



NOTTINGHAM CITY COUNCIL
CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD

Date: Monday, 1 June 2015

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

Acting Corporate Director for Resources

Governance Officer: Tanith Davis **Direct Dial:** 0115 8765036

AGENDA

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Report of Corporate Director of Children and Adults

IF YOU NEED ANY ADVICE ON DECLARING AN INTEREST IN ANY ITEM ON THE AGENDA, PLEASE CONTACT THE GOVERNANCE 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

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NOTTINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD

MINUTES of the meeting held at LB31-32 - Loxley House, Station Street, Nottingham, NG2 3NG on 16 March 2015 from 14.30 - 15.26

Membership

Present

Councillor David Mellen (Chair)
Councillor Glyn Jenkins
Councillor Sally Longford
Councillor Eileen Morley
Councillor Jackie Morris
Councillor Wendy Smith
Councillor Marcia Watson

Absent

Councillor Georgina Culley
Councillor Ginny Klein

Colleagues, partners and others in attendance:

Helen Blackman	- Director of Director for Vulnerable Children and Families & Children's Social Care
Nicola Robinson	- Acting Team Manager – Edge of Care Hub
Kay Sutt	- Service Manager of Residential and Targeted Support
Clive Chambers	- Head of Safeguarding and Quality Assurance
Dr Emma Fillmore	- Designated Doctor, Children in Care, NHS
Evonne Rogers	- Head of Business Support
BB	- Foster Carer
Malcolm Wilson	- Advisor for Vulnerable Groups
Kwesi Williams	- Project Officer, Children in Care
Steve Comb	- Head of Children in Care
Tanith Davis	- Governance Officer

48 APOLOGIES

Councillor Ginny Klein	
Councillor Georgina Culley	
Heidi Watson	- Business Development Director
Gill Moy	- Director of Housing
Elise Ashworth	- Insight Manager
TM	- Foster Carer
Amanda Edmonds	- Designated Nurse for Children in Care and Adoption

49 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

None.

50 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 19 January 2015 were confirmed and signed by the Chair of the meeting.

Once the minutes were agreed, Councillor David Mellen thanked Councillor Eileen Morley for her contribution to the Corporate Parenting Board over the last four years.

51 EDGE OF CARE PROVISION

Kay Sutt (Service Manager, Residential and Targeted Support) and Nicola Robinson (Acting Team Manager, Edge of Care Hub) presented this report to the board. The following points were highlighted:

- a) the Priority Families Edge of Care Hub diverts children and families away from care proceedings through intensive, whole family interventions;
- b) the Edge of Care Hub benefits citizens and service users by building resilience within families, and where safe and possible, preventing family breakdown;
- c) this financial year:
 - 1) 33 families have been supported;
 - 2) 10 children have been accommodated;
 - 3) 17 cases have been closed with no further involvement from social care. All 17 cases were subject to Child Protection Plans;
 - 4) more than £900,000 budget relief has been achieved this financial year;
 - 5) Big Ticket target of £400,000 budget relief;
 - 6) the current staffing cost is £200,000 per annum.
- d) the Edge of Care Hub supports families with multiple complex issues such as domestic violence, substance misuse, poor parental mental health, poor school attendance and worklessness;
- e) the Edge of Care Hub is funded from the Priority Families Grant until March 2016. Further funding has been provisionally agreed until 2020, pending government confirmation of future grant monies;
- f) further information was provided on this matter, following the questions which were raised:
 - 1) a table in the full report shows the number of presenting issues in families per ward. There are 16 sub categories ranging from school attendance to anti social behaviour;
 - 2) the sub category labelled as 'other' for Bilborough Ward contains 23 issues and these include issues such as children at risk of sexual exploitation;
 - 3) the Priority Families Team are looking at adding more issues to the sub category list;
 - 4) the referrals to the Edge of Care Hub can come through the Duty Team. The referrals system filters the children, so they can access the most appropriate service/s. This provides the children with suitable support for their needs;
 - 5) the Edge of Care Hub identifies risks and works with other partners such as the Children and Adolescence Mental Health Service (CAMHS), to support children in care and care leavers;
 - 6) young people have the opportunity to work through aspirations and to work towards long term changes;
 - 7) tools are used to help identify those children who may need further support and individual counselling sessions are available;
 - 8) child to adult data is correlated to show to the outcomes for children in care, later on in life.

RESOLVED to note:

- (i) the service being provided by the Edge of Care Hub and to acknowledge the benefits offered to by its existence;**
- (ii) that Panel members have requested for a future discussion on children in care and mental health issues, to see how these are measured;**
- (iii) that Councillors can observe the Edge of Care Panel, if they wish to gain more of a insight;**
- (iv) that further information will be provided to Councillor Wendy Smith and Councillor Marcia Watson, in relation to the 23 issues reported for Bilborough ward and listed as 'other'.**

52 CHILDREN IN CARE COUNCIL

This item has been deferred to the meeting to be held on 1 June 2015.

53 HEALTH - CHILDREN IN CARE

Dr Emma Fillmore (Designated Doctor, Children in Care) delivered this report to the board.

- a) the physical and emotional health of children in care has been shown to be worse than that of those children living with their birth families;
- b) various factors can contribute to this such as poverty, poor parenting, physical/sexual abuse and neglect;
- c) the Statutory Guidance on Promoting the Health and Well-Being of Looked After Children aims to ensure that all children and young people who are looked after are physically, mentally, emotionally and sexually healthy, that they will not take illegal drugs and that they will enjoy healthy lifestyles;
- d) Health Partnerships (HP) and Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust are the providers of the Children in Care and Adoption Health Team Service. This specialist team includes doctors and nurses;
- e) each child or young person must have a health assessment on entering the care of the local authority;
- f) the Initial Health Assessment (IHA) should take place within 28 days of the child/young person entering care;
- g) the Review Health Assessments (RHA) are completed twice a year for children under the age of 5 years and annually, for children over the age of 5 years;
- h) health assessments form part of the care plan and are shared with carers, social workers and the child/young person;
- i) the number of children in care assessed within 28 days has increased from 31% to 93.4%;
- j) an increase has also been seen in the number of children in care registered with a dentist. This has risen from 71.2% to 81.1%;
- k) the number of children in care registered with a GP has increased slightly from 98.6% to 98.8%;

- l) there is a national childhood immunisation programme which all children are expected to complete and outstanding immunisations are identified in the health care plan for the child;
- m) a range of activities which promote the health of children and young people in care are undertaken wherever they are placed and helps to identify the best action to take for each individual child;
- n) Clinical Nurse Specialists are piloting a 'Health Passport' for care leavers. The Health Passport provides young people with information about their own health and if possible, family health history.

