

Meeting	CORPORATE PARENTING SUB-COMMITTEE
Date	Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> March 2016 (commencing at 2.00 pm)

**Membership**

Persons absent are marked with an 'A'

**COUNCILLORS**

Liz Plant (Chairman)

Maureen Dobson  
Boyd Elliott  
Kate Foale  
Colleen Harwood

Philip Owen  
Sue Saddington  
Andy Sissons  
Jacky Williams

**Foster Carer**

Sarah Maiden

**OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Sara Allmond	-	Advanced Democratic Service Officer, Resources
Tracey Coull	-	Adoption Service Manager, Children's Social Care
Sue Denholm	-	Virtual School Co-ordinator, Children's Social Care
Steve Edwards	-	Service Director, Children's Social Care
Linda Foster	-	Acting Group Manager, Education Standards & Inclusion
Philippa Milbourne	-	Business Support Assistant, Children, Families & Cultural Services.
Shelagh Mitchell	-	Group Manager, Children's Social Care

**MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2016, having been circulated to all Members, were taken as read and were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies for absence.

## **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

## **PERFORMANCE REPORTING (QUARTER 3 2015/16) – SERVICES FOR LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN**

The report provided a summary of the performance of services for looked after children and care leavers between 1<sup>st</sup> October and 31<sup>st</sup> December 2015.

### **RESOLVED 2016/06**

That the performance of services for looked after children and care leavers during the period 1<sup>st</sup> October to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2015 be noted.

## **SPRING TERM REPORT FOR THE VIRTUAL SCHOOL FOR LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN**

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

The following points were raised:

- Nursery and Reception was now included.
- The Data Officer would work with data officers in further education colleges and a tracking system would be developed to support the virtual school to monitor Looked After Children in further education settings. This would be used to identify those at risk of not achieving their potential.
- The virtual schools for Nottinghamshire and Nottingham City were working with Nottingham Trent and Nottingham Universities to set up a higher education day for Looked After young people in years 9 and 10, with the day anticipated to be held in July.
- In the table at the top of page three “other” referred to other providers for example private providers
- Where a Looked After Child was in a school which was rated as below good, the virtual school would work closely with the schools advisors and the decision on whether or not to move the child would be taken on a case by case basis taking into account all information included the level of SEN support available at the current school.
- The new format of the PEP reflected the new performance indicators and includes which subjects being studied.

### **RESOLVED 2016/07**

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

## **PROVISION, ACHIEVEMENTS AND PROGRESS OF THE CHILDREN IN CARE COUNCIL AND PARTICIPATION OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE LOOKED AFTER 2015/16**

The report provided an overview of the work of the Young People Looked After (YPLA) Youth Work team, situation within the Youth Service.

The following points were raised and discussed:

- The amount of work and support put in by the team was excellent.
- More information about the work of the Children in Care Council (CiCC) should be made available to highlight the good work carried out.
- The film referred to in bullet point 8 of paragraph 7 could be shown to the Committee and the young people could be invited to attend and give a presentation to the committee.
- Committee members were invited to attend the Achievement Awards event.

### **RESOLVED 2016/08**

That the overview of the work of the Young People Looked After team be noted.

## **ADOPTION SERVICE UPDATE: SEPTEMBER 2015 TO FEBRUARY 2016**

The report provided the committee with a six monthly update on activity in the adoption service from September 2015 to February 2016.

The following points were raised and discussed:

- Not recruiting adopters only looking for children aged 0-2 years was due to a lack of children requiring a placement within this age bracket and enough potential adopters waiting.
- There had been 55 Special Guardianship orders granted in the past year.

### **RESOLVED 2016/09**

That the six-monthly update on activity in the adoption service from September 2015 to February 2016 be noted.

## **ADVOCACY SERVICE FOR LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN**

The report provided the committee within information about the Advocacy Service for Looked After Children.

The following points were raised and discussed:

- All National Youth Advocacy Service (NYAS) referrals were made through a helpline. There were 38 requests in the past year.

- There was confidence in the robustness of the commissioning of the service. Following TUPE transfers for those that wished to the service was now stable.

### **RESOLVED 2016/10**

That the information about the Advocacy Service for Looked After Children be noted.

### **CONTACT SERVICE UPDATE**

The report provided an update on the Contact Service with regard to Looked After Children and the progress that had been achieved following the review of the Service.

The following points were raised and discussed:

- The four rooms at Hawtonville – Newark were in the Children’s Centre and were specifically for contact sessions.
- Contact sessions for younger children took place in the morning. For older children they were after school up to approximately 6pm. Sessions could be arranged at weekend by special arrangements.

### **RESOLVED 2016/11**

That the update on the changing role of the Contact Service with regard to Looked After Children and the progress achieved throughout a review of the Service be noted.

### **WORK PROGRAMME**

The updated work programme was discussed and considered by Members.

### **RESOLVED 2016/12**

That the Committee’s work programme be noted with a report on Clayfields House to be brought to a future meeting.

### **FOSTER CARERS ITEMS**

Sarah Maiden, Foster Carer queried the procedure for children placed under S20 Order where the parent did not provide approval for an activity the child and foster parent wanted them to attend. Steve Edwards advised that a S20 Order meant that the parental responsibility still remained with the birth parent and therefore their consent was required.

The meeting closed at 2.36pm

### **CHAIRMAN**

7 March 2016