



NOTTINGHAM CITY COUNCIL
CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD

Date: Monday, 21 July 2014

Time: 2.30 pm

Place: Ground Floor Committee Room - Loxley House, Station Street, Nottingham,
NG2 3NG

Councillors are requested to attend the above meeting to transact the following business

Deputy Chief Executive, Corporate Director and Chief Finance Officer

Constitutional Services Officer: Catherine Ziane-Pryor Direct Dial: 0115 8764298

AGENDA

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| 3 | MINUTES
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Verbal update from Kwesi Williams.

IF YOU NEED ANY ADVICE ON DECLARING AN INTEREST IN ANY ITEM ON THE AGENDA, PLEASE CONTACT THE CONSTITUTIONAL SERVICES OFFICER SHOWN ABOVE, IF POSSIBLE BEFORE THE DAY OF THE MEETING

CITIZENS ATTENDING MEETINGS ARE ASKED TO ARRIVE AT LEAST 15 MINUTES BEFORE THE START OF THE MEETING TO BE ISSUED WITH VISITOR BADGES

NOTTINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD

**MINUTES of the meeting held on 19 May 2014 at Loxley House
from 2.30pm to 4.02pm**

Membership

Present

Councillor Emma Dewinton
Councillor Glyn Jenkins
Councillor Ginny Klein (Vice Chair)
Councillor David Mellen (Chair)
Councillor Wendy Smith
Councillor Marcia Watson

Absent

Councillor Georgina Culley
Councillor Eileen Morley
Councillor Jackie Morris

Colleagues, partners and others in attendance:

Jeren Artykova - Children in Care Council
Ben Attfield - Senior Duty Officer Safeguarding Children's Residential Services
Helen Blackman - Director for Children's Social Care
Kay Challand - Principal Manager for Fostering and Adoption
Sharon Clarke - Service Manager (Children in Care)
Jon Rea - Early Intervention and Partnerships Officer
Evonne Rogers - Head of Business Support
Kay Sutt - Service Manager, Children's Residential and Targeted Support
Gill Moy - Director of Housing (Nottingham City Homes)
Lee Whitehead - Principle Analyst (Social Care)
Malcolm Wilson - Virtual School Headteacher
Kwesi Williams - Project Officer (Children in Care)
Cath Ziane-Pryor - Constitutional Services

1 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR

Councillor David Mellen is appointed Chair for the municipal year 2014/15.

2 APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIR

Councillor Ginny Klein is appointed Vice-Chair.

3 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor Georgina Culley
Councillor Eileen Morley
Councillor Jackie Morris
Heidi Watson
Sharon Thompson
Tanya Mackley
Bev Beatie

4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

5 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 31 March 2014, were confirmed and signed by the Chair.

Matters arising

Helen Blackman, Director for Children's Social Care, informed the Board that the findings of the Ofsted inspection have now been published and are available on the Ofsted website. A short booklet has been produced by the Children and Adults, summarising the inspection findings. It is noted that the Corporate Parenting Board are seen as strength for driving improvement.

6 CHILDREN IN CARE COUNCIL - 2013 HAVE YOUR SAY SURVEY RESULTS

Jeren Artykova, representing Children in Care Council, was accompanied by Jon Rea, Early Intervention and Partnerships Officer, in delivering a presentation of findings from the 'Have Your Say Survey' of children in care and care leavers, which has been analysed by the Children in Care Council. A red, amber and green (RAG) rating system has been used to illustrate how children in care and care leavers perceive the quality and value of the services they receive.

The overall 'RAG' rating of the survey result is green, The Children in Care Charter Commitments were rated as follows for 2013:

Charter Commitment 1: We will treat all our children and young people with respect and with regard to their age and understanding. **Green;**

Charter commitment 2: We will give our children and young people enough time and help to understand (and be happy) with their circumstances. **Amber;**

Charter commitment 3: We will make sure they know about the advocacy and complaints services in case they want help to have their views heard or and are unhappy with us. **Amber;**

Charter commitment 4: We will listen to our children and young people and involve them in planning for their care. **Green;**

Charter commitment 5: We will keep our children and young people safe and well by:

- (a) seeing that they have the right place to live as quickly as possible. **Green;**
- (b) making sure that this home is stable and keeps them safe. **Green;**
- (c) giving them the right support to be as healthy as possible. **Amber;**

Charter commitment 6: We will help our children and young people to enjoy themselves. **Participation in a range of activities and an increase in sport and physical activity;**

Charter commitment 7: We will help them to achieve at school and elsewhere to the very best of their ability. **Amber;**

Charter commitment 8: We know that a change of home, carer, social work or school can easily cause problems for a child or young person so we promised to do all we can to prevent such changes unless they are absolutely necessary to keep the child or young person safe and well. **Red;**

Charter commitment 9: We will make sure that the child or young person stays in touch with her birth family and friends as much as possible, considering their safety and well-being. **Nearly half of the respondents see their families as much as they want to, satisfaction with the ability to spend time with their old friends is growing;**

Charter commitment 10: We will help our children and young people to plan for and achieve a successful journey into independent adulthood. **Amber.**

The Board's questions were responded to as follows:

- (a) 87 responses from a possible 600 is considered reasonable and equates to nearly a 15% return which is considered a good sample;
- (b) children and young people are able to get help completing the survey from their carers or social worker this is what they want although questions about their social worker, are included in the survey;
- (c) each survey has an identification reference which enables it to be completed online but very few young people choose to do this and instead submit handwritten forms;
- (d) there is an easy read version under 10-year-olds;
- (e) there is now a care leavers websites so a link to the survey will be included;
- (f) all submitted surveys are quality assured and any issues regarding safeguarding or issues of well-being concern are pursued;
- (g) the questions are about the children and Young People's perception and you do not necessarily reflect the actual statistics. As 50% of children who responded said that they had pathway plans, while the actual statistics are nearer 80%;
- (h) a more representative sample across the age range of children in care would better inform the overall results of the survey. Incentives to complete the survey include free sports membership;
- (i) Strong support is available to ensure good mental and emotional health as this is taken very seriously. Currently children and adults are working with RSPC to help support young people before problems escalate;
- (j) where emotional and mental health problems do escalate, fantastic support is available from Child and Adult Mental Health Services (CAMHS);
- (k) the number of changes of social worker for young people is a concern and the probability of changes increase where children are in care for a long period;
- (l) it is not always safe for children and young people in care to have contact with their previously known friends and family;
- (m) the amounts of help that children want to with their schoolwork varies considerably, with some young people wanting less assistance.

The Board made the following comments:

- (n) having helped 2 fostered young people to complete the survey, the questions are very clear and easily understood. It is positive that came with handsets and

support young people to complete the form as this raises issues which may not otherwise have been highlighted;

- (o) it is a concern that so few young people have responded to the survey;
- (p) a large proportion of children in care are under 5 years old so maybe what information is required or how much they understand;
- (q) good emotional support is vital especially for the most vulnerable.

RESOLVED

- (1) to use the findings of the survey and 'RAG' rating assessments to inform the 2014/15 Corporate Parenting Action Plan, with priority given to areas highlighted by the assessment;**
- (2) to acknowledge the hard work of the Children in Care Council in the planning and delivery analysis of the Have Your Say Survey, along with the vital role in co-production of services across Children's Social Care, of the Children in Care Council;**
- (3) to support all aspects of the forthcoming 2014 Have Your Say survey and to implement its findings as appropriate;**
- (4) to include a report on the mental health of young people in care, to a future meeting.**

7 FOSTERING AND ADOPTION PANEL CHAIRS REPORT

Kay Challand, Principal Manager for Fostering and Adoption, presented the report of the Fostering and Adoption Panel Chairs, outlining the function of fostering and adoption panels, the overall adoption statistics since April 2011, the quality of reports submitted by social workers, and areas identified for improvement along with the strengths of the service.

The Board's questions received the following responses:

- (a) the amount of information provided to panel members has been streamlined. A new IT system is being piloted for 3 months, after which consideration will be given to whether its use should be continued;
- (b) applicants are assessed with checks made to medical states, employment, their friends and family, in fact every aspect of their life is looked at in detail and the panel may request clarity or further information;
- (c) adoption applications involve an intense and robust process;
- (d) as the focus for fostering and adoption is making the most appropriate decision, sometimes the panel may say no to applicants;
- (e) there are yearly campaigns to recruit further foster carers but, as long as there are no safeguarding concerns, it is preferable for a child to remain within their extended family.

RESOLVED

- (1) to note the activity of Fostering and Adoption Panels and note the appreciation of the board for the work done by Fostering and Adoption Panels;**

- (2) **for an action plan, with timescales, of the proposals to improve the fostering and adoption 'areas for development' identified by the Chairs of the Fostering and Adoption Panels, to be submitted to a future meeting.**

8 PERFORMANCE REPORT - QUARTERS 3 AND 4 2013/14

Overall, it is noted that the performance has generally improved, with a robust action plan in place to address areas needing attention.

