



**Agenda Item: 4**

**REPORT OF THE GROUP MANAGER, REGULATED SERVICES AND  
CORPORATE PARENTING, AND GROUP MANAGER, FIELDWORK  
SERVICES NORTH**

**LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN STRATEGY 2012-15**

**Purpose of the Report**

1. To update the Corporate Parenting Panel of Nottinghamshire County Council's Looked After Children Strategy that is currently being developed.

**Information and Advice**

2. As part of the Transformation of the Children's Social Care Service, it was identified that the Children's Social Care Service would benefit from the development of a Looked After Children Strategy, which would outline Nottinghamshire County Council and its partner agencies' approach to supporting children in care. The Strategy will be published in May 2012, and will be reviewed in 2015.
3. The Strategy itself outlines an ambition "to ensure our looked after children have all the opportunities that excellent parents afford their children". This vision is underpinned by The Pledge – Our Promise to Children and Young People in Our Care. The Pledge was developed in consultation with over two hundred children and young people who told us how we can improve their experience within the care system. The Strategy itself contains an extensive list of pledges to children and young people, across the eight themes of:
  - Participation & Joining In
  - Education
  - Health
  - Safe & Stable Placements
  - Relationships
  - Identity
  - Moving to Adulthood
  - Emotional Wellbeing
4. Finally, the Strategy includes a detailed action plan, which summarises the actions that will be delivered over the next three years, which partner agency will take the lead for delivering this, and timescales for reviewing its progress.
5. A key strength of the Looked After Children Strategy will be the extent to which it has been developed with partner agencies across Nottinghamshire. Over 30 partners

attended a Looked After Children Strategy Day in March 2012 to commit themselves to pledges and to ensure the Strategy represents the views and priorities of a range of agencies.

6. Going forward, the Looked After Children Strategy will be approved by District Council colleagues, Children, Families & Cultural Services Leadership Team, and ultimately the Children's Trust Executive. It will be published online and will be shared at the next Corporate Parenting Panel meeting.

### **Other Options Considered**

7. This report is an information only report.

### **Statutory and Policy Implications**

8. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of finance, equal opportunities, 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.

### **RECOMMENDATION/S**

- 1) That the report be noted.

**Rachel Coombs**

**Group Manager, Regulated Services & Corporate Parenting**

**Dawn Godfrey**

**Group Manager, Fieldwork Services (North)**

**For any enquiries about this report please contact:**

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### **Constitutional Comments**

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

### **Financial Comments (NDR 29/03/12)**

10. None.

### **Background Papers**

None.

**Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected**

All.

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