Further information was provided following questions which were raised:

- (i) the term sexually healthy in paragraph 2.3 of the full report can be amended to show that children in care are also sexually informed;
 - (ii) the dramatic increase in children in care having their Initial Health Assessment is due to an increase in funding;
 - (iii) the statistics for the Initial Health Assessments vary with locality. Different areas may have less/more resources or a different operating structure to Nottingham City. The differences are mapped and all other options considered before sending a child out of the area for a Initial Health Assessment.
- o) work needs to be undertaken to increase the number of children in care registering with dentists. Dental surgeries need to ensure that they are making children in care a priority;
 - p) Community Dentists provide a very useful service, but it can take a long time to access this.
 - q) BB (Foster Carer) advised that the children in her care had received a fantastic service when the Initial Health Assessments were undertaken. However, it can take a long time to access services provided by CAMHS.

RESOLVED to:

- (i) **note the performance on the Children in Care and Adoption Health Team;**
- (ii) **note improvement in performance with additional City funding;**
- (iii) **support the development of a Leaving Care/Transition Nurse post within the health team to align with social care for this group of young people.**

54 CHILDREN IN CARE AND CARE LEAVERS STRATEGY PROGRESS UPDATE

Kwesi Williams (Project Officer for Children in Care) presented this report to the board and outlined the following points:

- a) in March 2014, the Corporate Parenting Board approved the 'Children in Care and Care Leavers Strategy 2014 – 2016: Valuing the Future of Children in

Care and Care Leavers' and accepted six Strategic Priority Statements (SPS's);

- b) 25 new actions were identified under the 6 SPS's. Each action had a deadline for completion over a two year strategy period;
- c) of these new actions, 22 had a deadline of the end of December 2014 or before. 17 of these actions have been completed, 15 of which were completed by the set deadline.
- d) work is currently being undertaken to complete the remaining 8 activities, with particular focus being placed on carrying the 5 activities out of timescale:
 - 1) the substance misuse support service has been re-commissioned. Work is to be undertaken to ensure all staff and primary carers are aware of the early intervention service, available to those at risk of substance misuse;
 - 2) work is required regarding the identification of ways in which young people can be prepared for healthy relationships;
 - 3) work is being undertaken to determine if there is a need for a parenting programmes specific to care leavers;
 - 4) the incorporation of Personal Education Plans into the current case management system, Carefirst, has been delayed. This is due to work being taken to implement a new case management system;
 - 5) a schedule of future Safeguarding Children in Care events has not yet been approved. An event has been held and provided the attendees with relevant information. The event allowed ideas to be shared on how best to reduce the offending behaviour of children in care.

Further information was provided following questions raised:

- e) meetings to report on the Strategic Priority Statement's (SPS) are held every two months;
- f) the model which is used allows updates to be provided on areas which are not doing very well. The items presented at Corporate parenting board have been loosely based on the SPS's.

RESOLVED to note:

- (i) the progress made in fulfilling the 2014 – 2016 children in care and care leavers Strategic Priority Statements.**

55 FUTURE MEETING DATES

The provisional dates for future meetings have been noted.

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CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD – 1st June 2015

Title of paper:	Regulation 44 Visits (formerly regulation 33) Nottingham city council internal children’s residential homes including short breaks unit. Quality assurance visits of non regulated internal semi-independent homes.	
Director(s)/ Corporate Director(s):	Helen Blackman, Director – Children's Social Care, Vulnerable Children and Families. Helen.Blackman@nottinghamcity.gov.uk	Wards affected: All
Report author(s) and contact details:	Kay Sutt, Service Manager, Residential and Targeted Support, 0115 8765667, kay.sutt@nottinghamcity.gov.uk	
Other colleagues who have provided input:	N/A	
Date of consultation with Portfolio Holder(s) (if relevant)	13 May 2015	

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 checked="" 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):

Regulation 44 (formerly regulation 33) of The Children’s Home (England) Regulations, 2015 require monthly visits to be completed to all children’s homes and units run by a local authority or independent registered children’s home provider by a person referred to as a Reg 44 visitor previously known as a Reg 33 visitor not employed at the home nor directly responsible for it.

The visitor must compile a written report of their findings, which must be submitted to the Registered Responsible provider and ofsted within 4 weeks of completion of the visit.

The purpose of the regulation 44 visits is to ensure that all the children and young people within the placement are being appropriately cared for and that their individual assessed needs are being met in line with their care plans and (England) Regulations and standards 2015.

This is achieved through a combination of:

- a) Examination of all appropriate written records and reports with particular reference to daily logs, significant event and notifiable incidents including any complaints or compliments received. Before an inspector can read a child or young person’s file they must have written or verbal consent from the child or young person themselves. In the case of a child or young person with complex disabilities where communication is not possible permission must be sought from parents/carers.

b) Interview children/young people, parents, relatives other professionals and staff as they feel necessary to establish the standard of care being provided.

The independent person must produce a report about a visit and form an opinion as to whether the children/young people are effectively safeguarded and the conduct of the home promotes children's wellbeing.

The independent persons report may recommend actions for the registered manager to take in order to improve the general running of the home.

Members of the Corporate Parenting Board and other relevant professionals including colleagues from human resources, Nottingham city homes, placements service and our internal commissioning team are included on the Rota managed by the Service Manager.

In April of last year Nottingham City council's semi-independent children's home was de-registered with ofsted in order to provide a more tailored and relevant service to young people leaving care. The unprecedented move included the opening of a further 3 bed semi-independent home for care leavers. This also served as a considerable cost saving to the council. It involved close partnership working with Nottingham city homes which has culminated in the council being able to offer value for money and a less expensive alternative to private provision. Since the home was de-registered outcomes for young people have continued to improve in general and young people have successfully been prepared to move into accommodation of their own. The project has been so successful that in October of last year Nottingham City Council and Nottingham City Homes won the Chartered Institute of Housing's Innovation of the Year Award for their partnership working in working together in providing excellent accommodation and vital support to vulnerable young people at a critical stage in their lives. Again in April of this year MJ Awards judges commended the project for its innovation in social care. More recently a journalist from Community Care contacted Nottingham City Council as they were so interested in what the city had achieved through their partnership working with Nottingham City Homes in terms of the accommodation for children and care leavers that they intend to publish an article in the near future.