As of March 2014, there were 584 Nottingham City children in care.

It is noted that children on remand are now considered as being in the care of the Local Authority and must be included within the performance report, it is not always appropriate to apply all of the performance indicators to these children's circumstances.

With regard to the statistics for care leavers, as independent adults, they do not have an obligation to continue contact with the Local Authority so it is not always possible to provide complete information.

The Board made the following points;

- (a) the progress made is welcomed, especially regarding education and employment training;
- (b) it is disappointing that young people's perception and the actual figures regarding pathway plans differ so much;
- (c) there has been a substantial focus on physical health but not as much attention is paid to mental health; this needs to be addressed.

Resolved to note the report.

9 URGENT ITEM – YMCA OUTDOOR PURSUITS PROGRAMME FOR CHILDREN IN CARE

The Chair of the meeting was of the opinion that this item, although not included on the agenda, should be considered as a matter of urgency in accordance with section 100(b)(4)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972, in view of the special circumstances that the scheme could not be confirmed until all safeguarding and risk assessment had been successfully completed and it is important that the scheme is promoted prior to the spring and summer sessions to ensure the best outcomes.

Ben Attfield, Senior Duty Officer Safeguarding Children's Residential Services, informed the Board of the joint programme between Nottingham City Council and the YMCA, which has been funded by 'Children In Need'.

The project consists of 18 outdoor education activity sessions held during the school holidays for children in care, giving them the chance to experience outdoor activities that they may not have had access to within their life circumstances.

The activities promote self-esteem and develop confidence within the individuals as well as provide one of experiences that encourage trust and build on essential qualities which they will later rely on in life such as teamwork and problem-solving.

The Board welcomed the project as a valuable experience for young people in care.

RESOLVED that the Board receive an update on the project within a year.

10 FORWARD PLAN

Resolved to note the forward plan, subject to the inclusion of future items identified at the meeting.

11 FUTURE MEETING DATES

RESOLVED to note that the Corporate Parenting Board is scheduled to meet at 2:30 pm on the following Mondays at Loxley House:

2014

21 July

15 September

17 November

2015

19 January

16 March

CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD – 21st July 2014

Title of paper:	IMPROVING AND ACHIEVING GOOD HEALTH OUTCOMES FOR NOTTINGHAM CITY'S CHILDREN IN CARE	
Director(s)/ Corporate Director(s):	Helen Blackman – Director Children's Social Care	Wards affected: All Wards
Report author(s) and contact details:	Tania McDonald Team Manager of CAMHS Children Looked After Team Thorneywood Porchester Road, Nottingham tania.mcdonald@nottinghamcity.gov.uk	
Other colleagues who have provided input:	Viv McCrossen Head of Service Family Community Teams Central viv.mccrossen@nottinghamcity.gov.uk	
Date of consultation with Portfolio Holder(s) (if relevant)	1st July 2014	
Relevant Council Plan Strategic Priority:		
Cutting unemployment by a quarter		<input type="checkbox"/>
Cut crime and anti-social behaviour		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ensure more school leavers get a job, training or further education than any other City		<input type="checkbox"/>
Your neighbourhood as clean as the City Centre		<input type="checkbox"/>
Help keep your energy bills down		<input type="checkbox"/>
Good access to public transport		<input type="checkbox"/>
Nottingham has a good mix of housing		<input type="checkbox"/>
Nottingham is a good place to do business, invest and create jobs		<input type="checkbox"/>
Nottingham offers a wide range of leisure activities, parks and sporting events		<input type="checkbox"/>
Support early intervention activities		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Deliver effective, value for money services to our citizens		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Summary of issues (including benefits to citizens/service users):		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For CAMHS to deliver support and training to the work force to ensure that CiC's emotional well-being is seen as a priority and is viewed as a key performance indicator. • To ensure CiC's mental health is integrated into their health plan and that the SDQ monitoring has become part of the CiC Looked After Child (LAC) review process. • To re-evaluate how Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire (SDQ's) are used across the CAMHS CiC team and children's social care. • Continue to improve access to CAMHS to, children, young people and professionals. • Referral forms and processes to be reviewed in order to make CAMHS more accessible to Social workers and the network. • For all cases where children are placed Out of Area to be monitored more closely in relation to their emotional and mental health needs and for CAMHS CiC team to support and ensure children and young people receive the best outcomes wherever they reside. 		

Recommendation(s):	
1	To ensure that every CiC has an SDQ completed at the Initial Health Assessment. To also introduce six monthly monitoring of SDQ scores to ensure that we have a robust screening process that is embedded in the LAC reviews.
2	In partnership with Heath ensuring that all Children who are placed out of area receive robust monitoring in relation to their Emotional and Mental Health needs.
3	Out of hours emergency appointments will continue to be seen by the CAMHS medical on-call system and the CiC team will provide Acute appointments for Consultations on a weekly basis.
4	To Develop Drop in services for Post-Adoption

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

The CAMHS CiC team have received positive written and verbal feedback from both recent CQC and Ofsted inspections. To continue to improve the service, members from the CAMHS Executive Committee have recently met in a joint mapping exercise relating to CAMHS LAC/continuing care/social care placements for children in care.

The CIC CAMHS team have agreed to develop a quality assurance process for placements including criteria for whether a placement can be classed as therapeutic and will assess the suitability of the placement for the presenting child or young person. The team will also organise spot checks to be completed on placements for children and young people known to the CAMHS LAC team. Spot checks will ensure that therapeutic work is in place and may be completed by children in care nurses, CAMHS LAC or placements QA posts dependent upon who has the team capacity at the time.

The group proposed that actions can be taken forwards over the next few weeks in order to strengthen the pathway.

SERVICE BACKGROUND AND TEAM UPDATE.

1.1 The CAMHS CIC team was established in 2000 and provides a high quality service to support and maintain the emotional and mental health needs of those children looked after by Nottingham City council. The multi-disciplinary team offers support and intervention based on a **Consultation Model** that supports the professional network to better meet the child or young person's emotional and mental health needs by providing a reflective space and expertise in relation to CiC's mental health needs. Consultations are offered in a variety of settings in order to meet the needs of children and young people irrespective of the type of provision they are accommodated within.

1.2 Direct therapeutic work is also offered to those children, young people and carers, identified via the consultation process, as able to benefit from this type of provision.

1.3 The Team

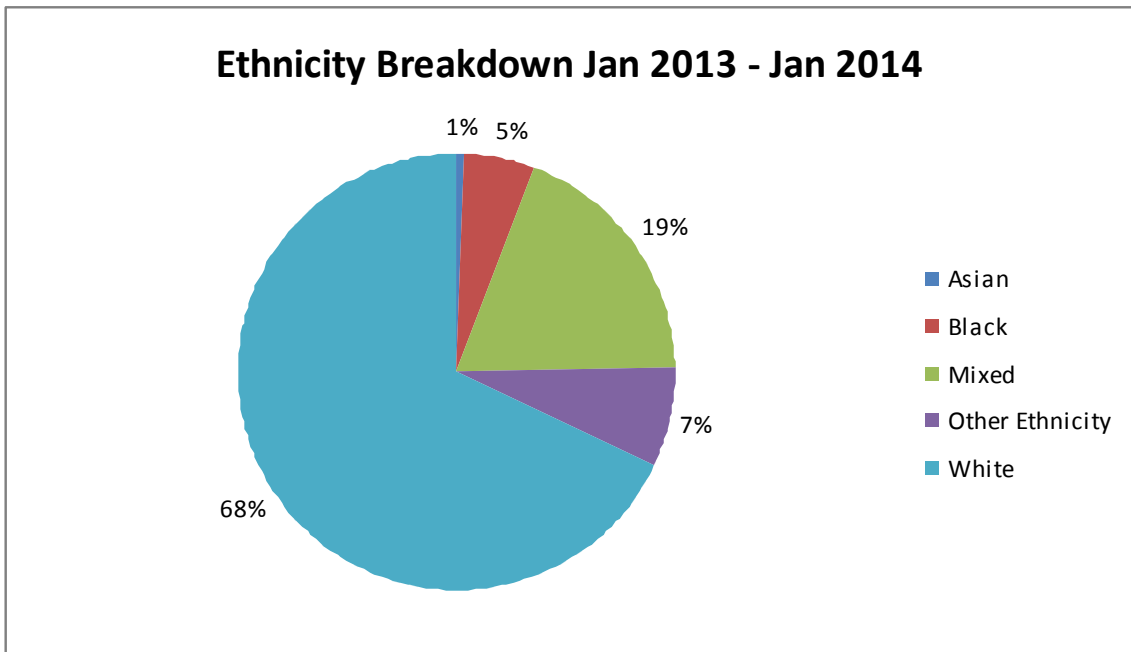
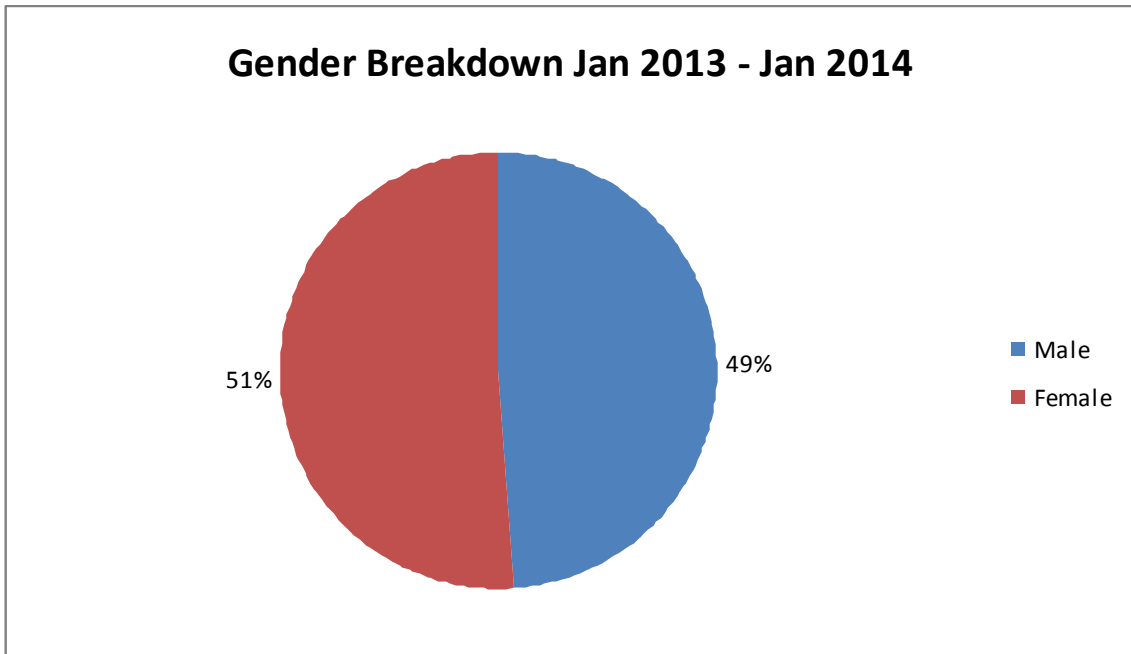
1.4

