



CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD MINUTES

18TH JANUARY 2021

Present:

Councillor Cracknell (in the Chair)
Councillor, Beasant, Cairns, Hudson and Wheatley

Officers in attendance:

- Rob Walsh (Chief Executive)
- Joanne Hewson (Deputy Chief Executive/DCS)
- Lisa Arthey (Assistant Director Safeguarding and Early Help)
- Karen Linton (Strategic Lead for Skills and Employability)
- Claire White (Business and Improvement Programme Manager)
- Kerrie Scraton (Service Manager)
- Pippa Curtin (Voice and Influence Co-ordinator)
- Glynis Tinsley (Fostering and Out of Hours Manager)
- Helen Willis (Safeguarding Children Partnership Coordinator)
- Jacqueline Mills (Independent Reviewing Officer)
- Beverly O'Brien (Scrutiny and Committee Advisor)

Also in attendance:

- Councillor Ian Lindley (Portfolio Holder for Children, Education and Young People)
- Debbie Cook (YMCA)
- Murray MacDonald (Lincolnshire Housing Partnership)
- Angela Rawling (Designated Nurse Children Looked After)

CPB.17 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies of absence were received from Councillors Goodwin and K, Swinburn for this meeting.

CPB.18 MINUTES

Councillor Lindley asked for his apologies to be noted on the minutes for the meeting that took place on 2nd November 2020.

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the Corporate Parenting Board meeting held on 2nd November 2020 were agreed as an accurate record.

CPB.19 ACTION TRACKING

The board received a report that updated them on the action tracking for the Corporate Parenting Board in North East Lincolnshire.

Ms White informed members that the recommendation around Council Tax discounts for Care Leavers had now been resolved and there was no longer any issues. The chair also confirmed that the recommendation around Digital Poverty was being received at today's meeting.

Members were happy for all completed actions to be removed from the tracking report.

RESOLVED – That all completed actions be removed from the tracker.

CPB.20 THEMATIC DEEP DIVE – CHILDREN LOOKED AFTER AND CARE LEAVERS ANNUAL HEALTH REPORT 2019/20

The board received the Thematic Deep Dive – Children Looked After and Care Leavers Annual Health Report 2019/20 Report from the Designated Nurse for Children Looked After.

The Chair mentioned concerns around Children's Oral Health. She wondered whether enough was being done in early years to make sure oral health issues were being spotted as soon as possible. Ms Rawlings explained that primary health nurses had a high input in oral health, and she believed there were no issues highlighted around dental assess. She stated that services were available, but it was more around children in care not being taken to the dentist regularly. Ms Rawlings agreed that she would find out where we were with Children's Oral Health and see what further action needs to be taken to make sure everything was being done to allow better access for children in care.

The Chair also mentioned how young people's mental health has greatly been affected in the last year during the pandemic. She hoped they were receiving the correct support.

RESOLVED – That the Designated Nurse for Children Looked After reports back on her findings on the current situation with children's oral health, for children looked after, and what actions need to be taken to a future meeting of the Corporate Parenting Board.

CPB.21 SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN'S PARTNERSHIP BOARD ANNUAL REPORT

The board received the Safeguarding Children's Partnership Board Annual Report from the Safeguarding Children Partnership Coordinator.

Members were pleased to see that the report showed that the Local Safeguarding Children Partnership had moved from having priorities to implementing outcomes. They believed it was a step in the right direction and thanked everyone involved.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

CPB.22 DIGITAL POVERTY

The board received a presentation on digital poverty from The Strategic Lead for Skills and Employability and the Voice and Influence Coordinator.

An Our Voice Listen Up! representative explained that she had been able to access her schoolwork at home and received all the technology she needed. Another Our Voice Listen Up! representative added that it was not always about having the right technology to help, specifically for children in care, it was more around having the support around them. She stated that it was hard when the support they had around them changes or people leave. Having the relationship broken made it hard to focus on schoolwork and impacts on them emotionally.

Ms Curtin explained that if any changes were to be made in support relationships then this should always be discussed with the young person. This may not have necessarily been around relationships at home, but to make sure young people have the consistent relationship with professionals i.e., social worker.

Mr Walsh stated that we need to make sure that the same level of infrastructure was being implemented across the whole of the borough.

The Chair believed that it would be useful if this item were to be received again at a future meeting. Ms Curtin stated that there is a borough wide digital inclusion group led by Helen Isaacs and that she is linking the issues and solutions for young people into this wider agenda.

RESOLVED –

1. That the updated be noted.
2. That Digital Poverty return to a future meeting of the Corporate Parenting Board.

CPB.23 OUR VOICE, LISTEN UP' CHILDREN LOOKED AFTER ANNUAL SURVEY RESULTS/YOUNG PEOPLE INFORMING MEMBERS ON HOW THINGS HAVE BEEN FOR THEM DURING 2020.

The board received a verbal update from the young people who are part of the Our Voice, Listen Up' on the Children Looked After survey and informed members on how things have been for them during 2020.

An Our Voice Listen Up! representative informed the Board about things they have been doing, specifically a story she had written to help young people coming into care. The idea behind it was to give children and young people some support and an insight into what being in care was like. Ms Curtin added that the young person had also helped to develop recruitment for foster carers through writing a letter to potential foster carers. The annual survey results will be forwarded to New Futures team to see how they would want to proceed with the feedback Ms Curtin had received.

Councillor Lindley stated that it was useful to see the results to see how many people are involved with working with young people. He said that it was important to look at what young people were saying and bear in mind when implementing services.

Ms Arthey wondered how we could take the results forward to show that they were taking the results of the survey seriously. She wanted to make sure that they were using the results to improve the services involved. Ms Arthey confirmed that she would work with Ms Curtin to get things moving.

The Board requested that this came back to the Board as a 6-monthly update to see where we were with things. Ms Hewson stated that the dates of these updates would have to consider the different cohorts of young people to make sure it was not just one cohort that was being targeted.

RESOLVED –

1. That the updates be noted.
2. That an update on how the survey results had been implemented come back to the Corporate Parenting Board in 6-month time.

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 5.40 p.m.