

Meeting	Corporate Parenting Board
Date	5 June 2018
Present	Councillors K Myers (Chair), Cuthbertson (Vice-Chair), Brooks, Crawshaw, Funnell, Rawlings and Runciman

1. Declarations of Interest

At this point in the meeting Members were invited to declare any personal or prejudicial interests they might have in relation to the business on the agenda or any other general interests they might have within the remit of the Board.

Cllr Cuthbertson declared a personal non prejudicial interest in that he was a governor on the Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust.

Cllr Crawshaw declared a personal non prejudicial interest in that his partner was employed by Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys Clinical Commissioning Group.

Cllr Brooks declared a personal non prejudicial interest in that she was a governor on the Leeds & York Mental Health Trust.

2. Minutes

Resolved: That the minutes of the last meeting of the Corporate Parenting Board held on 16 April 2018 be approved and then signed by the Chair as a correct record.

It was agreed that Cllr K Myers would Chair the meeting and the appointment of a Chair and Vice-Chair for the 2018/19 municipal year would be ratified at the next meeting.

3. Public Participation

It was reported that there had been no registrations to speak under the council's Public Participation scheme.

4. You Are Not Alone Resource

Members considered a report that gave an overview of the 'You Are Not Alone' resource, which was created by York's Children in Care Council.

The Children's Rights Manager was in attendance to present the report along with a representative from York's Children in Care Council. They explained how ten care experienced young people had come together from across three participation groups that formed York's Children in Care Council (Show Me That I Matter (SMTIM) panel, Speak Up Youth and York's Care Leavers Forum) to create a booklet that highlighted some of the issues faced by young people in care, with a particular focus on mental health, in an attempt to raise awareness amongst young people.

Members noted that the young people involved took part in a series of workshops with Speak Up and Inspired Youth to develop their creative writing skills, as well as exploring some of the feelings and emotions that were often experienced by children and young people in care. This allowed them to identify issues they wanted to focus on, which formed the structure of the You Are Not Alone booklet.

Members were given the opportunity to view the booklet that provided advice, inspirational quotes and poems written by young people, as well as signposting young people to support services and online resources.

In answer to Members questions, officers confirmed:

- The booklet would be rolled out to all young people in care aged between 11-17 years and would be included in the information packs that were routinely given out to young people when they first came into care
- A copy of the booklet could be issued to every Councillor.
- The booklet would be shared with and training maybe offered to the relevant professionals and teams.
- The booklet would be uploaded onto the SMTIM website and information about how this resource was created would be shared with other Children in Care Council's across the region.
- SMTIM would consider collaborating with the I Still Matter group to produce a similar resource for care leavers.

- A timetable for the roll out of the booklet could be provided.

Members discussed the best approach to raising awareness of the Council's corporate parenting responsibilities and knowledge among all elected Members. The Director of Children, Education and Communities agreed to investigate this further.¹

Members congratulated all involved on producing an exceptional and informative booklet and they noted that SMTIM would continue to offer advice to young people in care and would also be focusing on positive outcomes.

Resolved:

- i) That the briefing on the You Are Not Alone resource be noted.
- ii) That the suggested action, to engage all Councillors as Corporate Parents, be coordinated.

Reason: In order to keep Members informed on the You Are Not Alone resource.

Action Required

<1> Consider options to engage all Councillors as Corporate Parents <1> JS

5. Emotional and Mental Health Needs of Children in Care - Partnership Update

Members considered a report that provided an update on our multi agency response to emotional and mental health needs of children in care.

The Group Manager of Achieving Performance gave an update and confirmed York had a multifaceted approach to supporting the emotional and mental health needs of children in care. Officers explained how they worked closely with partner agencies to supply a range of services that offered different levels of support to our children in care.

Members noted that the Children and Young People Emotional and Mental Health Strategic Partnership had recently been remodelled and the vision for York's children and young people in care was discussed.

The importance of understanding and supporting emotional/mental health including prevention and early intervention and the barriers to accessing services was discussed and in answer to Members questions, officers confirmed:

- Two multi agency sub groups would focus on prevention and intervention for which terms of reference were being drafted and membership was being agreed.
- The 'You Are Not Alone' booklet would be shared with foster carers.
- A Reflective Fostering pilot project would be delivered in partnership with the NSPCC and would increase foster carers reflective capacities using practical, easily learned techniques.
- Data could be provided at a future meeting to allow Members to observe how York was performing in supporting children in care's emotional needs.
- Delivery of Mental Health First Aid to practitioners in York had taken place at some schools and would continue to be delivered to school staff and foster carers.

Members thanked officers for the update and noted that further information was available on the following links:

<https://www.york.gov.uk/Wellbeing>

<http://democracy.york.gov.uk/mgCommitteeDetails.aspx?ID=76>

[3](#)

Resolved: That the update be noted.

Reason: In order that Board Members are kept informed with regard to issues in relation to the emotional and mental health needs of children in care.

6. Pathways for Children and Young People in Care (CYPIC) into Emotional and Mental Health Services

The Group Manager of Achieving Performance was in attendance to present a verbal update to Members on pathways for Children and Young People in Care (CYPIC) into emotional and mental health services.

Members were informed of the various levels of mental health support that were available and the routes children in care take

compared to children not in care. Members noted that the service offered to children in care was good and that the strategic partnerships were working on the options available.

Following discussions around some children in care experiencing instability or disruption due to a number of care placement moves, officers confirmed they monitor and hold key performance data on placement stability and would bring a performance report and case studies to a future meeting.

Resolved: That the update be noted.

Reason: To keep the Board updated.

7. Work Plan for 2018-19

Members considered the work plan for the 2018/19 municipal year.

Following discussion it was agreed that the work plan would include:

- A Placement Review update.
- Performance indicators and case studies around placement stability
- A report on enhancing our Corporate Parenting offer for Care Leavers
- Base line data on CIC emotional health.

Resolved: That the work plan be approved subject to the above amendments/additions.

Reason: To keep the committee's work plan updated

Cllr K Myers, Chair

[The meeting started at 5.00pm and finished at 6.00pm].

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