<u>Job Title</u>	<u>Number of Sessions* - Weekly Team Capacity</u>
Team Co-ordinators	10 sessions
Consultant Psychiatrist	6 sessions
Clinical Psychologist	3 sessions
Clinical Psychologist	10 sessions
Specialist Nurse	3 sessions
Specialist Social Worker	3 sessions

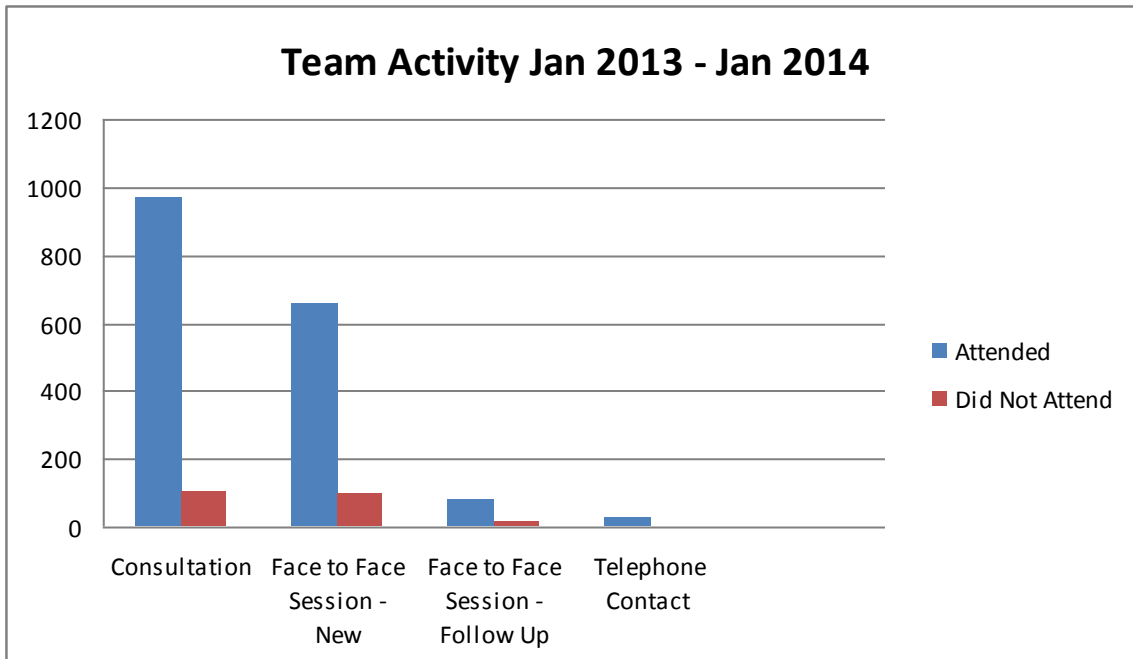
Specialist Social Worker	5 sessions
Specialist Social Worker	6 sessions
Specialist Social Worker	6 sessions
Specialist Social Worker	10 sessions
Specialist Social Worker	6 sessions
Art Psychotherapists	5 sessions
Business Support	10 sessions

(* A 'session' is the equivalent to half a working day)

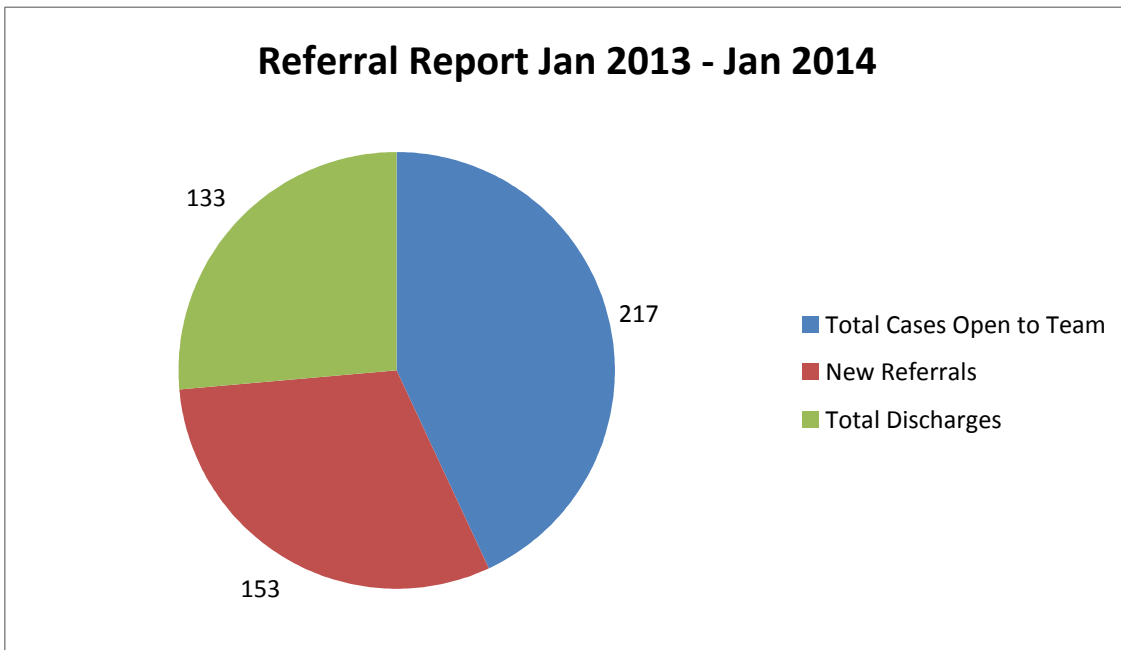
Key Team Statistics



The following data shows activity levels between Jan 2013 – Jan 2014



(Please note Consultations could include work with Foster carers Residential Social workers, social workers and Adopters.)



Direct Work January 2013 - January 2014



(Chart shows direct work with Children and young people who are open to CAMHS)

Direct Work with Children and Young people

Over the last year there have been **70** cases which have or are receiving direct work. This includes:

- Theraplay
- Dyadic Developmental Psychotherapy
- Creative Therapeutic approaches
- Systemic Family Therapy
- Play therapy
- Creative art psychotherapies

Theraplay and Dyadic Developmental Psychotherapy Clinics

Theraplay techniques are practical and play based. They aim to build relationships through fun interactive games and activities. These sessions are brief, usually thirty minutes, and lively. They aim to create opportunities for children to experience important aspects of relationships that are vital to building attachments. The parent and child will be supported by a therapist to play together using a specially designed programme which aims to address the particular issues that the child needs help with.

