

9 January 2024**Agenda Item: 13****REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, COMMISSIONING AND RESOURCES****NOTTINGHAMSHIRE PLACEMENT SUFFICIENCY AND COMMISSIONING
STRATEGY 2023-25****Purpose of the Report**

1. To present to the Corporate Parenting Panel the Sufficiency and Commissioning Strategy for the years 2023 to 2025 which was approved by the Cabinet Member as a Key Decision on 17 April 2023.

Information

2. A 'Sufficiency Duty' is placed on local authorities under the Children's Act 1989 (Section 22G). The Sufficiency Duty requires local authorities to ensure that there are sufficient placements within their geographical area to meet the needs of children and young people in care, and to take steps to develop provision to meet the needs of all children and young people in care locally as far as is possible.
3. In 2010 the government published 'Statutory Guidance on Securing Sufficient Accommodation for Looked After Children' (DCSF 2010) as part of a suite of statutory guidance documents which, together with the Care Planning, Placement and Case Review (England) Regulations 2010 set out how local authorities should carry out the full range of responsibilities in relation to care planning, placement and review for young people.
4. The Sufficiency and Commissioning Strategy, attached as **Appendix A**, provides the framework and priorities for officers in delivering on the duty described above. Many of the updates and reports provided to the Panel relate back to actions identified through the strategy and formal monitoring of progress of actions is through the Council's Annual Delivery Plan.

Other Options Considered

5. To not bring this report to the Panel: this option is discounted because this report provides information that forms an important part of the Panel's remit in assisting the Council in fulfilling its legal corporate parenting duties and acting as an effective corporate parent.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

6. The report provides an opportunity for the Panel to consider any further actions arising from the information contained within the report.

Statutory and Policy Implications

7. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Financial Implications

8. There are no financial implications arising from the report.

RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1) That the Corporate Parenting Panel considers the information contained within the report and provides any feedback.

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Constitutional Comments (CD 05/12/23)

9. The recommendation falls within the remit of the Corporate Parenting Panel by virtue of its terms of reference.

Financial Comments (CDS 29/11/23)

10. There are no financial implications arising directly from the report.

Background Papers and Published Documents

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

[Looked After Children Placement Sufficiency Strategy 2023-25 – report approved by the Cabinet Member for Children and Families on 17 April 2023](#)

Statutory Guidance on Securing Sufficient Accommodation for Looked After Children' (DCSF 2010) [Securing sufficient accommodation for looked-after children - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All.

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