In April of this year managers from our internal residential service received training in order to carry out monthly quality assurance visits on all four of the councils semi-independent homes, the aim being to further improve the service as well as ensure that the accommodation for our care leavers is of the highest quality and standard and that sufficient safeguards are in place and suitable for the young peoples needs. During their quality assurance visits Managers will check running records, health and safety compliance, reports, pathway plans as well as speaking to young people, social workers, parents/carers and personal advisors to ensure that they are receiving a good, safe and appropriate service. The visitor will also check the fabric and decor of the buildings and homes to ensure that they continue to be of good and excellent quality. Once the visit is concluded a report will be produced by the visitor and will be passed to the Service Manager for Residential and Targeted Support and Head of Service for Children in Care to scrutinize and ensure that they are being run as efficiently and effectively as possible and that the homes are operating to a good and safe standard. The report will also go to the managers of the semi-independent homes as visitors can and will make recommendations for further improvement as well as commend what is working well.

For private providers of semi-independent accommodation for Nottingham city care leavers our internal placement service carries out quality assurance and compliance visits.

Recommendation(s):

1	To support continued involvement and recruitment of relevant independent professionals
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	undertaking Regulation 44 visits and to welcome member's involvement in quality assurance visits of unregulated semi-independent homes for care leavers.
2	Corporate Parenting Board to continue to receive regular updates in respect of outcomes of visits.

1.1 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

Due to the nature of the provision it is imperative that the service is scrutinised independently to ensure it is delivering cost-effective services and improving outcomes for Children in Care. People carrying out Regulation 44 and quality assurance visits on our semi-independent homes can make recommendations to improve practice as well as ensuring in our regulated children's homes that 2015 regulations and standards are being adhered to and that children are effectively safeguarded and that the homes are conducted in a way that promotes their well being.

Since April 2011 Regulation 33 Visits have been undertaken in all the Children's Homes within Nottingham city's internal Residential provision.

In the last three months Reg 33 and 44 Visitors have identified recent performance issues such as:

Various documents needing to be updated and signed by staff, refreshers for staff in training for food hygiene and first aid, all staff needing to have internet/computer awareness training, staff to be more creative in encouraging young people to pursue hobbies and interests and various paperwork needing to be updated.

Each visitor formulates an Action Plan which is completed by the Registered Manager and checked by the visitor on the next visit. Recommendations/Action plans have continued to be varied due to having a good mix of visitors who are from different professional backgrounds which has continued to serve to improve how each of the homes operate.

Ofsted look closely at reg 33/44 reports and use the content during their inspections to check that action plans have been addressed by the Registered Manager and staff team. Ofsted continue to be rigorous with their ofsted ratings. This April has seen the launch of the new standards and regulations which aims to further drive and support improvement and raise expectations by setting even higher standards of performance and effectiveness of children's homes as well as provide a sharp challenge and incentive to act where improvement is needed.

Currently Nottingham City council runs 7 registered homes which include a short breaks unit. Ofsted have rated one of our homes as outstanding, three as Good with Outstanding features, two as Good and one as Adequate which we are working hard to get to Good.

The Reports continue to be very positive with 33/44 visitors describing the Homes as generally small and cosy, well maintained, nicely decorated with a very homely feel. Staff in the homes are described by the visitors as offering young people personal and individual care and of acknowledging young people's interests and identifying ways for them to further pursue those interests to build upon their potential.

One visitor wrote "there seems to be a relaxed and honest dynamic in the home where the

children's views are actively sought. Sanctions are not frequently used; the staff try to use alternative interventions through key work sessions, motivational methods and placing appropriate responsibilities back on the children for the management of their own behaviour".

Another visitor in their report wrote "it is evident that the staff do try to ensure that the young people are able to contribute to the running of the home and aspects that impact them on a daily basis". Another visitor wrote "From my perspective I think the young people within the home are safe and well and they have a team of workers that want the best possible outcomes for them. They continually celebrate their achievements to assist in the increase of their self esteem".

Reg 33/44 visitors as part of their role contact parents/carers, relatives and social workers for their views on the care their child is receiving from the home or short breaks unit. Parents on the whole are very complimentary about the care their child receives. One parent whose child accesses the short breaks service told the reg 33 visitor that she was happy with the quality of outcomes for her disabled child. The same inspector observed strong relationships between staff and parents.

A grandparent whose child was in a long term home recently told an inspector that her granddaughter on the whole was pretty impressed with the staff at the home, finding them to be very helpful and communicative and feels they are doing their best in sometimes unsettling circumstances.

One social worker told a visitor "the care and support given to the young person I work with is excellent, the staff maintain regular contact with them, giving regular updates. They support her cultural/emotional needs. They are very nurturing and constantly trying to safeguard her".

Young people too are very complimentary about the care they receive in the homes with hardly any complaints. Young people when asked by the inspectors say they feel that the staff care and have been responsive, helpful and attentive to their needs. Young people generally feel well supported by the staff. Often young people say they don't want to ever leave the children's homes. Some children say that although they like living in the homes their hearts are set on returning back home to their parent/parents. They are also aware of how to make a complaint should they not be happy about anything and have access to an independent advocate.

Managers receive regular supervision and Operational Management meetings take place on a monthly basis with Development days taking place quarterly where any current issues or relevant themes/ongoing issues are raised and discussed. The management team within residential have a vision for the next 12 months and beyond for both their individual homes and the Residential Service as a whole. As a team they are united in their strong and passionate vision to further raise the standards of care they offer to the city's most vulnerable children and young people.

The levels of missing young people continues to fluctuate in the two short term homes depending on the young people placed. The long term homes generally have very few missings as young people are more settled. Each home has an individual policy on steps to take to prevent young people from going missing in the first place in line with the children's homes amended Regulations which came into force in January 2014.

Young people's access to Education and Employment is improving all of which is recorded in the Regulation 33/44 Reports. The majority of our young people in our semi-independence homes and long term homes are in some form of work or education.

Staff continue to work very closely with the virtual head in supporting our children and young people in school and ensuring that educational packages are put in place for those children who don't currently have a school placement. Staff have high aspirations for the children and young people and achievements are celebrated as a matter of high priority. In September of last year the City Council held an awards ceremony in which most of our young people attended and received a certificate of achievement for which they were extremely proud.

2. BACKGROUND (INCLUDING OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION)

Residential services since April 2011 have been re-configured into a Small Group Homes Model which is an umbrella term. The specifics are set out below:

There are 10 settled beds in 4 Children's Homes including a 4 bed home for children and young people with complex disabilities, 7 Emergency beds over 2 homes in the Bestwood area and an increase from 12 to 16 Semi-Independence beds within the last year (6 Sherwood Rise, 4 and 3 and 3 in NCC 3 transition houses in the NG7 area). Our Short Breaks Unit continues to offer 11 beds for children and young people with disabilities.

Regulation visits and quality assurance visits are an important quality assurance process and also serve as a safeguarding measure for children in care and care leavers. They are able to inform practice and performance and ensure young people have access to someone independent, should they need to complain or disclose information about the care and service they are receiving.