Dyadic developmental Psychotherapy (DDP) is an integrative method of psychotherapy that was developed in the 1990's for the treatment of children and young people who manifested psychological problems associated with complex trauma and who failed to establish secure patterns of attachment. Most of the clients receiving this treatment were residing in foster homes, adoptive homes and residential treatment centres. Within a DDP model, PACE provides an attitude of parenting which can be used to facilitate security of

attachments and to support the young person to create new meaning and understanding around past experiences. It also allows them to develop their skills in regulating the emotions that these experiences create.

The team is currently operating a Theraplay clinic which meets 3 times a week on a Monday, Wednesday and Thursday. The clinic is facilitated by Clinical Psychologist and Specialist Social Workers. Facilitators have completed either the Level 1 Theraplay training or Level 2/Group training.

It is still hoped that we will be able to complete an evaluation of Theraplay in the future and that this work will be carried out by ongoing trainee clinical Psychologists in the future. We are hoping to use outcome measures such as SDQ and Carer's questionnaire to do this (see attached). The idea is to have these completed at the point of referral or identification of the case for Theraplay.

The team have also received training in Dyadic Developmental training which like Theraplay sets out to strengthen the child or young person's Attachment to their main carers but is used primarily with older children or adolescents. There is a special interest group within the Nottinghamshire Health Care Trust which supports clinician which are using this approach and which is widely recognised in many countries as a successful approach in supporting Attachment difficulties with children, young people, Foster carers and Adopter.

Waiting times within the Service

Currently on average we will see the majority of our referrals within 4 to 8 weeks of the referral being made. To enable us to reduce waiting times further we have incorporated into our Consultation schedule, weekly acute slots which will allow cases which need a more urgent response to be seen within a quicker timescale of 1 to 2 weeks on average. Since September 2013 we have employed Dr Pallab Majumder who is the teams full-time Consultant Psychiatrist. This has given the service greater capacity to offer more urgent support for CiC who are open to the team and require assessments following concerns in relation to deterioration in their mental health.

The wider CAMHS also operates on-call services for crisis intervention which also includes children and young people who have recently come into care and are not open to the team. In such instances CIC CAMHS would offer a follow-up appointment within no more than 2 weeks of the child or young person's initial mental health assessment.

The CIC team also provides onsite support to internal residential homes. There are 2 workers allocated to each home and support through consultations is given to residential staff within the home with regards to understanding and managing behaviours in relation to emotional and mental health difficulties.

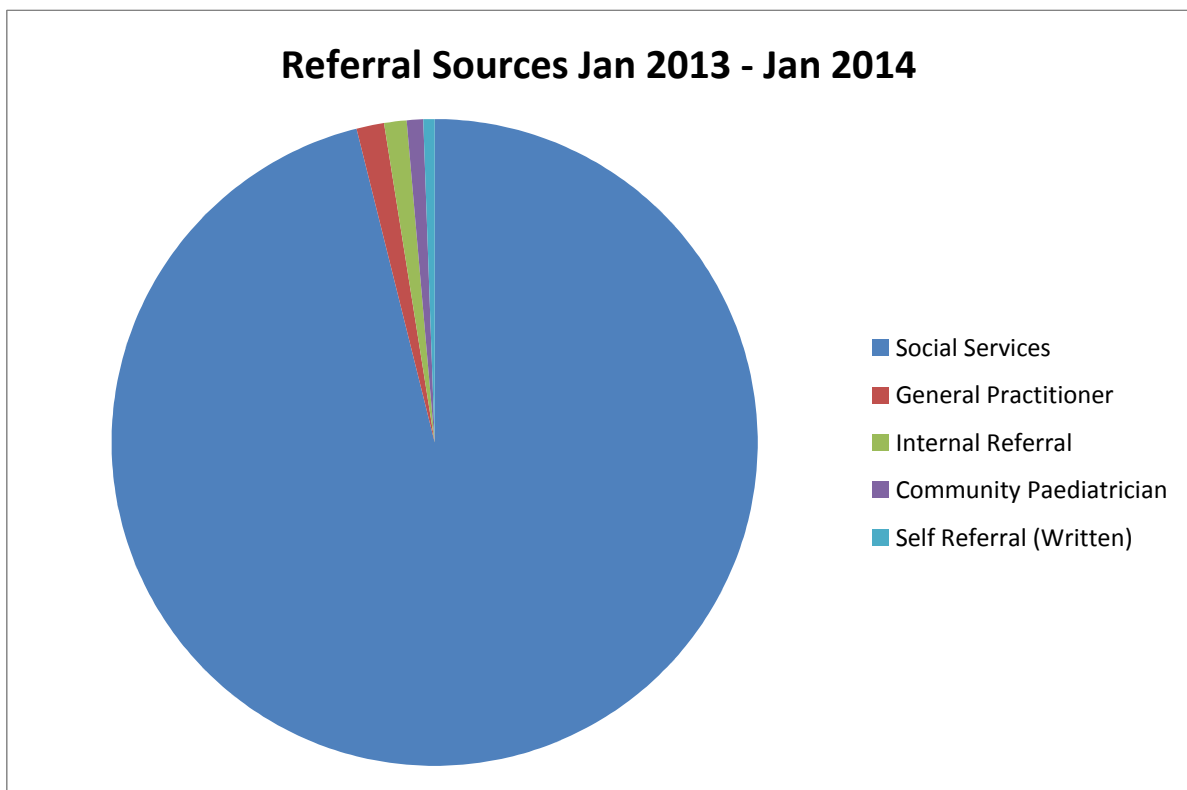
The Assessment Homes and semi-independent accommodation are visited on a fortnightly basis whilst Small Group Homes are visited monthly or more frequently if there is a need.

We are also in the process of establishing links with the CAMHS LD team so that young people who are placed in NCC's new home which specialises in Children who have severe to moderate Autistic Spectrum Disorder/ Learning Difficulties, can be jointly supported by services.

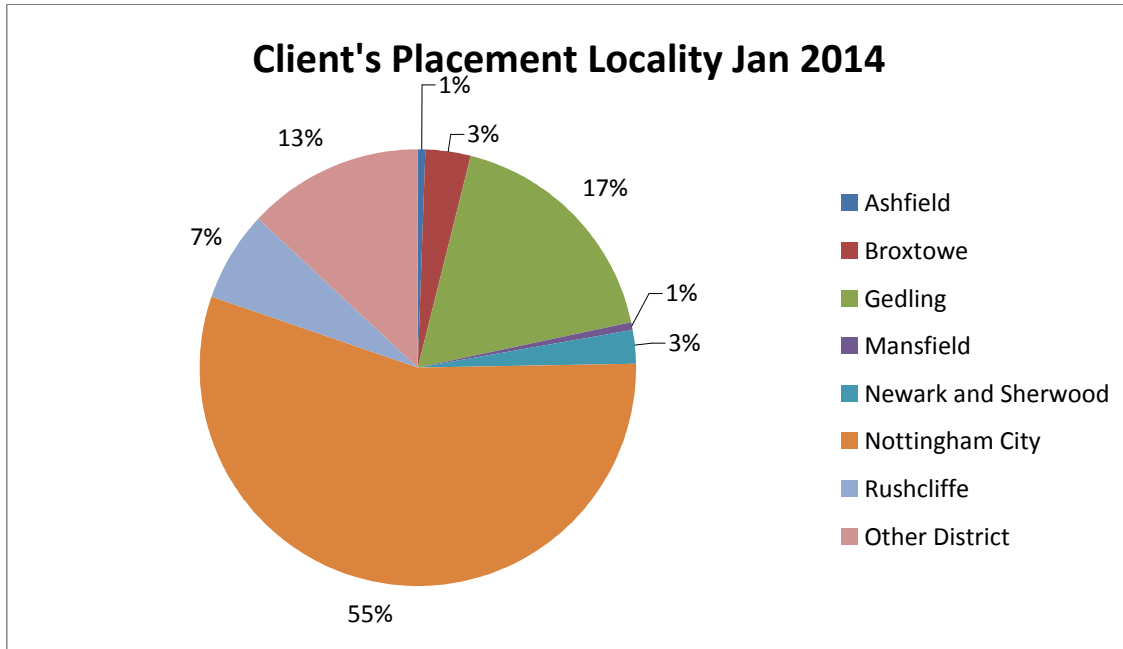
How cases are prioritised within CAMHS CiC

The CAMHS team use both Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaires' (SDQ's) and the BERRI (a clinical psychology questionnaire which more specifically relates to CiC) as part of the referral and initial Consultation process. The SDQ provides us with an added indicator in relation to whether a child or young person has a score which is Normal, Borderline or Abnormal. We are also in the process of ensuring that the SDQ's are monitored as part of the Looked After Child Review to ensure that professionals are aware if a score has altered and become either lower or higher and are curious as to why this is. Increased Scores at LAC review will automatically result in a recommendation from the Independent Reviewing Officer (IRO) that a referral be made to CAMHS by the social worker.

