

Cabinet's Response to Scrutiny Review of Corporate Parenting Arrangements

Recommendation	Cabinet Decision <i>(Accepted/ Rejected/ Deferred)</i>	Current Position <i>(action taken since the review was reported)</i>	Cabinet Response <i>(detailing proposed action if accepted, rationale for rejection, and why and when issue will be reconsidered if deferred)</i>	Officer Responsible	Action by (Date)
Ensure sign up to the Looked After Children Pledge by all Council services and supporting its adoption by partner agencies.	Accepted		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That further work is undertaken to complete and adopt the draft pledge developed by the LAC Council. • This work will be carried out by the LAC Council supported by the Voice and Influence Service. • This should be undertaken in conjunction with Elected Members - see point 2 and 7. 	Gani Martins, Director of Safeguarding and Corporate Parenting	September 2010
That the Council's 'Pledge' to Looked After Children is incorporated into the CYP Single Plan and informs the Corporate Parenting Strategy.	Accepted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Pledge has been incorporated into the LAC Statement and has informed the Corporate Parenting Strategy. • The CYP Single Plan contains a focus area on LAC which references the Pledge. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Voice and Influence Service will undertake further work with the LAC Council on the Pledge. 	Clare Cope, Senior Worker, Voice and Influence Service	September 2010
That support is given to regular celebration events for Looked After Children, Care Leavers and their Carers.	Accepted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular Celebration events are held for LAC, Care Leavers and their carers. • These include an annual post 16 award ceremony, an annual carer party and a two yearly large celebration of all LAC achievements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That the Authority seek enhanced funding to enable a more formal celebration of Carers achievements and an annual large celebration of all LAC achievements. 	Linda Cawley, Service Manager, Looked After Children	September 2010

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That a Corporate Parenting Board is established as a sub-group of the Children's Board; its membership to include the lead member, key members with corporate parenting responsibilities, co-optees and relevant officers and partners as required.	Accepted		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish a Corporate Parenting Board. Develop Terms of Reference for the Corporate Parenting Board. Membership of the Board to include the Lead Member. 	Gani Martins, Director of Safeguarding and Corporate Parenting	July 2010
That the portfolios of the Lead Member and other Cabinet Members are amended to explicitly reflect their corporate parenting responsibilities.	Accepted		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> That Cabinet agrees to amend portfolios as part of current review. 	Martin Kimber, Chief Executive	June 2010
That the work programme of the Corporate Parenting Board be based on the issues raised in the pledge to ensure that the participation of looked after children is at the heart of its work.	Accepted		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Further work by the LAC Council and Elected Members to be completed on the draft Pledge. Explore means by which the Corporate Parenting Board and LAC Council can work together. Ensure shared ownership of the Pledge so that the participation of looked after children is at the heart of its work. 	Gani Martins, Director of Safeguarding and Corporate Parenting Clare Cope, Senior Worker, Voice and Influence Service	September 2010
That the Corporate Parenting Board acts as a governing body to the virtual school.	Accepted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A virtual head teacher post has been developed to oversee the education of LAC. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formalise the governance arrangement of the virtual school. Establish process to enable the Corporate Parenting Board to act as the Virtual School Governance. 	Gani Martins, Director of Safeguarding and Corporate Parenting Martin Fittes, Assistant Head of School Effectiveness	September 2010

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That the Corporate Parenting Board has formal links to the work of the Looked After Children's Council.	Accepted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The LAC Council is now supported by members of the Voice and Influence service. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that the voice of the LAC Council is central to service development. Further work is necessary to establish the best means by which to achieve this aim. Include in the Terms of Reference of the Corporate Parenting Board the link between the LAC Council and the Board. 	Gani Martins, Director of Safeguarding and Corporate Parenting Clare Cope, Senior Worker, Voice and Influence Service	September 2010
That terms of reference be developed for the Corporate Parenting Board to ensure clear lines of communication and reporting between this body and the relevant Scrutiny Panel.	Accepted		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> That the relationship between the Board and the Scrutiny panel are clear to ensure effective working practice and continuation of clear scrutiny. Draft Terms of Reference will be developed for the consideration of the relevant bodies. 	Gani Martins, Director of Safeguarding and Corporate Parenting	July 2010
On the creation of a Corporate Parenting Board, to minimise duplication between respective bodies, that the LAC Scrutiny Sub-Panel is disbanded.	Accepted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pending the outcome of the review, no meetings of the LAC Scrutiny Panel have been scheduled. However, CYP Scrutiny have assumed oversight of LAC issues. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The role of LAC Scrutiny in respect of partnership work and service development would be undertaken by the Corporate Parenting Board and Scrutiny would be undertaken by the Children's Scrutiny Panel. 	Cath Saltis, Head of Scrutiny Services	September 2010
That action is taken to ensure local compliance with the National Framework for Children and Young People's Continuing Care.	Accepted		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Corporate Parenting Board membership will include all key partners including the PCT. The TOR will reflect this requirement. 	Gani Martins, Director of Safeguarding and Corporate Parenting	September 2010

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That a training programme for Members is developed, reflecting different levels of corporate parenting responsibilities.	Accepted		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a co-ordinated training programme for Members. The training to include different levels of Corporate Parenting responsibilities. 	Jenny Lingrell, Policy, Planning and Research Officer Liz Shingler, Interim Service Manager, LAC Provider Services	Dates to be identified by September 2010, programme delivery to commence October 2010
That role definitions are developed for Members on the Adoption and Fostering Panels.	Accepted		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> That the job description of Members on both Panels address their responsibilities as an Elected Member. That this is addressed in conjunction with the development of the TOR for the Corporate Parenting Board. Review Panel induction for Elected Members. 	Liz Shingler, Interim Service Manager, LAC Provider Services	September 2010
That an annual report on all Corporate Parenting Board activity is presented by the Lead Member to full Council	Accepted		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> That arrangement is made to ensure the full council receives appropriate information about the service and the work of the Board. An annual report is produced and presented to full Council. 	Gani Martins, Director of Safeguarding and Corporate Parenting	March 2011
That quarterly bulletins are issued to all Members with updates on corporate parenting performance and activity.	Accepted		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> That quarterly reports on all Looked After Children's activities is issued to all Members. 	Gani Martins, Director of Safeguarding and Corporate Parenting	September 2010
That work is undertaken to establish the role of Safeguarding Member Champions in localities with appropriate training and support.	Accepted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Member training is planned for 4th July using the IdEA Safeguarding Framework 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work is undertaken to clarify the role of the Safeguarding Champion's in each Locality. Training to be provided to the Members on the role. 	Liz Shingler, Interim Service Manager, LAC Provider Services	September 2010