

24 June 2013**Agenda Item: 9**

REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE FOSTERING SUPPORT CARE POLICY

Purpose of the Report

1. To inform Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee of the newly developed Fostering Support Care Policy, attached as **Appendix 1** to this report.

Information and Advice

2. In 2011 a Serious Case Review was initiated in relation to a foster carer who was found guilty of sexually abusing a number of children in his care as well as other young people. One of the actions arising from the review was the need to put a new fostering support care policy in place which clearly identified the legal routes for any such placement, the payments for these and, most importantly, ensured that it made arrangements for children to voice their experiences of these placements. The action from the Serious Case Review stipulated that this report should be shared with members of the Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee.

Other Options Considered

3. No other options have been considered.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

4. It is important for members to be aware of this policy, which has been followed since February 2013, given the concerns expressed in the report of the Serious Case Review (DN11).

Statutory and Policy Implications

5. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of finance, the public sector equality duty, human resources, crime and disorder, human rights, the safeguarding of children, sustainability and the environment and those using the service and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Equalities Implications

6. Due regard has been given to the Public Sector Equality Duty.

RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1) That the newly developed Fostering Support Care Policy be noted.

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Constitutional Comments

7. As this report is for noting only, no Constitutional Comments are required.

Financial Comments (KLA 11/06/13)

8. There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

Background Papers and Published Documents

None.

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All.

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