Our referrals are also prioritised based on the individual circumstances and needs of the child. Acute Consultation slots will be given to children and young people where there is a risk of placement breakdown or concerns regarding their presentation in relation to their mental health. Children and Young people who have self-harmed and require a follow-up appointment following an admission into hospital will also be seen more urgently and within a maximum 14 day time scale.



(Internal referrals relates to referrals received from Community CAMHS in tier 2 or 3. Self-referrals are received from Adopters)



(The above gives a breakdown of placement destination for Children and Young people accessing a service from the CiC team)

Out of the 217 cases open to the team we can see that although 55% of Children who receive a service live in Nottingham City there is a significant proportion who are placed outside of the City and most significantly in the wider Nottinghamshire area. There are 13% of children who are also open to Consultation that are placed out of area and may be placed as far as Southampton or Wales.

Post Adoption and Fostering Drop-in's at Isabella Street.

The team continues to offer Consultations and where appropriate direct work for cases where a child or young person has been placed 3 years post the adoption and is living in the Nottingham City area. Over the last year we have seen a raise in these cases and therefore we will now start to monitor the numbers of referrals we receive regarding adoption

There is an increased demand in Adoption referrals therefore it has been proposed that a 'Drop-in' service be offered to the post order team. Foster carer Drop-in's will also be piloted. This model is used within the Nottinghamshire CiC and Adoption CAMH's team and has been a successful addition to the service which they currently offer. It is hoped that the Drop-in's will run initially on a monthly basis and would be offered for a morning or afternoon. Drop-in's commenced in the service in May 2014.

The team will still continue to work with prospective Adoptive parents within Nottingham City where it has been identified that support from CAMHS would be beneficial to the child's overall plan of care. This will be with the aim to reduce placement disruption.

Community of Interest Group

A Community of Interest event for Children in Care took place on Friday 21st March 2014 from 9.00am -2.00pm at Duncan Macmillian House on Porchester Rd. The event was jointly facilitated by CiC Health team, CAMHS CLA City/County team and the Virtual School CiC City/County. The event has been organised to raise the profile of the specialist teams working with CiC and so that the 'Voice of the Child can be heard.

Listen Up

Dr Pallab Majumder is part of a research team which will work with young people who are in care within the East Midlands and who have experienced self –harm. The project will give CiC the opportunity to talk about their experiences. The research is really important as it will give the young person's experience a voice and will help us understand more about self-harm and develop future services within CAMHS and the voluntary sector.

Panels/Meetings

Managers and senior members of within the team have continued to attend the following Panels/meetings. This to ensure there is CAMHS representation and has helped to promote the importance of early intervention in Child and Adolescent Mental Health for CiC who are vulnerable to developing difficulties in adulthood due to early trauma.

- **Placement panel**
- **Profiling tool panel**
- **Performance Management Meeting's (PIMM'S)**
- **Children in Care Working Group**
- **Children In Care Outcomes Group**
- **NSPCC Steering Group**
- **NCSB Audits**
- **Network Meetings - Police/YOT**
- **NSPCC Achieving Emotional Wellbeing for Looked After field work and priorities for system change.**

Training for Residential Social Workers and Foster Carers

Attachment training to all internal residential staff has been undertaken in the last year and has provided a total of 7 separate training groups from 2013-2014 which are still currently on –going. Clinical Psychologist Dr Zoe Kyte has facilitated a total of 7 groups to residential staff within the city, focussing on the work of Kim Golding and her "Fostering Attachments" programme and has incorporated some of the therapeutic approaches that are used within the service. Feedback has been really positive, with staff valuing both the information provided within the group and also the practical ideas offered. Through formal evaluation of the groups, attendees have that they have felt a greater understanding of young people's difficulties and behaviours, particularly in terms of the link to their early experiences and gaining greater confidence and skills to manage challenging behaviours. Young people present with, improved relationships and better communication with young people, more positive responses to attempts to help young people and that they found the their role more rewarding. Feed back we received included the following comments.

“This has been fantastic and I have already used a number of techniques suggested and applied this to several cases”

“Very helpful. It has been very useful to reflect on attachment issues and relate them to service users we currently care for.”

A rolling programme of 10 week groups to Foster Carers supporting the development of ‘fostering Attachments’ has just ended, and was attended by a mixture of internal and external foster carers. The group again offered to foster carers knowledge and information with regards to developing their understanding of different attachment styles, helping them to think about specific behaviour and challenges (i.e. self-harm, stealing, lying etc..), and offering them a therapeutic model of care.

The next group will now take place in September 2014 and is already full in numbers.

Training and Development to the Workforce

The team have continued to be involved in delivering training within the Service as a whole. In 2013 CAMHS worked closely with Work Force Development to offer training to residential staff, newly qualified social workers and foster carers. Dr Zoe Kyte has also delivered on ‘the Impact of Trauma on Brain Development’ in June and October 2013 and in February 2014.

We are also in the process of responding to request to offer training to Foster Carers Social Workers and Social Workers around supporting their understanding in relation to CiC and their Emotional Health and Wellbeing. It is planned that a series of seminars will be offered to internal staff in the future.

Life Story work training

The team have received several requests for direct work to be undertaken where life story work has not been completed with the child or young person. If the young person does not have a narrative about their experience then therapeutic work will not be effective as it does not allow them to make sense of their experiences. As this is an area which requires time and often specific skills in both creating a narrative and managing what could be distressing emotions it has been proposed that some training be offered by CAMHS which would give social workers, supervising social workers and foster carers more confidence in this area.

Developing a new system for monitoring and supporting life story work has also been proposed and made as a recommendation. CAMH’s will have a key role in this and will be working closely with Social Care in order to create and develop new robust systems.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS (INCLUDING VALUE FOR MONEY/VAT)

Tariff model and Traded Services

4.1 Over the past year we have piloted work with cases where children are living in Nottingham City but placed by other Local Authorities. This pilot has involved two cases where we have provided a CAMHS service to support and maintain placements

under a commissioning arrangement with the placing authority. Funds raised pay for Dyadic Developmental Psychotherapy which is widely recognised across the country as an approach which supports children and young people with attachment difficulties. It is hoped that we will continue to reinvest any further funding into training and development for the team.

- Commissioned service for Children from other Local Authorities placed in Nottingham City.
- Fostering Attachment groups for Foster carers within Independent Fostering Agencies (IFA's).
- Assist in colleagues Continued Professional Development
- Support a need for commissioning assessments which are specialist and not able to be provided internally due to the team not having the necessary expertise. e.g Forensic Assessments.

4.2 Further discussion on the progression of these pilots and its impact on the team will continue with a view to increasing the self-sufficiency of the team

5. **RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES (INCLUDING LEGAL IMPLICATIONS AND CRIME AND DISORDER ACT IMPLICATIONS)**

5.1 N/A

6. **EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

6.1 Has the equality impact been assessed?

Not needed (report does not contain proposals or financial decisions) X

No

Yes – Equality Impact Assessment attached

Due regard should be given to the equality implications identified in the EIA.

7. **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS OTHER THAN PUBLISHED WORKS OR THOSE DISCLOSING CONFIDENTIAL OR EXEMPT INFORMATION**

7.1 PH28 Looked After Children and Young People National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) October 2010 last modified April 2013.

7.2 Best Practice Guidance Standard 9: The Mental Health and Psychological Well-being of Children and Young People. National Service Framework for Children, Young People and Maternity Services Department of Health, Oct 2004

7.3 The Statutory Guidance on Promoting the Health and Well-being of Looked After Children published November 2009, (Department for Children, Schools and Families and Department of Health).

7.4 Annual Report 2011/12 Children in Care and Adoption Health team Practice Guidance.

8. PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO IN COMPILING THIS REPORT

8.1 None

CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD – 21st July 2014

Title of paper:	Suitable Accommodation	
Director(s)/ Corporate Director(s):	Alison Michalska – Corporate Director Children & Families Helen Blackman – Director Children’s Social Care	Wards affected: All
Report author(s) and contact details:	Sharon Clarke Service Manager, Children in Care sharon.clarke@nottinghamcity.gov.uk (0115) 876 65032	
Other colleagues who have provided input:	Lynn Pearce - Senior Personal Advisor Alan Monaghan - Senior Personal Advisor Tina Thurley - Principal Analyst	
Date of consultation with Portfolio Holder(s) (if relevant)	1st July 2014	
Relevant Council Plan Strategic Priority:		
Cutting unemployment by a quarter		<input type="checkbox"/>
Cut crime and anti-social behaviour		<input type="checkbox"/>
Ensure more school leavers get a job, training or further education than any other City		<input type="checkbox"/>
Your neighbourhood as clean as the City Centre		<input type="checkbox"/>
Help keep your energy bills down		<input type="checkbox"/>
Good access to public transport		<input type="checkbox"/>
Nottingham has a good mix of housing		<input type="checkbox"/>
Nottingham is a good place to do business, invest and create jobs		<input type="checkbox"/>
Nottingham offers a wide range of leisure activities, parks and sporting events		<input type="checkbox"/>
Support early intervention activities		<input type="checkbox"/>
Deliver effective, value for money services to our citizens		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Summary of issues (including benefits to citizens/service users):		
Section 23B of the children act 1989 requires that Local Authorities provide relevant young people with, and maintain them in, suitable accommodation Nottingham City Council works with Housing Departments and providers to ensure its Care Leavers are given access to and sustain tenancies within suitable accommodation.		
Recommendation(s):		
1	That the Board continues to support the work undertaken to provide suitable accommodation to Nottingham City’s Care Leavers.	

1. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

1.1 Nottingham City Council as a Local Authority has a legislative duty under the Children Act (1989) to provide and sustain suitable housing for its care leavers.

2. BACKGROUND (INCLUDING OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION)

2.1 Nottingham City Council under Section 23B(8) of the Children Act (1989) has a duty to provide and sustain relevant children with suitable accommodation. The Act defines suitable accommodation as:-

- That which, so far is reasonably practicable, is suitable for the young person in respect of their needs which includes health needs.
- That the responsible Authority has satisfied itself as to the character and suitability of the landlord/provider.
- Accommodation that complies with Health and Safety requirements.
- Has taken into account young peoples wishes and feelings.
- Has taken into account a young person's education, training and employment needs.

2.2 The Act also places a duty on Local Authorities who provide Children's Services to take steps, as far as is reasonably practicable, to identify sufficient accommodation within its area to meet the needs of its children in care and care leaver population. This is known as the Sufficiency Duty.

2.3 In deciding as to whether accommodation is suitable, Local Authorities must have regard to schedule 2 of The Care Leaver Regulations (2010). This schedule should not be read as a simple checklist and an evaluation of the suitability of accommodation must be made.

2.4 Within Nottingham City, the Placement Service commissions accommodation from private providers and provides internal semi-independence provision. We can therefore provide a range of accommodation which relates to the diverse needs of care leavers. This includes:-

1. Enabling young people to remain in accommodation in which they lived whilst being looked after i.e. Staying Put.
2. Supported Lodgings
3. Foyers – Supported Housing
4. Small Group Homes
5. Independent accommodation with floating support.
6. Shared accommodation with and without support.

2.5 As the majority of young people approach their 18th birthday they will be working towards obtaining their own tenancy. Nottingham City Council works closely with Nottingham City Homes to ensure those properties are suitable. There is robust Housing protocol agreement which priorities housing for care leavers. This is reviewed and amended annually with the aim being to provide good quality accommodation to our care leavers.

2.6 Personal Advisors work closely with 'Housing Patch Managers' to ensure young people are provided with the necessary support to sustain their own tenancies. There are regular meetings between Nottingham City Council and Nottingham City Homes to alert to any potential issues in respect of young people and potential risk to their tenancies. Support is provided by Nottingham City Homes in respect of financial support and is well accessed by young people.

2.7 There is a national focus on 'Staying Put' in foster care; however some of our children live in residential care. We have developed a wider support option for young people to stay in supported housing. Nottingham City Council has developed its own internal semi-independence provision. It currently provides 16 beds within its estate. This comprises of 6 beds at the recently de-registered Vivian Avenue, 4 beds at Sophie Road, 2 beds at Chippendale and 3 newly formed beds at a new home on Broomhill Road. This allows young people to effectively 'Stay Put' post 18 if assessed as not being ready to take up a tenancy, as particularly vulnerable or in appeal in respect of their immigration status. This

includes the provision of a dedicated Personal Advisor to young people leaving residential care.

2.8 Nottingham City Council's Placement Service are also reviewing their Commissioning strategy – the "16 Plus Enhanced Accommodation Strategy" – and are on schedule to have this review completed by the end of September 2014.

2.9 Nottingham City Council also provides suitable accommodation during non-term time for those young people accessing higher education.

2.10 Making the transition to adulthood can be an extremely stressful process for children in care but one that can also help young people assert their identity as they are able to make life choices about how they furnish their own homes, thus improving their self esteem and confidence. As such, Nottingham City Council provide the allocation of a "Setting Up Home" grant to ensure they have appropriate equipment and household items to set up safe, secure and stable accommodation. This is assessed on an individual basis so that resources are allocated appropriately.

2.11 Performance in respect of suitable accommodation is requested monthly and the DFE requires we now measure a young peoples accommodation status during a three month period around their 19th, 20th, and 21st birthdays.

The 2013/14 end of year performance stood at (targets are stated in brackets);

19 Years 89.6% (90%)

20 Years 83% (85%)

21 Years 77% (80%)

It should be acknowledged that our performance figures are adversely affected by the following factors;

- Non engagers: Care leavers are not obligated to engage with our leaving care service and as a result it not possible to establish and record the suitability of their accommodation. Care Leavers who do not engage are automatically recorded as 'not in suitable accommodation'.
- Young People in Custody: While in custody care leavers cannot be considered to be in suitable accommodation.

3. OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED IN MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 None

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS (INCLUDING VALUE FOR MONEY/VAT)

4.1 None

5. RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES (INCLUDING LEGAL IMPLICATIONS AND CRIME AND DISORDER ACT IMPLICATIONS)

5.1 Due to a lack of semi-independent provision, there is a risk to providing suitable accommodation to care leavers who require extended support. Non engagers also present a risk as it is not possible to establish if they are in suitable accommodation.

6. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Has the equality impact been assessed?

Not needed (report does not contain proposals or financial decisions)

No

Yes – Equality Impact Assessment attached

Due regard should be given to the equality implications identified in the EIA.

7. LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS OTHER THAN PUBLISHED WORKS OR THOSE DISCLOSING CONFIDENTIAL OR EXEMPT INFORMATION

7.1 None

8. PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO IN COMPILING THIS REPORT

8.1 Children Act (1989)

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1989/41/section/23B>

8.2 The Care Leavers (England Regulations (2010)

http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2010/2571/pdfs/uksi_20102571_en.pdf

CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD - 21st July 2014

Title of paper:	LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN REVIEW PARTICIPATION	
Director(s)/ Corporate Director(s):	Alison Michalska – Corporate Director for Children & Adults Helen Blackman – Director for Children’s Social Care	Wards affected: ALL
Report author(s) and contact details:	Caroline Riley 0115 8764147 caroline.riley@nottinghamcity.gov.uk	
Other colleagues who have provided input:	Elise Darragh 0115 8764844	
Date of consultation with Portfolio Holder(s) (if relevant)	1st July 2014	
Relevant Council Plan Strategic Priority:		
Cutting unemployment by a quarter		<input type="checkbox"/>
Cut crime and anti-social behaviour		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ensure more school leavers get a job, training or further education than any other City		<input type="checkbox"/>
Your neighbourhood as clean as the City Centre		<input type="checkbox"/>
Help keep your energy bills down		<input type="checkbox"/>
Good access to public transport		<input type="checkbox"/>
Nottingham has a good mix of housing		<input type="checkbox"/>
Nottingham is a good place to do business, invest and create jobs		<input type="checkbox"/>
Nottingham offers a wide range of leisure activities, parks and sporting events		<input type="checkbox"/>
Support early intervention activities		<input type="checkbox"/>
Deliver effective, value for money services to our citizens		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Summary of issues (including benefits to citizens/service users):		
<p>The report sets out the current position in relation to the participation of children in their looked after reviews and notes that there continues to be improved performance and has assisted in children and young people having a voice in such processes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children and young people have been contacting their Independent Reviewing Officer [IRO] between meetings. • IROs have continued to speak with children and Young people before meetings • IROs, despite the impact of caseloads, have seen a few young people between meetings. • ‘Your IRO’ leaflet has been available for children and young people • There is IRO representation at the Children in Care Council. This offers an additional forum for children in care to share their experiences with an IRO and for this to be fed back to the team. • Policy and procedure developed with regard to young people classed as being in care by virtue of being remanded 		
Information is presented in relation to suggested ways for continued improvement in performance		
Recommendation(s):		
1	The Board are asked to note the current levels of performance in relation to children and young people participation	
2	The Board are asked to note the suggested improvements in relation to performance	

1. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

It is important for there to be continued performance in relation to participation, and creating and using other media to encourage this.

IRO caseloads have impacted upon the IROs ability to see the child between reviews – reduction in caseloads would ensure that the service became more IRO handbook compliant

2. BACKGROUND (INCLUDING OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION)

2.1 This report gives a detailed analysis in respect of the participation of Children in Care within their Looked After Reviews.

