

<b>Report to:</b>	<b>RESILIENT COMMUNITIES AND CHILDREN'S SCRUTINY COMMITTEE</b>
<b>Relevant Officer:</b>	Diane Booth, Director of Children's Services
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	19 October 2017

## CORPORATE PARENT PANEL ANNUAL REPORT

1.1 To consider the annual report of the Corporate Parent Panel as set out in the terms of reference of that panel.

### 2.0 Recommendation(s):

- 2.1
- To note the contents of the report and to ensure that current work continues to meet statutory obligations.
  - To identify any further information and actions required.

### 3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 To be fully informed of the ongoing work of the Corporate Parent Panel and consider the annual report in line with the terms of reference of that panel.

3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? Yes

Other alternative options considered:

3.3 Services are subject to national and statutory frameworks.

### 4.0 Council Priority:

4.1 The relevant Council Priority is 'Communities: Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience.'

### 5.0 Background Information

## **5.1 The Corporate Parent Panel Annual Report**

5.1.1 From April 2016 to March 2017, there have been five meetings, three meetings led by Councillor Cain and two led by young people (Take over meetings). The group looked at a work plan in February 2017, to be reviewed at each meeting and the agenda set appropriate to that. The action plan developed over the months, work more recently has been undertaken to reduce the plan and group actions into themes.

5.1.2 Attendance at the meetings has included six elected members; representatives from JustUz and the participation officer; senior officers, a representative from Fostering, and invited officers from Headstart, ICT, Housing and Commissioning.

## **5.2 Work Undertaken**

5.2.1 The takeover meetings, run by young people have heard updating reports regarding children in care; foster carers; pledges; The Core and the Vulnerable Adolescent Hub (now known as Blackpool Young People's Service).

5.2.2 The last takeover meeting in June 2017 had a particular emphasis on four key areas including 'Housing', 'Communication', 'Our Future' and 'Finances'. Some clear messages were heard from young people around these areas and actions arising from this session are included in the action plan.

5.2.3 Other work has included updates from Customer Relations regarding customer feedback, housing, benefits for young people and care leavers, housing provision and support, safety online, Regulation 44 visits to residential homes and elected members becoming involved and updates from Headstart.

5.2.4 Reports to Corporate Parent Panel are now required to be presented to JustUz before being tabled at the Panel meeting. A young person friendly template has been created to capture the feedback from JustUz. At the last Corporate Parent Panel meeting in September reports were presented following this process, with clear feedback from young people and more meaningful engagement from the young people present at Panel.

## **5.3 Training and development**

5.3.1 Training has been undertaken with elected members regarding the Regulation 44 visits. Officers have not progressed a timetable for member participation in regulation 44 visits. This will be addressed in the next annual cycle of visits.

5.3.2 Online safety training was covered at the Foster Care Forum, as raised at Corporate Parent Panel.

## **5.4 Future work**

- 5.4.1 The action plan has been reviewed and was presented at the Corporate Parent Panel on 26 September 2017.
- 5.4.2 A work plan for Corporate Parent Panel has been developed by the Director of Children Service's and Democratic Governance and was shared at the Corporate Parent Panel meeting 26 September 2017.
- 5.4.3 In between Corporate Parent Panel meetings, Councillor Cain, Diane Booth and Danielle Bowater, Democratic Governance Adviser, will meet to review the action plan and follow up promptly on outstanding actions. This will reduce drift and prevent the Panel meeting becoming overly focused on the action plan, to allow more time for other business.
- 5.4.4 There is a Young People's conference scheduled for 4 November 2017. This is a North West conference for young people, hosted by Blackpool.
- 5.4.5 The next meeting of Corporate Parent Panel is Tuesday 14 November 2017. Following meetings will be held on –
- Tuesday 27 February 2018 – 5pm to 7pm
  - Tuesday 26 June 2018 – 5pm to 7pm
  - Tuesday 18 September 2018 – 5pm to 7pm
  - Tuesday 20 November 2018 – 5pm to 7pm
  - Tuesday 25 July 2018 2pm to 4pm (young people meeting 'take over' afternoon)

Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

## **7.0 List of Appendices:**

None

## **8.0 Legal considerations:**

8.1 None

## **9.0 Human Resources considerations:**

9.1 None

**10.0 Equalities considerations:**

10.1 None

**11.0 Financial considerations:**

11.1 None

**12.0 Risk management considerations:**

12.1 None

**13.0 Ethical considerations:**

13.1 None

**14.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:**

14.1 None

**15.0 Background papers:**

15.1 None