

## **Corporate Parenting Committee Terms of Reference**

### **1. Derby's Vision for Looked after Children**

We believe that looked after, adopted children and young people, like all other Derby children and young people, have the right to be healthy, happy and safe, to be valued and respected, and to have high aspirations for the future.

We want to make sure that looked after, adopted children and young people have improved educational outcomes, are achieving as well as their peers, are emotionally stable and resilient, and are enabled to move successfully into adulthood.

We will achieve this by making the right services available to looked after, adopted children and young people at the right time and until they no longer require or need them. These services will be personalised to meet the individual needs of the child / young person.<sup>1</sup>

### **2. Purpose of Corporate Parenting Committee**

The Committee will give strategic direction and overview for improving outcomes for looked after children and young people. The Committee will regularly review performance, identify gaps in service, areas for development and challenge services to deliver improvements. The Committee will promote improved working together and overview outcomes for looked after children and young people across partner agencies as corporate parents. Members of the Committee will champion the needs of looked after children and young people across both the City and Council. Furthermore, the Committee will strive to listen to the voice of the child and young person and challenge services where they think we are not actively engaging with our looked after and adopted children and young people. The committee will make connections with other boards and committees as required including the DCSB and CFLB.

### **3. Scope of Responsibilities**

Receive reports, review and monitor outcomes for looked after children and young people and care leavers, including data relating to:

- LAC performance indicators
- The care population; admissions and discharges;
- Placements;
- Health assessments
- Adoption;
- Emotional wellbeing services
- Staff and foster carer recruitment and retention;
- Accommodation for care leavers, unaccompanied asylum seekers and

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<sup>1</sup> Looked After and Adopted Children and Young People Strategy 2012 – 2015

- any other specific groups;
- Fostering Annual Report and Adoption Reports.
- IRO Annual Report
- Annual Health Report
- Participation of children and young people
- Childrens Homes

Receive reports on educational issues affecting looked after children and young people and care leavers, including:

- Key Stage attainment
- GCSE and A-Level attainment;
- Comparative data with statistical neighbours;
- Any barriers to improvement;
- Data on progression to Further Education and Higher Education;
- Data relating to 16 year olds and care leavers not in employment, education and training.

Ensure that the Corporate Parenting agenda is integrated in key plans, policies and strategies throughout the Council and partners agencies.

Promote and review the implementation of the CiC Pledge across the council and partners

Raise awareness by promoting the role of Members as Corporate Parents.

Meet with Children in Care Council on a regular basis. Improve and promote systems for better participation of children and young people who are looked after in the development of services that affect them.

#### 4. Membership

NAME	ORGANISATION
Councillor Sara Bolton (Chair)	Derby City Council
Councillor Evonne Williams	Derby City Council
Councillor Hilary Jones	Derby City Council
Councillor John Whitby	Derby City Council
Councillor Sarah Russell	Derby City Council
Representative <sup>2</sup>	Children in Care
Representative	Foster Care Association

<sup>2</sup> Feedback from Children in Care Council is that they would like to participate in Corporate Parenting meetings. Their preferred method for doing this would be via consultation of issues/topics for discussions at the Children in Care Council meetings and fed back via Volunteering Matters or Chair attendance rather than having a representative attend the actual meeting. Children and young people will continue to be actively encouraged to attend the meetings and participate in discussions.

Hazel Lymbery	Director of Specialist Services
Andy Smith	Director of Early Intervention and Safeguarding
Frank McGhee	Director of Commissioning
Lynn Woods	Chief Nurse and Director of Quality CCG
Graeme Ferguson	Acting Virtual School Head
Pervez Akhtar	Corporate Parenting Lead
Diane Cook	Volunteering Matters (representing YP in Care)

\*membership may be extended to invite appropriate representatives depending on item discussed

## **5. Views of Children and Young People in Care**

As discussed and agreed with the Children in Care Council, the views and comments of children will be represented at the committee meeting by the project worker for Volunteering Matters. Reports for items on the agenda will be made available to the Children in Care Council for discussion and feedback in advance of committee meetings.

The Corporate Parent Committee will provide feedback to Children in Care Council via the project worker for Volunteering Matters. The Chair of the Committee will attend the Children in Care Council meeting at least on an annual basis.

## **6. Reporting**

There is no formal governance framework for the committee. Where it is required the committee will escalate any particular issue to the appropriate Service Director or partner agency

## **7. Chairing**

The Committee will be chaired by Councillor Bolton. The vice chair of the Committee will be XXXXX. The membership of the committee will be a mixture of elected members and officers. Chairing and membership of the committee will be reviewed every three years. In the absence of the Chair the Vice-Chair shall chair the meeting.

## **9. Meetings**

There will be four meetings of the committee each financial year. Administration for the committee will be provided by Derby City Council, Legal and Democratic Services.