For the purpose of this report participation refers to the definition of PAF C63 which is:

‘ The number of children and young people (aged 4 years and above) who communicated their views specifically for each of their statutory reviews as a percentage of the number of children and young people who had been looked after at 31st March for more than 4 weeks (i.e. more than 28 days inclusive of 31st March)

2.2 There are a range of ways in which children and young people participate and they have a choice about these options.

Participation within the performance indicator covers this range:

- * Attended and spoke for self
- * Attended, conveyed views symbolically
- * Attended, views represented by advocate or IRO
- * Not attended, views represented by 3rd party
- * Not attended, written views conveyed

[see appendix 1 for a detailed breakdown]

2.3 In the report presented to Corporate Parenting Board dated 3rd June 2013 the following measures were proposed to be developed:

- Reduction in IRO caseloads so that they are compliant with statutory guidance. This will then allow IRO to see more children and young people between looked after reviews
- Distribution of ‘Your IRO leaflet’ to children and young people in care. A draft of this leaflet was raised with the Children in Care Council and their suggested amendments noted
- Development of protocols for young people remanded by youth justice courts within the Legal Aid, Sentencing Punishment of Offender Act 2012 resulting in this cohort of children being classed as children looked after.

2.4 Although two additional posts were added [recruited November 2013] demand has also increased. The recent Ofsted inspection report commented that the high caseloads limited the IROs capacity to use their independent challenge and to see children and young people between reviews. On 31st March there were 560 children in care, and 479 children subject to child protection plans.

In order to address this there has been a further increase in staffing capacity, which in turn has resulted in lower caseloads, allowing IROs the capacity to arrange to see children between reviews.

The purpose of visiting children is not only a statutory requirement but facilitates a good relationship and offers young people the chance to raise concerns

- 2.5 The 'Your IRO' leaflet has been shared with children and young people, particularly for older children when they first become accommodated.
- 2.6 There is a robust process in place for young people placed at YOI, including a detailed detention placement plan that focuses on assisting the young person to look at ways to prevent reoffending. One YOI commented on how useful the detention plan was and that not other local authority provided them with one.
- 2.7 In order to ensure continued improvement it was proposed that alongside the measures currently in place the following should also be developed:
- * Recruitment of staff to reduce caseloads
 - * Continue to develop ways to engage children and young people making use of other media
 - * Split functions within the IRO team, having IROs dedicated to looked after children and ensuring that the service is IRO compliant.
- 2.8 In order to ensure continued improvement it was proposed that alongside the measures currently in place the following should also be developed:
- * Further recruitment of staff to reduce caseloads
 - * Continue to develop ways to engage children and young people making use of other media
 - * Split functions within the IRO team, having IROs dedicated to looked after children and ensuring that the service is IRO Handbook compliant
- 2.9 The current percentage of young people participating in their review is higher than last year. 95.5% participated in 2013-14 compared to 92.6% in 2012-13.

3. OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED IN MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 None

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS (INCLUDING VALUE FOR MONEY/VAT)

- 4.1 Children's views in relation to their looked after plans are critical in ensuring delivery of the plan within an appropriate timeframe. This will prevent children from drifting within the care system leading to improved outcomes and increased value for money and ensures children experience services as meaningful.

5. RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES (INCLUDING LEGAL IMPLICATIONS AND CRIME AND DISORDER ACT IMPLICATIONS)

- 5.1 Participation of Children in Care in their care planning process ensures that the views of our most vulnerable children and young people are listened to. It also enables them to develop skills necessary to contribute to the wider community when they reach independence.

6. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Has the equality impact been assessed?

Not needed (report does not contain proposals or financial decisions)

No

Yes – Equality Impact Assessment attached

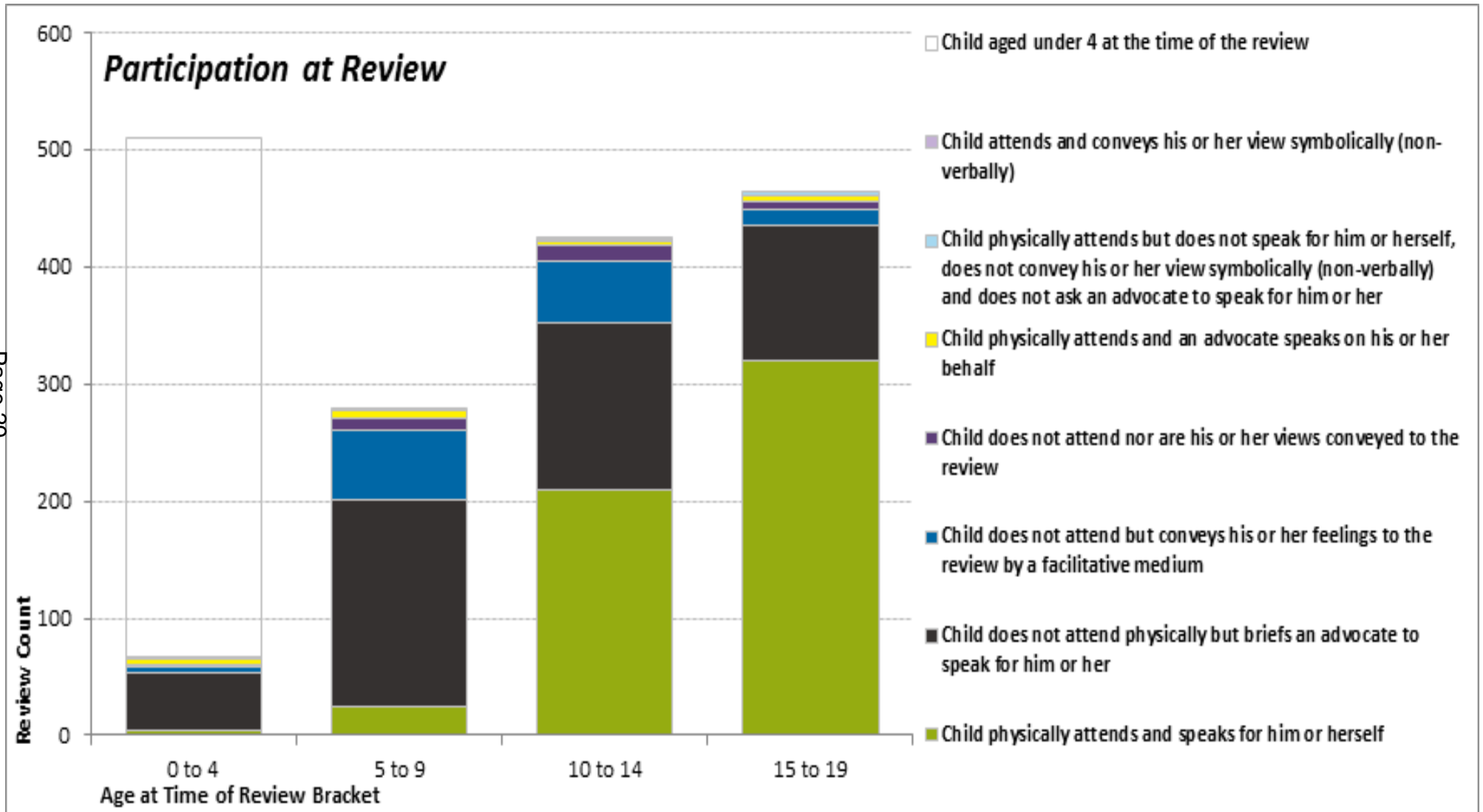
Due regard should be given to the equality implications identified in the EIA.

7. LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS OTHER THAN PUBLISHED WORKS OR THOSE DISCLOSING CONFIDENTIAL OR EXEMPT INFORMATION

7.1 None

8. PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO IN COMPILING THIS REPORT

8.1 None



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CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD – 21st July 2014

Title of paper:	PATHWAY PLANNING	
Director(s)/ Corporate Director(s):	Alison Michalska, Corporate Director Helen Blackman, Director – Children’s Social Care	Wards affected: All
Report author(s) and contact details:	Sharon Clarke, Service Manager - Children in Care (0115 8765032) Sharon.clarke@nottinghamcity.gov.uk	
Other colleagues who have provided input:	Lynn Pearce, Senior Personal Advisor (0115 8762464) Lynn.pearce@nottinghamcity.gov.uk Alan Monaghan, Senior Personal Advisor (0115 8762508) Alan.monaghan@nottinghamcity.gov.uk Treza Mann, Team Manager, (0115 8762503) Treza.mann@nottinghamcity.gov.uk Tina Thurley, Insight and Analysis (0115 8764846) Tina.thurley@nottinghamcity.gov.uk	
Date of consultation with Portfolio Holder(s) (if relevant)	1st July 2014	
Relevant Council Plan Strategic Priority:		
Cutting unemployment by a quarter		<input type="checkbox"/>
Cut crime and anti-social behaviour		<input type="checkbox"/>
Ensure more school leavers get a job, training or further education than any other City		<input type="checkbox"/>
Your neighbourhood as clean as the City Centre		<input type="checkbox"/>
Help keep your energy bills down		<input type="checkbox"/>
Good access to public transport		<input type="checkbox"/>
Nottingham has a good mix of housing		<input type="checkbox"/>
Nottingham is a good place to do business, invest and create jobs		<input type="checkbox"/>
Nottingham offers a wide range of leisure activities, parks and sporting events		<input type="checkbox"/>
Support early intervention activities		<input type="checkbox"/>
Deliver effective, value for money services to our citizens		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Summary of issues (including benefits to citizens/service users):		
<p>This report includes the current issues in respect of the legislative duties required by Nottingham City Council. It focuses on the work required by social workers and the Personal Advisors in terms of the complexity of Pathway Planning and the importance of ensuring all young people have a robust quality Pathway Plan to ensure a smooth transition into adulthood.</p>		
Recommendation(s):		
1	The Board to continue to support and understand the required duties in respect of Pathway Planning.	

1. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1.1 Nottingham City has a legislative duty to ensure all young people have a Pathway Plan that is recorded on the child's case file.
- 1.2 Recent Peer Review/Ofsted Inspection have highlighted the need for Nottingham City Council to provide a specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and timely plan that can better evidence outcomes for young people than the current document provides.

2. BACKGROUND (INCLUDING OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION)

- 2.1 In April 2011, new guidance was issued by Government to Local Authorities and Agencies who provided services to Care Leavers (The Children Act, 1989, Vol 3: Planning Transition to Adulthood for Care Leavers). The guidance has been updated (May 20th 2014). The updated guidance gives further duties to Local Authorities to advise, assist and support the young person and foster carer when they wish to stay living together after the young person reaches their 18th birthday.

The updated Transitions guidance also includes a new section related to access to records, and expanded guidance on Personal Advisors' role with young people who are not sure what course or training they may wish to take. "Young people do not need to have decided what education or training they would like to pursue. They can get in touch if they are wanting to pursue education or training and in such cases, the Personal Advisor should help the young person identify the best options suited to them" (3.56).

Authorities should also provide support to those young people who are experiencing 'practical or emotional difficulties' that are preventing them from entering education or training.

- 2.2 The main aims of these Regulations / Guidance is to ensure Care Leavers are provided with comprehensive personal support so that they can achieve their potential as they make their transition into adulthood.
- 2.3 Transition to adulthood can be a turbulent time and for many young adults, their transition to adulthood can be extended until they are emotionally and / or financially ready. However, young people from Care may not have this option, therefore, as corporate parents, responsible Authorities should provide support to Care Leavers in the same way reasonable parents provide support for their own children.
- 2.4 It is the responsibility of the Local Authority to prepare / review Pathway Plans and support Care Leavers as they make their transition to adulthood. This applies irrespective of any other services provided, e.g. if they are disabled, in custody or are an Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Child (UASC).
- 2.5 The Act requires that a Pathway Plan must be prepared for all eligible children and continued for all relevant and former relevant children. Each young person's Pathway Plan is derived from their Care Plan and sets out the actions to be taken by the Local Authority, the young person, their carers and the full range of agencies,

so that each young person is provided with the services they need to enable them to achieve their aspirations and make a successful transition to adulthood.

2.6 The new Pathway Plan proposed addresses the requirements of the Act:

- Young person's health and development (we aim to ensure young people, when they leave care, have a full medical history).
- Education, Training and Employment.
- Contact / Support networks.
- The young person's financial capabilities and money-management capacity.
- Young person's views.
- Input from parent / carers, providers of Housing, Independent Visitor, Personal Advisor, Health, Education, IRO.

The new Pathway Plan was presented to the Children in Care Council on the 2nd June 2014. It received positive feedback from the young people who felt it contained clear targets. The new plan is still under development and (at the time of this report) is being reviewed by the Authority's legal team in order to ensure it is compliant with relevant legislation.

2.7 Nottingham City Council employs a dedicated Transitions Worker to work with young people, Adult Services, Carers, Social Workers and Personal Advisors to input into Pathway Planning for those young people presenting as requiring Adult Services to ensure a smooth transition and pathway. Nottingham City's Disabled Children's Team retain responsibility for formulating Pathway Planning for the young people they care-manage.

2.8 Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children have both a 'leaving care' status and an immigration status, therefore, Pathway Planning is complex and challenging. This requires a triple planning model (Wade, Mitchell, Bayliss) that includes plans for staying in the UK, plans for those young people who have been refused permission to remain and those who may choose to return to their country of origin. Multi-dimensional pathway planning for these young people needs to be flexible and realistic. Local Authorities are responsible for UASC post-19 who are in appeal. This includes allocation of a Personal Advisor, accommodation, financial support.

2.9 From December 2012, Local Authorities have been responsible for those young people facing custodial sentences (Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders (LASPO) Act 2012.) The LASPO extends Looked After status to all young people remanded into custody. Therefore, once eligible, there is an expectation Pathway Planning commences for these young people.

Between the 1st April 2012 and the 31st March 2013, over 30 young people were remanded, with the majority of them becoming eligible for Care Leaver Services.

2.10 All young people eligible for a Pathway Plan must be allocated a Personal Advisor (PA). These are not qualified workers but have to possess the necessary skills and expertise to work with young people leaving care. Regulation 8 of the Care Leavers Regulations sets out the function of a PA. These include providing information and support in relation to finances, housing, health, education, training and employment.

PAs are the key professional for coordinating Care Leaver support. All young people will have an allocated PA until the age of twenty-one or twenty-four and beyond if in full-time education.

- 2.11 In 2013, Nottingham City Council introduced a Life Skills Programme to promote semi-independence skills in an evidenced way for all young people. The booklet has been introduced to foster carers, residential staff both internally and externally placed.

Placement Services are looking to introduce this as part of Contracts to providers.

The feedback received has been very positive, both from carers and young people, but there remains further work to be done to strongly embed this as part of the practice for professionals working with young people.

- 2.12 Performance in respect of Pathway Plans has been a challenge. However, within the last six months, there has been increased performance in all key areas. Report (12th May) states; **83.8% eligible young people had compliant Pathway Plan and 99% of Care Leavers have compliant plan.**

3. OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED IN MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS

None

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS (INCLUDING VALUE FOR MONEY/VAT)

None

5. RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES (INCLUDING LEGAL IMPLICATIONS AND CRIME AND DISORDER ACT IMPLICATIONS)

- 5.1 The implementation of the Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders (LASPO) Act 2012 which came into force December 2012, has had an impact on placements, resources and Pathway Planning. Nottingham City Council has introduced a protocol to ensure services are delivered in a timely, efficient way to ensure young people receive a service relevant to their need.

6. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Has the equality impact been assessed?

Not needed (report does not contain proposals or financial decisions)

No

This report does not include proposals for new or changing policies, services or functions.

Yes – Equality Impact Assessment attached

Due regard should be given to the equality implications identified in the EIA.

7. LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS OTHER THAN PUBLISHED WORKS OR THOSE DISCLOSING CONFIDENTIAL OR EXEMPT INFORMATION

7.1 None

8. PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO IN COMPILING THIS REPORT

8.1 The Children Act 1989, Volume 3: Planning Transition to Adulthood for Care Leavers.

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Children in Care Outcome Group and Corporate Parenting Board

Reporting Schedule 2014 - 2015

Report (Corresponding Strategic Priority Statement (SPS))	Corporate Parenting Board
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Fostering and Adoption Panel Chairs Report ▪ Have Your Say 2013 Results Summary (3) ▪ Performance Report (Q3 and Q4 2013/14) ▪ Children in Care Council (Verbal Update) 	19 th May 2014
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pathway Planning (3) ▪ Suitable Accommodation of Care Leavers (5) ▪ Looked After Child Review Participation (3) ▪ Emotional Health (1) ▪ Children in Care Council (Verbal Update) 	21 st July 2014
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Educational Attainment of Children in Care (4) ▪ RISE Programme (4) ▪ Activity of the Employability, Education and Training Focus Group (4) ▪ Advocacy and Independent Visitors (3) ▪ Children in Care Council (verbal Update) 	15 th September 2014
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Children in Care Placements – Commissioning and Sufficiency Strategy ▪ Fostering and Adoption Panel Chairs Update ▪ Adoption and Permanency (2) ▪ Performance Report (Q1 and Q2 2014/15) ▪ Children in Care Council (Verbal Update) 	17 th November 2014
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Physical Health (1) ▪ Child Sexual Exploitation and Grooming (1) ▪ Reducing Offending Behaviour (6) ▪ Children in Care Council (Verbal Update) 	19 th January 2015
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Regulation 33 Visits ▪ Edge of Provision ▪ Children in Care and Care Leavers Strategy Progress Update ▪ Children in Care Council (Verbal Update) 	16 th March 2015

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