

CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD - 1st June 2015

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| 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