Regulation 33/44 visits are also a legislative requirement and completed reports are sent to Ofsted on a monthly basis. Reports will also be sent to the social worker or to the team manager of a child who lives in the home.

Quality assurance reports are sent to the Service Manager, Service Head and the managers of the semi independent homes to aid scrutiny for further development and improvements.

3. OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED IN MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS

None Required.

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

The re-configuration of Children's Residential continues to be cost effective for the City Council. Internal beds remain cost effective currently in line with or lower than external provision. Also the increase in internal beds prevents some young people from being placed outside of the city as it is good practice wherever possible to keep children and young people near their family, friends, school/ college and within the city they have grown up in and are familiar with.

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

Regulation 33/44 reports include legislative requirements (amended to meet new regulations and Standards, April 20015)

Record and capture information in relation to young peoples offending and anti-social behaviours.

They also report as to whether young peoples cultural and diversity needs are being met within their identified Care Plan.

6. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Has the equality impact been assessed?

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

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

N/A

8. PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO IN COMPILING THIS REPORT

N/A

CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD – PERFORMANCE REPORT

CONTEXT

The purpose of this report is to provide the Board with the most up to date performance overview in relation to Children in Care and to highlight results from October 2014 to March 2015.

PERFORMANCE SUMMARY

From 1st April 2014, a new set of performance measures and outcomes have been reported. These measures are in line with Statutory and Inspection requirements. Where appropriate both numbers and percentages have been given to help provide context. The data for March 2015 and Year To Date (YTD) figures should be treated as indicative until the statutory returns are signed-off and submitted to the DfE (Department for Education). Any revisions will be updated following submission.

Whilst performance in many areas has improved, significant focus is being placed on areas where performance is weaker. Robust action plans, monitored by senior management, are being implemented to drive performance improvements.

PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Reference	Indicator	Statistical Neighbour Average	Target 14/15	Out-turn 13/14	Oct 14	Nov 14	Dec 14	Q3	Jan 15	Feb 15	Mar 15	Q4	YTD	Raw numbers	Service commentary
CC-1 (E)	Number of children in care (as at) (rate per 10,000)	765 (92.9)	575 (90)	584 (93)	587 (91.9)	601 (94.1)	582 (91.1)		583 (91.3)	569 (89.1)	575 (90)		575 (90)	575	Demand for Social Care services remains high with a significant number of requests for children to become Looked After by Nottingham City. Performance is better than our statistical neighbours and meets our target of 90 per 10,000 population. The new monthly looked after children analysis meeting will provide further focus of our looked after children cohort.
CC - 1a (E)	The number of children discharged as a result of a Permanent Outcome (SGO/Residence Order/Adoption Order)	72	75	85	11	5	14	30	15	9	11	35	118	118	<p>Performance for this indicator has been good. The target set has been surpassed, there has been a marked improvement on performance for the previous year and the number of children discharged from care as a result of a permanent outcome is higher than the Statistical Neighbour Average.</p> <p>We have been able to achieve this significant number of Adoption and Special Guardianship numbers due to the resources available through the Adoption Reform Grant (ARG). The grant enabled additional recruitment of staff to progress Adoption Plans. This additional staff included a further two Adoption Placement Advisors, Fast-track Social Workers, Customer Service Officers, a Marketing Officer and other personnel who have made it possible to discharge this high number of children.</p> <p>Funds ceased to be available through the ARG after the 31 March 2015, as too did the posts attached to the funding. It is anticipated that performance will be affected as a result of the reduction in resources.</p>
CC-8 (NI62)	The percentage of Children in Care that have had three or more placement moves in the previous 12 months	11.1%	11.5%	13.0%				12.3 %				10.5%		61 of 581	<p>Our performance at the end of quarter 4 is good. This is represented by a 2.5% reduction in the number of children who experienced three or more moves in the last 12 months when compared to the 2013/14 out-turn. On average our performance was better than our Statistical Neighbours with 0.6% less children experiencing three or more placement moves. We surpassed our target for 2014/15.</p> <p>Factors that have contributed to our performance include training and support available to foster carers and improved placement matching.</p>
CC-9 (NI63)	The percentage of Children in Care who have lived in the same placement for at least 2 years	66%	66%	63%	63.6%	64.7%	67.1%		65.1%	67.3%	65.9%		65.9%	114 of 173	<p>Our end of year performance was in line with the Statistical Neighbour Average, on target and showed an improvement on performance when compared to the previous year, with 2.9% more children experiencing two or more years in the same placement.</p> <p>Factors that impact on our performance remain complex and include:</p>

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															<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Positive placement moves associated with the de-escalation of our most complex children in care i.e. the movement of children from placements offering intensive care packages to more mainstream placements. - Positive placement moves associated with children moving into adoption placements and other permanency options. - Positive placement moves associated with children moving back to their birth families for example connected persons. - There is limited availability across all placement type which at restricts choice and matching sometime leads to a placement move. - Moves which are part of the child's Care Plan, for example children moving from an assessment unit to a settled care bed within the same provider.
CC-10 (R)	The percentage of Children in Care reviewed within the appropriate timescale	Not published	97%	97.6%	97.4%	97.4%	97.1%	96.6 %	96.9%	97.5%	97.6%	98.7%	97.6%	1826 of 1870	A 2.1% increase in the number of children reviewed within the appropriate timeframe was recorded for the last quarter of the 2014/15 financial year. This brought our YTD performance slightly above target (by 0.6%) and on par with our 2013/14 performance.
CC-11 (R)	The percentage of reviews where the child participated	Not published	90%	95.5%	91.3%	91.3%	92.2%	95.4 %	92.8%	93.9%	94.1%	94.2%	94.1%	1377 of 1464	Performance for 2014/15 is (4.1%) above our target of 90%. There has been a minor (1.4%) drop in performance when compared to the previous year. Work is underway to ensure Independent Reviewing Officers meet with all children prior to reviews as this offers a participation opportunity.
CC-12 (E)	The percentage of Children in Care with an up-to-date health assessment	Not published	85%	71.8%	84.5%	83.6%	82.3%		85.9%	86.5%	85.9%		85.9%	446 of 519	Robust arrangements with our health partners, coupled with the improved input from administrative / business support colleagues have enabled an increased number of Health Assessments to be undertaken in timescale. We still face challenges in Health Assessments being undertaken when children are placed out of the local authority. Address this issue will remain a focus during 2015/16.
CC-13 (E)	The percentage of Children in Care with up-to-date dental checks	Not published	90%	82.5%	88.3%	86.4%	83.0%		81.9%	75.4%	76.5%		76.5%	397 of 519	While the number of children in care registered with a dentist increased by 12.2% from quarter 1 to the quarter 4 12.2% (to 83.4%). There has been a fall of 6% in the percentage of children with up-to-date dental checks. Colleagues in health are working towards embedding a recall system. This will involve follow up activities being initiate by health care professional where it has been established that a young person is not registered and/or does not have an up-to-date dental check. Follow up activities may include contact being with the primary carer who will be instructed to undertake remedial action within a specified timeframe.
Page 16 CC-14 (E)	The percentage of Children in Care with an up-to-date Strength and Difficulties Questionnaire (SDQ)	Not published	85%	84.1%	73.2%	73.9%	69.1%		67.2%	72.0%	75.1%		70.8%	262 of 370	Improving the quality and number of up-to-date SDQs is a priority for 2015/16. Following our participation in the national NSPCC project that focuses on the emotional well-being of children in care, strategies using SDQ scores to measure outcomes are to be embedded. Strategies will drive performance in this area.
CC-30 (R)	The percentage of applicable (Eligible, Relevant and Former relevant) young people with a Pathway Plan started within the last 6 months.	Not published	97%	New measure from Sept 2014	74.4%	74.5%	67.9%		71.1%	78.3%	84.1%		84.1%	281 of 334	Over the last quarter of 2014/15, we continued to improve our performance in relation to the number of young people with a Pathway Plan started. This has coincided with the introduction of the e-Pathway Plan. The focus remains on improving performance so that targets can be met (or surpassed). Our focus is also to ensure quality by the production Pathway Plans (for Eligible young people) at Looked After Children Reviews to be quality assured.
CC-31(R)	The percentage of applicable (Eligible, Relevant and Former relevant) young people with a Pathway Plan completed/authorised in the preceding 6 months	Not published	97%	New measure from Sept 2014	54.5%	55.3%	55.7%		55.9%	57.5%	62.9%		62.9%	210 of 334	Although we saw a steady increase in performance over the last quarter of 2014/15, this area of work requires significant attention in order to improve performance and reach set targets. It is anticipated that the introduction of monthly monitoring and the new Pathway Plan Tracker will help managers better drive performance and ensure plans are completed in a timely way.

