p><i>August: TP is not recorded on Carefirst: there is a "flag" for CiC but recording is minimal- it is only recorded when they link the child to the mother. This measure also figures in the "Teenage pregnancy Plan".</i></p> <p><i>August YOT provides some service</i></p>
To reduce the risks associated with substance misuse for all CiC	Provide targeted education and specialist interventions in respect of CiC who misuse substances or who are at risk of misusing substances	Clare Gilbert	October 2011	Quarterly report submitted of number of CiC who receive drug education or a specialist intervention. (Source: Clare Gilbert?)	<i>August: Further work required from CiC OG to check the position – report back October 10</i>

Corporate Parenting Promise Action Plan 2010-2011

<p>CAMHS support for CiC</p>	<p>Improve performance management system for CAMHS LAC Team</p> <p>Access to regular and ongoing consultations with CAMHS CLA team for all CiC</p> <p>To assess through consultation the need for individual therapeutic work for CiC, Care Leavers, young asylum seekers.</p> <p>Supporting training to foster carers /prospective adopters for children with complex needs</p>	<p>CiC CAMHS</p>	<p>November 2010</p>	<p>Spreadsheet established to collate information (CAMHS). Performance data and evaluation to be developed and feedback gained. Referral data, CiC review recommendations</p> <p>NI58 data: monthly report. (Source: CF Int. Team)</p> <p>Pilot commenced Aug 2010 – formal pathway to be developed.</p>	<p><i>August: CORC evaluation process implemented within the NHS Trust</i></p> <p>October reporting</p>
-------------------------------------	--	------------------	----------------------	--	---

Corporate Parenting Promise Action Plan 2010-2011

<p>the additional vulnerabilities of looked after children and young people. (suitable accom)</p>	<p>Develop a process for risk-assessing the area young person is proposing to move into.</p> <p>Proportion of Corporate Parenting Board Members and Education Champions to become registered Regulation 33 Visits to ensure our duty around in-house suitable residential accommodation</p>	<p>Head of CiC (SMs Fostering & Residential) / Police / Housing</p>		<p>worker Safety check completion by LCT. Risk assessment completion by placement service, fostering/ residential.</p> <p>(Improvements in PAF C8, A2, A4, D78)</p>	<p><i>this area has dropped</i></p> <p><i>August: this process will involve the CiC Police Officer</i></p>
<p>Quality Assurance of external (commissioned) placements</p>	<p>Establish Focus Group to address this issue/draft action plan.</p>	<p>Winston Davidson, SM 15+</p>	<p>13/9/10</p>		<p><i>September: draft plan to CiC Outcomes group.</i></p>

Corporate Parenting Promise Action Plan 2010-2011

3. Enjoy & Achieve

Headline priority: Educational Attainment – ensure that more CiC attend and achieve at school and out of hours learning and increasingly make progress in their learning, personal development and attainment in line with their peer group.

We know:

The attainment levels of children who are looked after at age 16 are poor.

We are not learning more about attendance rates and we need to clarify what support works best.

Most children and young people who are looked after participate in their reviews. They enjoy sport and recreational facilities in the city.

Objective	Actions	Lead	Date to complete	Evidence	Progress: October 2010
Improved educational attainment and a reduction in the gap between CiC educational attainment and their peers in line with national target setting.	Work with designated teachers to support, monitor and evaluate pupil progress and take appropriate actions. Personal Education Plan (PEP completion)	Head of Inclusive Learning/Head of CiC	August 2011	Training delivered and attendance measured. Steering group developed. Workshops facilitated. Feedback provided to schools through the Children in Care Consultants and the Virtual Head Designated teacher networks Improved PEP completion. (Data from Inclusive Learning).	<i>August: difficult to collect educational attainment data for some CiC who reside outside the city in other LA schools – gaps in data but progress good at 73% (was 22% in May 10). Progress still expected to be at 90%+ by December 10</i>
	Ensure all children are assessed for dyslexia and other educational needs unless school / educational provider confirms that they	Head of Additional Needs	Aug 2010	Assessments recorded on Carefirst by social workers	

Corporate Parenting Promise Action Plan 2010-2011

	<p>feel that this is not appropriate as a part of the PEP process.</p> <p>Ensure Personal Education Allowances are utilised to maximum benefit.</p> <p>Develop alternative & accredited learning opportunities for CiC in sport, physical activity & leisure related education i.e. leadership</p>	<p>Head of Inclusive Learning</p> <p>Sport and Leisure/Head of CiC</p>		<p>Alternative training / learning opportunities created and delivered. Process to establish accreditation, recognition and feedback through mainstream education providers established</p>	<p>This will be reported in October 10</p>
<p>Ensure CiC are accessing appropriate educational provision, including improved provision for children and young people not in school, with specific focus on CiC in residential provision</p>	<p>Secure high-quality early years' education for children in care under 5 (particularly those aged 3 and 4)</p> <p>Develop apprenticeship placements for CiC.</p> <p>Support for designated teachers in schools.</p>	<p>Head of CiC / <i>Head of learning transformation</i></p> <p>Local Jobs for Local People / Head of CiC / Connexions/Business in the Community</p> <p>Head of Inclusive Learning</p>	<p>December 2010</p>	<p>Carefirst report to be developed (Reduction in PAF C24)</p> <p>Placement records</p> <p>Numbers of designated teachers trained.</p> <p>Designated teachers information pack produced and disseminated</p>	<p>Project: Ready for Work Underway and staff appointed</p> <p>Funding for Designated Teachers support under threat from removal of some ABG</p>

