

Meeting	CORPORATE PARENTING SUB-COMMITTEE
Date	Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> September 2015 (commencing at 2.00 pm)

**Membership**

Persons absent are marked with an 'A'

**COUNCILLORS**

Liz Plant (Chairman)

Maureen Dobson  
Boyd Elliott  
Kate Foale  
Collen HarwoodPhilip Owen  
Sue Saddington  
Gail Turner  
Jacky Williams**Foster Carer**Sarah Maiden  
Aleks Jackowska**OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Julie Brailsford	-	Assistant Democratic Service Officer, Policy, Planning & Corporate Services
Tracy Coull	-	Service Manager, Adoption
David Ebbage	-	Assistant Democratic Services Officer, Policy, Planning & Corporate Services Department
Steve Edwards	-	Service Director, Children's Social Care
Derek Higton	-	Corporate Director, Children, Families & Cultural Services
Michelle Lee	-	Aftercare Service Manager
Philippa Milbourne	-	Business Support Assistant, Children, Families & Cultural Services.
Shelagh Mitchell	-	Group Manager, Children's Social Care
Ty Yousaf	-	Service Manager, Children's Social Care

**MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> June 2015, having been circulated to all Members, were taken as read and were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

## **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

No apologies

## **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

## **DEVELOPING ARRANGEMENTS FOR REPORTING PERFORMANCE TO CORPORATE PARENTING SUB-COMMITTEE**

The report detailed the proposed indicator set for reporting the performance of services for looked after children and care leavers.

The following points regarding the report were made;

- That the percentage figure for the Looked After Children (LAC) permanently excluded, with at least one fixed term exclusion or classed as permanently excluded should be reported to the Sub-committee quarterly (if possible).
- All pupil data regarding exclusion and absentees was reported annually by the Department for Education to the Local Authority.
- Officers were setting the targets for the review and these could be adjusted if necessary.

## **RESOLVED 2015/016**

1. That Members of the Sub-committee commented on the proposed indicators.
2. That the first performance report be brought to the January 2016 meeting was agreed.

## **ADOPTION SERVICE UPDATE: MARCH TO AUGUST 2015**

The report provided a six-monthly update on activity in the adoption service from March to August 2015.

- Concern was raised regarding the decline in figures and estimates for the 2015/16. Tracy Coull, Service Manager Adoption explained that the numbers were reduced due to the number of children for adoption being reduced. The service knew the children well and could anticipate their needs.

The committee congratulated the Adoption service on the good Ofsted report received.

## **RESOLVED 2015/017**

That the six-monthly update on activity in the adoption service from March to August 2015 be noted.

## **LEAVING CARE SERVICE UPDATE**

The report provided an update on the Leaving Care Team and the Leaving Care Improvement plan. The team was part of the Throughcare Service and provided advice, support and guidance to young people who had left the care of the Local Authority and were over the age of 18 years.

Steve Edwards, Service Director, Children's Social Care informed the committee that the Ofsted recommendation, number 1 action 4 was unrealistic but a clear plan would be in place by the end of October 2015 and this would include service to care leavers. The Improvement Plan would be reported to the committee on a six monthly basis.

The following were discussed:

- The National Citizenship Scheme was available to all post 16 year olds. The scheme was commissioned by the Government and managed by local partners and not run by Nottinghamshire County Council. It was commissioned on a County basis. It was suspected that there was a relatively small take up of this scheme by looked after children.
- There had been a bulge in the number of looked after children and this had resulted in an increase of 10 caseloads per advisor in the past year from 19 to 29. The national average was 23 caseloads per advisor. The committee were pleased that the increase in workloads was being monitored and that the quality of work was good.
- The influx of asylum seekers was a national problem that was currently unpredictable and difficult to manage. The Improvement Plan would be looking at services strategically to help deal with this.
- Work and communication with the District Councils was improving. Links were also improving with the Notts Homeless Forum.
- As the information required was only available annually the timescale for recommendation 3 action 4 could not be reduced.

### **RESOLVED 2015/018**

That the update on the Leaving Care Service be noted

### **WORK PROGRAMME**

The updated work programme was considered by Members.

### **RESOLVED 2015/019**

That the Committee's work programme be noted.

## **FOSTER CARERS ITEMS**

The Foster Carers present at the meeting had nothing to report to the Sub-Committee.

The meeting closed at 2.25pm

**CHAIRMAN**

14 September 2015