CC-25 (E)	The percentage of Children in Care with a completed Personal Education Plan (PEP)	Not published	95%	93%	95.0%	92.0%	93.0%		93.0%	93.0%	95.0%		95.0%	324 of 347	The YTD figure shows that performance was on target and represented a 2% increase on our performance in 2013/14. Our aim is to ensure the quality of information recorded improves into better drive attainment.	
CC-29 (R)	The percentage of placements that are over 20 miles from Nottingham	10.3%	To monitor	20%				17.0 %					16.0%	16.0%	77 yp	The YTD figures for 2014/15 show a 4% reduction in the number of children placed over 20 miles from Nottingham. Activities that have contributed to this reduction include regular Placement Panels where all elements of a placement are review, including location.
CL-1 (R)	The percentage of care leavers in suitable accommodation at 19 years old	88.4%	90%	89.6%				88.2 %					80.4%	84.9%	45 of 53	We are challenged by the cohort of people who chose not to engage with the Leaving Care Service or who are serving custodial sentences as they cannot be recorded as being in suitable accommodation. This area performance continues to be the subject of fortnightly scrutiny. There is a robust protocol in place with Nottingham City Homes to prevent eviction and homelessness. Nottingham's performance compares well to our statistical neighbourhood group. Anecdotal evidence suggests that there is a trend in reengagement of young people with the Leaving Care Service and partner agencies over time. This may account for the increase in percentage of 21 year olds in suitable accommodation.
CL-2 (R)	The percentage of care leavers in suitable accommodation at 20 years old	Not published	85%	83.3%				100 %					83.3%	83.1%	59 of 71	See commentary for CL-1 (R)
CL-3 (R)	The percentage of care leavers in suitable accommodation at 21 years old	Not published	80%	77.0%				100 %					84.6%	94.9%	56 of 59	See commentary for CL-1 (R)
CL-4 (R)	The percentage of care leavers in employment, education or training at 19 years old	55.1%	55%	45.5%				52.9 %					50.0%	49.0%	25 of 51	Performance continues to be a challenge currently for Nottingham City. While this is the case, EET YTD figures across all age ranged show an increase in performance when compared to 2013/14 outturn. In order to improve performance, a dedicated Personal Advisor will be recruited to the Authority's Leaving Care Service. It will be their responsibility to create opportunities to engage young people in education, employment and training activities. We will also continue to work closely with Futures and our Apprenticeship Scheme to take advantage of further opportunities.
CL-5 (R)	The percentage of care leavers in employment, education or training at 20 years old	Not published	55%	31.8%				50.0 %					55.6%	50.7%	36 of 71	See commentary for CL-4 (R)
CL-6 (R)	The percentage of care leavers in employment, education or training at 21 years old	Not published	55%	40.5%				59.1 %					38.5%	54.2%	32 of 59	See commentary for CL-4 (R)

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CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD - 1st June 2015

Title of paper:	Children in Care Council Update – Corporate Children in Care Council	
Director(s)/ Corporate Director(s):	Helen Blackman (Director, Children's Social Care, Vulnerable Children and Families) helen.blackman@nottinghamcity.gov.uk	Wards affected: ALL
Report author(s) and contact details:	Kwesi Williams Project Officer – Children in Care kwesi.williams@nottinghamcity.gov.uk 0115 876284	
Other colleagues who have provided input:		
Date of consultation with Portfolio Holder(s) (if relevant)	13 May 2015	
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>To facilitate better communication between children in care and senior management, regular Corporate Children in Care Council (CCiCC) meetings will be introduced later this year.</p> <p>CCiCC meetings will provide an opportunity for issues effecting children in care to be raised directly, with those in a position to initiate and follow through remedial action.</p>		
Recommendations:		
1	The Corporate Parenting Board recognises and supports the introduction of the CCiCC meetings and where possible, will endeavour to assist in completing any remedial actions that result from these meetings.	

1. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1.1 To ensure we are providing the best children in care service possible, it is imperative that those responsible for the care of looked after children, at all levels; know what issues they are experiencing. An effective method of achieving this is through focused face-to-face dialogue. It is with this in mind that Corporate Children in Care Council meetings are scheduled to be introduced in July of this year.

These meetings will allow children in care to raise issues that they are experiencing in their lives with relevant senior management, who will be expected to outline what they intend to do resolve the issues raised.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 The view of Children in Care Council members were sought in order to ascertain their thoughts on the introduction of CCIICC meetings. All members present at the March CiCC meeting welcomed the introduction and recognised the potential benefits offered by regular meetings of this nature.

