

Meeting	CORPORATE PARENTING SUB-COMMITTEE
Date	Monday 13 June 2016 (commencing at 2.00 pm)

Membership

Persons absent are marked with an 'A'

COUNCILLORS

Liz Plant (Chairman)

	Jim Creamer	Philip Owen
A	Maureen Dobson	Sue Saddington
	Boyd Elliott	Andy Sissons
	Kate Foale	Jacky Williams

Foster Carer

Aleks Jackowska
Dawn Clements (apologies)
Sarah Maiden

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Jayne Austin	-	Fostering Service Manager
Sue Denholm	-	Virtual School Co-ordinator, Children's Social Care
Steve Edwards	-	Service Director, Children's Social Care
Alison Fawley	-	Democratic Service Officer, Resources
Kathryn Higgins	-	Designated Nurse, Children in Care
Michelle Lee	-	Children's Services Manager
Izzy Martin	-	Service Manager, Independent Chair Service
Shelagh Mitchell	-	Group Manager, Access to Resources
Janeen Parker	-	Acting Team Manager, Education Standards & Inclusion
Georgina Staveley	-	Business Support Assistant, Children, Families & Cultural Services.

CHAIRMAN

The appointment by the County Council on 12 May 2016 of Councillor Liz Plant as Chairman of this sub-committee was noted.

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 12th May 2016, having been circulated to all Members, were taken as read and were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

MEMBERSHIP

It was reported that Councillor Jim Creamer had been appointed in place of Councillor Colleen Harwood, for this meeting only.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Councillor M Dobson.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

PERFORMANCE REPORTING (QUARTER 4 2015/16) – SERVICES FOR LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN AND CARE LEAVERS

The report provided a summary of the performance of services for looked after children and care leavers between 1st January and 31st March 2016.

RESOLVED 2016/013

That the performance of services for looked after children and care leavers during the period 1 January to 31 March 2016 be noted.

SUMMER TERM REPORT FOR THE VIRTUAL SCHOOL FOR LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN

The report provided an update on the virtual school for the summer term 2016.

The following points were raised:

- At KS1 there had been a drop in each of the three separate subjects for the percentage of looked after children meeting age related expectations. The outcomes were broadly similar to the East Midlands region but below national.
- The outcomes at KS2 had remained broadly similar to 2014-15 and were in line with the percentage achieved by the East Midlands region but were below the national average. However over a three year period the outcomes demonstrated a trend of improvement.
- The percentage of Nottinghamshire's LAC who attained age related expectations (5+ A*- C including English and maths) at the end of KS4 had improved by 1.7 percentage points compared to a national increase of 1.6 percentage points and a 0.8 percentage point decline for the East Midlands cohort. Over a three year period Nottinghamshire's outcomes showed a year on year trend of improvement.

- The percentage of LAC pupils making expected progress in English (3 levels form KS2-4) had improved by 10 percentage points to 39%. This placed Nottinghamshire's performance on this measure above the national average for 2015 and indicated that the three year average showed a strong trend of improvement in English.
- The percentage of LAC pupils making expected progress in mathematics declined from 29% in 2014 to 24% in 2015 which was 5 percentage points below the national average. Despite the drop the three year average shows a 3% improvement whilst the national average had remained static.
- Key actions were in place to provide challenge and support to every school or setting wherever a LAC attends or is on roll. Termly teacher assessment data was being collected and would enable the virtual school team to closely track termly progress and target resources.
- The annual Achievement Event would be held on 16 July 2016 at the Albert Hall in Nottingham and the guest speaker would be Simon Weston. All committee members were invited to attend.

RESOLVED 2016/014

That the update on the virtual school for the summer term 2016 be noted.

END OF YEAR REPORT FOR THE INDEPENDENT REVIEWING OFFICER (IRO) SERVICE

The report focused on the key functions of the Independent Reviewing Officers and highlighted the challenge and ongoing robustness of the IRO's role when working with looked after children and young people. Over the past year the LAC population had remained stable and had enabled IROs to increase contact with children in order to advocate on their behalf. IROs had continued to find creative ways to ensure that children and young people were able to contribute to or attend their looked after reviews.

RESOLVED 2016/015

That the activities and performance of the Independent Reviewing Officer service from April 2015 to March 2016, and the areas of focus in the coming year, be noted

BLOCK PURCHASE OF CHILDREN'S RESIDENTIAL PLACEMENTS CONTRACTS

The report provided the Committee with an update regarding the progress of the block purchase of children's residential placements contracts.

The following points were raised and discussed:

- Homes to Inspire had decided not to purchase the property they had identified in in Mansfield.

- Homes to Inspire were continuing their search to find suitable properties in the County and would engage with local councillors when properties had been identified and would hold a consultation with local people at the appropriate time.

RESOLVED 2016/016

That the progress on the block purchase of children's residential placement contracts be noted.

FOSTERING SERVICE: ANNUAL REPORT APRIL 2015 TO MARCH 2016

The report provided the Committee with information on the activity and performance of the fostering service from April 2015 to March 2016.

RESOLVED 2016/017

That the information on the activity and performance of the fostering service from April 2015 to March 2016 be noted.

LEAVING CARE SERVICE UPDATE

The report provided the Committee with an update on the Leaving Care Service.

The following points were raised and discussed:

- The progress had been made with the provision of accessible emotional wellbeing and mental health services for care leavers and CAMHS now offered consultation to the Leaving Care Service. Negotiations were taking place with Adult Services and Health commissioners so that Nottinghamshire LAC were identified as a priority group for assessment.
- The workforce team was proactive in supporting work experience and apprenticeships for LAC and could offer a bespoke work experience placement by matching up the young person to what was available. The National Apprentice Scheme was very competitive and usually expected certain standards in literacy and maths and that this sometimes made it difficult for LAC to meet the criteria.

RESOLVED 2016/018

That the update on the Leaving Care Service be noted.

LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN & CARE LEAVERS STRATEGY UPDATE

The report updated the Committee on the progress of the Looked After Children and Care Leavers Strategy 2015-18 and shared the updated priorities for 2016-17.

RESOLVED 2016/019

- 1) That the update on the progress of the action plan for the Looked After Children and Care Leavers Strategy 2015-18 be noted.

2) That the priorities of the Annual Action Plan for 2016-17 be noted.

WORK PROGRAMME

The updated work programme was discussed and considered by Members.

RESOLVED 2016/020

That the Committee's work programme be noted.

FOSTER CARERS ITEMS

There were no items for discussion from foster carers.

The meeting closed at 3.10pm

CHAIRMAN

13 June 2016