

CORPORATE PARENTING COMMITTEE

Tuesday 30th July 2019

Minute Extract

05/19 Children in Care Council – Update

The Committee received a report of the Director of Integrated Commissioning which provided an update on recent activity by the Children in Care Council (CICC). The report was presented to members by a representative of the CICC.

Councillors noted that since the last report there have been three meetings of the CICC.

April's meeting was attended by Derby City Council's CEO who agreed they could host a Regional CICC meeting. The Committee noted that the next Regional Event would be in October 2019 and would be hosted by Leicester.

CICC also suggested they could create a residents survey to show how much work the Council undertakes. The Committee noted that the CICC had been involved in a range of consultations from Derby organisations and felt that CICC should be more involved in any upcoming Derby City Council consultations having already taken part in the Budget Consultation. The Committee suggested that a recommendation be made to Cabinet that, as part of Derby City Council Corporate Parenting responsibility, all Service Directors should consider engaging with young people in the CICC in any future Council Consultations on service provisions and other issues. The recommendation was agreed by the Committee.

In May's meeting, staff from the Commissioning team attended to talk to the group about how they are working with other councils to ensure and Children in Care (CIC) are not placed too far away from home. The group helped to develop some questions to ask future fostering agencies and residential homes.

As part of the meeting in June the young people developed a question for D2N2 about residential placements, which will be asked of organisations who apply to provide good homes for children in care. The Committee noted that the CICC gave a number of recommendations for facilities for children in residential care. The suggestions were all taken up by D2N2 and this was a positive result for CICC.

The Participation Officer reported on the ongoing work to engage with CIC. A meeting with other Local Authority Participation Officers had concluded that it would be better to identify clusters of CIC in placements and visit them in situ. He was also looking at different ways to engage with CIC in Children's Homes and was considering joining monthly meetings held in the Homes.

The Committee learnt that there had been more success in engaging with Care Leavers, who had requested that meetings be relaxed and have themes. The officer reported that he was in the process of networking with existing groups who work with

Care Leavers, for example the Derby Theatre. The Committee noted that feedback from the meetings and networking events with Care Leavers would be given at the CYP Improvement Board providing a conduit for Care Leavers views to be heard.

The Corporate Parenting Committee resolved:

- 1. that this Committee recommend to Cabinet that Council Directors consider engaging young people including the Children in Care Council (CICC) in any future consultations regarding changes to service provision as the involvement of CICC and young people in consultation needs to be broader across the whole council**