2.2 CCIICC meetings are currently scheduled to take place on a quarterly basis. The agenda will be determined by children in care and relevant senior management from social care, as well as partner agencies will be invited to discuss what they intend to do to address issues raised by young people in care. Management will also be invited back to provide details on what remedial action has been taken and what impact they this has had on improving or rectifying the issue. Young people will be able to share their views on whether or not action taken has addressed the issue.

2.3 The overarching aim of these meetings is to improve the outcomes of our children in care and care leavers by better understanding the problems our young people are facing, through face-to-face dialogue and reacting accordingly.

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 None

6. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Has the equality impact been assessed?

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

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

CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD - 1st June 2015

Title of paper:	Children in Care Council – 2014 Have Your Say Survey Results	
Director(s)/ Corporate Director(s):	Alison Michalska, Corporate Director Children and Adults	Wards affected: ALL
Report author(s) and contact details:	Jon Rea Engagement and Participation Lead jon.rea@nottinghamcity.gov.uk 0115 8764817	
Other colleagues who have provided input:	Grace Brough, Quality and Commissioning Kwesi Williams, Children in Care Team	
Date of consultation with Portfolio Holder(s) (if relevant)	13 May 2015	

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 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):

- a. The findings from the 2014 Have Your Say survey of children in care and care leavers have been analysed by the Children in Care Council who have assessed performance against the results of previous years using a Traffic Light rating system.
- b. Three priority areas have been identified for attention and/or action, these area linked to following Children in Care and Care Leavers Charter Commitments
 - We will make sure they know about the advocacy and complaints services in case they want help to have their views heard or are unhappy with us
 - We will keep our children and young people safe and well by:
Seeing that they have the right place to live as quickly as possible
 - We know that a change of home, carer, social worker or school can easily cause problems for a child or young person so we promise to do all we can to prevent such changes unless they are absolutely necessary to keep the child or young person safe and well
- c. The findings provide insight into how Children in Care and Care Leavers perceive the quality and value of services they receive. It is recommended that these findings are used to inform and guide relevant action plans.

NB. A summary of the findings will be presented to the Corporate Parenting Board ('the Board') by members of the Children in Care Council.

Recommendations:	
1	The findings of the survey and RAG rating assessment results are used to inform the strategic action plan of the Board endorsed 2014 - 2016 Children in Care and Care Leavers Strategy, with priority given to areas highlighted as red.
2	The Board recognises the hard work done by the Children in Care Council in the planning, delivery and analysis of the Have Your Say survey, and acknowledges their vital role in the co-production of services across children's social care.
3	The Board to implement the findings of the 2015 Have Your Say survey as appropriate.

1. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1.1 Ensuring that the views of service users are used to inform service improvement is a cross-cutting theme of both the Children and Young People's Plan and the Corporate Parenting Action Plan. It is one of the primary means by which the Corporate Parenting Board demonstrates the active participation of corporately parented children and young people in decision-making at strategic and operational level.
- 1.2 Other significant drivers include the various safeguarding related inspection criteria that require the Board to evidence service user participation; Munro Report recommendations on developing a child centred approach to service design and delivery; Nottingham City Participation Strategy commitment to Article 12 on the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.
- 1.3 Previous iterations of the survey have provided significant insight into the views and experiences of Children in Care and Care Leavers which in turn has been used to shape improvement plans for a number of service areas.

2. BACKGROUND (INCLUDING OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION)

- 1.1 The pledges contained in the Nottingham City Children in Care and Care Leavers' Charter commit the Board and its constituent partners to work towards the highest standard of service delivery to Children in Care and Care Leavers corporately parented by the Board.
- 1.2 The principal means of performance assessment against the pledges is through the annual Have Your Say (HYS) Survey, which is sent out to all Children in Care and those Care Leavers in contact with services.
- 1.3 691 surveys were sent out to children aged 3 and over this year. There were 122 returns, thus we achieved an 18% response rate. This is a 3.5% increase when compared to our response rate in 2013 (24% response rate in 2012 and 18% in 2011).
- 1.4 In addition to the standard HYS survey, an optional easy read version for children under 10 years and those with learning difficulties was sent out as an alternative form of feedback. The questions were not linked to the overall survey and as result the findings have not been incorporated into the RAG assessments, however findings will form part of our evidence base. The primary purpose of the survey is to encourage participation our younger cohort of children and to cultivate a culture of participation.

1.5 As in previous years, the survey was accompanied by the 'You Said, We Did' feedback statement. The statement identifies actions that were undertaken to address the priorities highlighted as a result the 2013 Have Your Say survey.

1.6 In assessing the survey the Children in Care Council used a RAG rating system to indicate how well they thought services are performing compared to the pledges made in the Children in Care Charter. RAG rating colours – green, amber and red – identify the degree to which services are perceived to be doing well or improving, or require some form of attention and/or improvement. Through this process three areas have been identified for further attention and/or action through the Corporate Parenting Board partnership: educational support, consistency of care, and support for leaving care.

1.7 Detailed findings of the survey and RAG rating assessment will be presented at the June 2015 Corporate Parenting Board. (See appendix 1).

3. OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED IN MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 None

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

4.1 The cost of the Have Your Say survey is approximately £1000 per year, consisting primarily of printing and postage. This cost is currently met by the Children in Care team, who also provide officer support. Analysis is provided by the JSNA team, citizen engagement and overall management by the Engagement Lead officer.

4.2 Improvements in services based on the insight from service user views can lead to a wide spectrum of benefits, including resource efficiencies.

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

5.1 Each survey has a unique reference number enabling all responses to be screened for individual safeguarding and specific service-use complaints.

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 Nottingham City Children in Care and Care Leavers' Charter (Appendix 2)

7.2 Have Your Say survey (Appendix 3)

8. PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO IN COMPILING THIS REPORT

8.1 Nottingham City Children and Young People's Plan

Children in Care and Care Leavers' **Have Your Say 2014** Results and CiC Council RAG ratings

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Presented by Jeren Artykova, Natalia Stochowiak
and Kwesi Williams



Children and Young People's views on our CiC Charter commitments

- Questions in the survey are based on the commitments made by the Corporate Parenting Board in the Children in Care and Care Leavers' Charter.
- This is a perceptual survey including both qualitative and quantitative questions. This year saw a 27.8% response rate from 691 surveys sent out to CiC over 3 years old and Care Leavers.
- The data from the survey provides insight into the lives of those children and young people in or recently leaving our care: how they use services, what works well for them and what doesn't, and the things they need in order to achieve good outcomes.
- CiC Council assess the survey findings using a RAG traffic light system to indicate the areas they want the Corporate Parenting Board to prioritise for action and/or improvement. These are incorporated into the strategic action plan.