Corporate Parenting Promise Action Plan 2010-2011

<p>All CiC to have appropriate access to a computer and the internet</p>	<p>Target prioritised young people for access.</p>	<p>Head of CiC /Head of Inclusive Learning</p>	<p>September 2010</p>	<p>Target group have access to PC & internet. Process to ensure access embedded.</p>	<p><i>August: Achievement Consultants have supported Home access programmes from Jan 2010. Final report on numbers accessing this to be produced for Oct 10. This objective may be complete</i></p>
---	--	--	-----------------------	---	---

Corporate Parenting Promise Action Plan 2010-2011

4. Make a Positive Contribution

Headline priorities: We want children and young people in care and care leavers to be better able to deal successfully with significant changes in their lives. We want them to be good citizens and to demonstrate engagement and active participation. We want every partner agency to listen to children in care.

We know:

Not all children who are looked after are aware of the children's rights service or the city-wide forum for expressing their views.

Despite positive, targeted interventions from the YOT, the number of looked after children who are involved in crime is high.

There are limited opportunities for care leavers to make a positive contribution as peer mentors.

Children and young people who are looked after are becoming increasingly involved in making decisions about their own lives and in influencing services

Objective	Actions	Lead	Date to complete	Evidence	Progress: October 2010
Fewer children and young people in care involved in offending and anti-social behaviour.	Ensure all staff / partners understand Police protocols Improved collation of data to include Fostering & Adoption service.	Head of Community and Family team (YOT and Designated Police Officer lead)	December 2010	Effective evaluation and response to the inappropriate use of the protocol.	<i>August: Glynis & Sam to check on availability of data.</i>
	Establish effective bullying protocols for all CiC as part of a Children's Services shared behaviour expectation statement. Establish a benchmark at the outset.	Head of CiC/NYAS	December 2010	Evaluate against the benchmark for continuous improvement. NYAS statistics and reported incidents show fall in reported incidents of bullying.	<i>August: only for yp in LA residential.</i>

Corporate Parenting Promise Action Plan 2010-2011

<p>Increased involvement in decision-making by CiC and care leavers.</p>	<p>Annual Fostering "Tell Us" survey to all children in foster care report to Corporate Parenting Board.</p> <p><i>Feedback to general children fostered population re. themes that emerged. (LA)</i></p> <p>Ensure the Children in Care Council is supported and functioning</p>	<p>Head CiC (Fostering/Ad option SM)</p> <p>Head Fieldwork (IRO and SW Lead)</p> <p>Head of CiC</p>	<p>December 2010</p> <p>September 2010</p> <p>September 2010</p>	<p>Achieve target</p> <p>Evidence of meetings with elected members (e.g. minutes of meetings).</p>	<p><i>August: developing, on track.</i></p>
<p>Ensure that all young people 15+ (CiC) have a robust Pathway Plan which they have been able to contribute to</p>	<p>15+ team to upload all Pathway Plans onto Carefirst database</p> <p>Work with the Carefirst Team to upload a new template to allow for easier access</p>	<p>Head of CiC (15+ SM Lead)</p>	<p>September 2010</p> <p>Review January 2011</p>	<p>Carefirst records</p> <p>Case File Quality Assurance Audits</p>	<p>August; % completion rates for Care Leavers with Pathway plans is at 92%</p>

Corporate Parenting Promise Action Plan 2010-2011

5. Achieve Economic Wellbeing

Headline priorities: i) Employment and Training - Local jobs and work experience for Care leavers; ongoing training and development of Care leavers ii) Independence and Economic Well-Being - suitable accommodation and access to support. More effective preparation for independence & development of resilience and risk skills through activities.

We Know:

Young people leaving care generally feel well supported by the Leaving Care Team and most care leavers are offered suitable accommodation.

The proportion of children who are looked after involved in education, training or employment has increased and is now above the national average.

The corporate approach to providing opportunities for work experience and post-16 apprenticeships through the 'Local Jobs for Local People' initiative is proving effective, especially for some Care Leavers.

Objective	Actions	Lead	Date to complete	Evidence	Progress: October 2010
Nottingham City Council to provide ring fenced work experience and access to employment & training opportunities.	Working in partnership to ensure Local Jobs for Local People reflects priority for CiC / CL – including UASC. Creation of ring fenced interviews (where appropriate) for Care leavers (HR Social Inclusion)	Local Jobs for Local People / LCT NCC SMT / CPSG/Business in the Community (Ready for work programme)	?	Improvement in PAF A4. % of CiC in their 19 th year who were in employ, educ or training: monitored quarterly. (Intell performance reporting).	Business in the community have appointed a lead to take this forward and will be rolling out from September 10. NCC to act as a champion