Summary of findings

The Children in care Council used a traffic light system to rate the survey returns:

- Green for something performing well
- Amber for something that isn't performing as well as it could and needs attention
- Red for something which isn't performing well and needs immediate attention

Charter commitment 1:

We will treat all our children and young people with respect and with regard to their age and understanding

CiC Council Rating:

2011	2012	2013	2014
GREEN	GREEN	GREEN	GREEN AMBER

Charter commitment 2:

We will give our children and young people enough time and help to understand (and be happy) with their circumstances

CiC Council Rating:

2011	2012	2013	2014
AMBER	RED	AMBER	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 are unhappy with us

CiC Council Rating:

2011	2012	2013	2014
RED	RED	AMBER	RED

Charter commitment 4:

We will listen to our children and young people and involve them in planning for their care

CiC Council Rating:

2011	2012	2013	2014
AMBER	AMBER	GREEN	AMBER

Charter commitment 5a:

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

Seeing that they have the right place to live as quickly as possible

CiC Council Rating:

2011	2012	2013	2014
GREEN	GREEN	GREEN	RED

Charter commitment 5b:

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

Making sure that this home is stable and keeps them safe

CiC Council Rating:

2011	2012	2013	2014
GREEN	GREEN	GREEN	AMBER

Charter commitment 5c:

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

Giving them the right support to be as healthy as possible

CiC Council Rating:

2011	2012	2013	2014
AMBER	RED	AMBER	AMBER

Charter commitment 6:

We will help our children and young people to enjoy themselves

Overall results show participation in all kinds of activities with increasing numbers involved in sport and physical activity, less focus on computer games and entertainment and lots of time spent with friends

Charter commitment 7:

We will help them to achieve at school and elsewhere to the very best of their ability

CiC Council Rating:

2011	2012	2013	2014
AMBER	GREEN	AMBER	GREEN

Charter commitment 8:

We know that a change of home, carer, social worker or school can easily cause problems for a child or young person so we promise to do all we can to prevent such changes unless they are absolutely necessary to keep the child or young person safe and well

CiC Council Rating:

2011	2012	2013	2014
AMBER	AMBER	RED	RED



Charter commitment 9:

We will make sure that a child or young person stays in touch with their birth family and friends as much as possible, considering their safety and wellbeing

- **Overall roughly half the respondents see their families as much as they want and half don't**
- **Satisfaction with the ability to spend time with 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

CiC Council Rating:

2011	2012	2013	2014
AMBER	GREEN AMBER	AMBER	GREEN

Overall rating for the way Nottingham City Council is taking care of Children in Care and Care Leavers

CiC Council Rating:

2011	2012	2013	2014
GREEN	GREEN	GREEN	AMBER

Summary of RAG rating

2 **GREEN** – Good help to achieve at school; good help to achieve independence and resilience in transition to adulthood

1 **GREEN/AMBER** – CiC and Care Leavers are generally with respect

4 **AMBER** – More time needed to understand and be happy with circumstances; do more to listen to CYP and involve them in planning for their care; make sure homes are safe places; improve the support to be healthy

3 **RED** – Better advocacy and support to get CiC voices heard is needed; more support to make sure CiC have the right place to live as quickly as possible; and improving consistency to reduce the amount of unnecessary change in their lives.



Children in Care & Care Leavers' Charter

Nottingham City Council has a responsibility to children and young people in its care and to its care leavers. This responsibility is represented by the term "Corporate Parenting": Nottingham City Council is the "Corporate Parent" for all children and young people in its care and its care leavers. Because of this responsibility, Nottingham City Council makes the commitments below.

We will ensure that all children and young people in and leaving our care have the right home and support to keep them safe and well and to help them grow into happy, healthy, successful and fulfilled young adults who are optimistic about their future.

Commitments *to* children and young people in care and care leavers

- We will treat all our children and young people with respect and with regard to their age and understanding
- We will give our children and young people enough time and help to understand (and be happy) with their circumstances
- We will make sure they know about the advocacy and complaints services in case they want help to have their views heard or are unhappy with us
- We will listen to our children and young people and involve them in planning for their care
- We will keep our children and young people safe and well by:
 - o Seeing that they have the right place to live as quickly as possible
 - o Making sure that this home is stable and keeps them safe
 - o Giving them the right support to be as healthy as possible
- We will help our children and young people to enjoy themselves
- We will help them to achieve at school and elsewhere to the very best of their ability
- We know that a change of home, carer, social worker or school can easily cause problems for a child or young person so we promise to do all we can to prevent such changes unless they are absolutely necessary to keep the child or young person safe and well
- We will make sure that a child or young person stays in touch with their birth family and friends as much as possible, considering their safety and wellbeing
- We will help our children and young people to plan for and achieve a successful journey into independent adulthood
- We will ensure that all our children and young people – and the adults working for them – know about these promises

Commitments *concerning* children and young people in care and care leavers

- We will make sure that Nottingham City Council is the best Corporate Parent it can be and achieve improved and sustainable outcomes for children and young people in and leaving our care
- We will ensure that everyone who shares our responsibility to children and young people in care and care leavers helps us to keep these promises
- When there are changes to the law or other things that affect the lives of children and young people in and leaving our care, everyone involved – Nottingham City Council and its partners – will respond together, for the benefit of our children and young people
- We will let children, young people and everyone else concerned with these commitments know how well we are keeping them by reporting about them regularly

For more information or to see the Children & Young People's Plan please visit www.nottinghamchildrenspartnership.org.uk

Nottingham City Council, NHS Nottingham City, City of Nottingham Governors' Association, National Probation Service, Job Centre Plus, Nottinghamshire Police Authority, Djanogly City Academy, Nottingham Community and Voluntary Services, Nottingham City Safeguarding Children Board, Hadden Park High, Nottingham Nursery and Training Centre, Springfield Primary School.



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Children in Care & Care Leavers'

Have your say



Q1 Are you responding as

- A child in care (aged 11 or under) *Go to Q2*
- A child in care (aged 12-18) *Go to Q2*
- A care leaver (aged 18 and over) *Go to Q2*
- On behalf of a child in care or a care leaver *Please answer the following question*

If you are completing this form on behalf of a child in care or a care leaver what is your name and care role?

Section One: About you and the people around you

Q2 Please tell us what best describes your experiences.

	All the time	Most of the time	Only sometimes	Never
My social worker/personal advisor treats me with respect	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
My social worker/personal advisor has enough time for me	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
My carer(s)* treats me with respect	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
My carer(s)* has enough time for me	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

* Please do not answer if you are a care leaver.

Please use this box to tell us more about how you feel things could be better:

Q3 Do you know where to go if you have a problem or want to make a complaint?

YES NO

Q4 Do you know where to go if you want to speak to someone who is not your carer, social worker or personal advisor?

YES NO

Q5 Who would you talk to if there was a problem with your social worker, personal advisor or carer(s)? PLEASE TICK ALL THAT APPLY.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> My social worker | <input type="checkbox"/> My friends |
| <input type="checkbox"/> My personal advisor | <input type="checkbox"/> My parents |
| <input type="checkbox"/> My carer | <input type="checkbox"/> My relatives |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Advocacy service | <input type="checkbox"/> I find it hard to talk to anyone |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Complaints service | <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please tell us : |
| <input type="checkbox"/> My school | <div style="border: 1px solid green; height: 20px; width: 100%;"></div> |

Q6 Please tell us what best describes your experiences.

	All the time	Most of the time	Only sometimes	Never
My social worker/personal advisor listens to what I say	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
My carer(s)* listens to what I say	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
My designated teacher listens to what I say	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I feel my opinions are heard and do make a difference to decisions made in my life.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

* Please do not answer if you are a care leaver.

Please use this box to tell us what worked well for you and what could have worked better:

Q7 Please tell us how you contribute your wishes and feelings to your Looked After review/ Pathway Plan review (Please tick ONE only).

- I attend my Looked After review/ Pathway Plan review and tell my social worker/ personal advisor what I think during the meeting.
- I don't attend my Looked After review/ Pathway Plan review but I tell my social worker/ personal advisor what I think before the meeting.
- I don't attend my Looked After review/ Pathway Plan review and I don't want to tell anyone what I think.
- None of the above, but I was able to have a say in my Looked After Review/ Pathway Plan review by other ways

(Please tell us what it is).

Q8 Please tell us what best describes your experiences.

	All the time	Most of the time	Only sometimes	Never
I feel my voice is heard in my Looked After review/ Pathway Plan review	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I get help in preparing for my Looked After review/ Pathway Plan review	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I can use different ways to communicate what I think e.g. drawing pictures, using photos, writing etc. in my Looked After Review/ Pathway Plan review	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please use this box to tell us what worked well and what could have worked better.

Section Two: Your placement and your life

Q9 Thinking about where you are living at the moment, do you feel it is the right care place/ semi- independent living/ independent living placement for you?

YES NO NOT SURE

If you are unsure or do not feel that where you are living is the right care place for you, please tell us why.

Q10 Please tell us what best describes your experiences.

	All the time	Most of the time	Only sometimes	Never
I feel safe where I live	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I feel safe at school/ further education/ work	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I feel safe in my neighbourhood	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please use this box to tell us more about what makes you feel safe or what could make you feel safer.

Q11 Are you worried about any of the following? TICK ALL THAT APPLY

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> My family | <input type="checkbox"/> My future |
| <input type="checkbox"/> My health | <input type="checkbox"/> Where to live after leaving care |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Not getting the support that I need | <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know if I will be able to support myself |
| <input type="checkbox"/> No one to support me/ Staff leaving | <input type="checkbox"/> Living on my own/ loneliness |
| <input type="checkbox"/> My safety | <input type="checkbox"/> Not being able to go home |
| <input type="checkbox"/> My friendships | <input type="checkbox"/> My care experience/ My past |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Relationship with boyfriend/ girlfriend | <input type="checkbox"/> My religion or beliefs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> My education (school, college, university, exam) | <input type="checkbox"/> My sexuality |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Being bullied | <input type="checkbox"/> My identify |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Money issues (fees, bills, rent, debt) | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please tell us what it is) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Finding a job/ work/ career | |

Please tell us what helps you cope with worry.

Q12 Generally, do you feel healthy?

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, all the time | <input type="checkbox"/> Rarely |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, often | <input type="checkbox"/> No, none of the time |

How do you find out about staying healthy?

Q13 Please tell us about your free time and what you like to do. What else would you like to do?

Q14 How well do you feel you are doing at school/ further education/ work?

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> I am doing very well | <input type="checkbox"/> I am not doing well |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I am doing well | <input type="checkbox"/> I am not doing very well at all |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I am doing OK | <input type="checkbox"/> I do not go to school/further education/work |

If you feel you are not doing well or not very well at all, please tell us why you think this, and what support you think you need to do better.

Q15 If you are still in education, please tell us about your experience.

	All the time	Most of the time	Only sometimes	Never
I know all about my Personal Education Plan	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I am happy with my Personal Education Plan	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I am involved in drawing up my Personal Education Plan	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I would do better with more help.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please use this box to tell us more about your Personal Education Plan.

Q16 Within the past 12 months (or if you are new in care), have you had a change of: (TICK ALL THAT APPLY)

- Home** Go to Q17
 Social Worker Go to Q17
 School Go to Q17
 Carer Go to Q17
 Personal Advisor Go to Q17
 No changes Go to Q18

Q17 If you have had a change in the last 12 months, how would you rate the help you received?

- Very good
 Good
 OK
 Poor
 Very poor

Please tell us what helped you cope with change and what wasn't helpful.

Q18 Do you see your own family?

- Yes, as much as I like
 Not as much as I like
 Yes, quite often
 I never see my own family

Please use this space to tell us anything you want about getting in touch with your birth family:

Q19 Please tell us what best describes your experiences.

	All the time	Most of the time	Only sometimes	Never
I see or speak to my old friends	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I go round to my old friend's houses to visit	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
My old friends come to visit me	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Since leaving care, I have made new friends	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Is there anything that you want to tell us about getting in touch with friends you had before coming into care?

Q20 Overall, how happy are you with the way Nottingham City Council takes care of you?

Very happy Happy Unhappy Very unhappy Not sure

Q21 If you would like to receive information about how Nottingham City Council is looking after children and young people in care, please tick this box and we will get in touch with you.

How do you want to receive the information?

Facebook Printed newsletter Email Text message
 Website Telephone Other - please tell us:

Q22 If you are interested in getting involved in Children in Care Council and having your say about care or care leaver issues, please tick this box and we will get in touch.

Section Three: Please only answer the following questions if you are over 15 years old or a care leaver.

Q23 How happy are you with the help and support you are getting to plan for your future?

Very happy Happy Unhappy Very unhappy

If you are unhappy or very unhappy, please tell us why.

Q24 Which of the following skills have you got and which would you like help with?

	I can	I would like help to
clean my room or house	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iron clothes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
wash my clothes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
cook for myself	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
budget my money	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
write a curriculum vitae (CV)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
prepare for an interview	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
find information about jobs and training	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
apply for further or higher education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
choose subjects for further or higher education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
be a responsible tenant	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q25 Do you know what is in your Pathway Plan?

Yes Go to Q26

No End

I did not know I had a Pathway Plan End

Q26 Please tell us how your pathway plan is helping you prepare for leaving care.

Thank you for completing the questionnaire!

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