Corporate Parent Panel Annual Report 2019
Overview of Panel

The Corporate Parent Panel is chaired by Cllr Graham Cain Lead Member for Children’s Services. The Director of Children Services Diane Booth also attends along with representatives from the Justuz group and Heads of Service. The meetings are also attended by Elected Members representing all parties.

There are five Corporate Parent Panel meetings held annually, from June 2019 the Justuz Children in Care Council now take over the first hour of every meeting. They use this time to update the panel on any ongoing work, activities and events they have attended as well as raising any new issues and challenging panel members.

The corporate parent panel continues to work to a work plan this outlines the reports that are required for consideration by panel members to monitor progress and support the development of children service.

During the meetings individuals representing children services teams and organisations are invited to present their annual reports which give detailed accounts of the work being done to deliver services to our children and young people. The young people from the Justuz CICC are presented with the reports prior to the panel and invited to give their feedback, which is included in the finalised reports to ensure we capture the views and opinions of our children and young people. It is an expectation that all reports submitted to the panel will have had consultation with our children and young people and their views incorporated into the findings.

The corporate parent panel works to an Action Tracker any issues raised which need further development or information to be gathered is recorded on the action tracker. This is reviewed at each meeting to make sure actions are carried out and there is no drift and delay.

Set agenda items include:- Young People’s Update, Action Tracker, Foster Carer’s Update, Children’s Social Care Update, Work Plan and Calendar of Events.

Individuals are tasked with actions to complete and report back on at the next panel. It is imperative that tasks are completed in order to improve the services delivered.
Corporate Parenting Panel Report 2019

Work Undertaken

During this year work has been undertaken on the following:-

- **The Shake It Up Conference 2019** took place on 24th July 2019 at Blackpool Winter Gardens. Around 100 children aged 10 to 25 came together to take part in a full day of consultation, activities and of course to have fun. They had lots of things to tell us to help us Shake things up and have their say on how we shape the future of Children’s Services. The conference voted for Shake it up to be an annual event, so we will doing it all again in 2020 and hopefully build

- **Take Over Challenge Week 2019** … 40 of our children and young people took part this year taking over various roles within the council and our partner companies. The week was a huge success with lots of positive feedback from the young people and the adults whose roles they took over.

- **The Care Leaver Week** … took place in October half term. This was well attended by our Young People and the feedback was extremely positive.

- Lots more Council and wider partner **Opportunities for Our Young People**

- **Our War against Words Continues** … with more words been added to the Banned list. We are promoting this message far and wide encouraging all to use a language that cares.

- **Ring fenced jobs for Our Care Leavers** … our young people can now apply at the internal stage of application 1 week before it goes out to anyone else for all grade C roles and below.

- **Your Hired Crew**...the ongoing involvement of our children and young people in the recruitment process for Children’s service staff. Our young people are having a real say in who we employ, they are sitting alongside team managers, heads of service etc on the interview panels as well as holding their own group interview evening sessions.

Work Ongoing

- **Development and launch of a new App for Our Children and families** … to support the implementation of the New Model of Practice Blackpool Families Rock. The app will aid us to communicate in a smarter and speedier way with our families and children. We will be able to send notifications to their phones, alerting them to new opportunities, reminders for meetings, keep them updated or just check in to see how they are.

- **Co-production group with Headstart** to look at child exploitation in Blackpool
• Consultation on Our Children’s Health Assessments Justus have presented their recommendations to CP Panel further work is to be done.

Justuz Consultation 2019 – review of Our Children

We were asked to find out the views of our children and young people about their review meetings and the role of their Independent Reviewing Officers in their lives.

The Tell us what you think questionnaire was produced with the support of Justuz and was sent out to 330 of Our children and young people between the ages of 8 to 18.

60 questionnaires were returned. Justuz took the results and created a short film to present the views of all of our children in a fun and engaging way. The film has been shared at Corporate Parenting Panel and with the IRO service.

Their Recommendations to us were...

IRO’s need to ....... come and see us before our review so you get to know us really well.

IRO’s need to ....... explain to us more about your job so we know you are not just someone who chairs our reviews.

IRO’s need to ....... make sure that all of us know how to contact you and we have your contact us card.

IRO’s need to ....... make sure we get invited to our review and check out if we want to come to all or some of it.

IRO’s need to ....... make sure we have a say in how, when, where and who, when our reviews are being planned.  Plan our reviews with us!

IRO’s need to ....... give us the choice of a themed review and ask us if we want to chair it.

IRO’s need to ....... add a free text section to our review booklets so we have a space to ask any other questions we want and add a new section on Our Future!

IRO’s need to ....... make sure we all know we can fill out our review booklet online.

IRO’s need to ....... make sure our reviews are individual to us!
IRO’s need to ........ make sure that our reviews are Friendly, Fun, not Formal, we can have Food and they are not too long.  **Remember it’s OUR review not yours!**

IRO’s need to ........ make sure everyone in the meeting uses words that we understand...NO Jargon. **Remember the War Against Words!**

IRO’s need to ........ make sure everybody focuses on the positives and that we leave our reviews feeling good about ourselves.  **Difficult conversations can be had outside of our review.**

IRO’s need to ........ make sure we get the minutes of our review, write to us in a way we understand and make sure we get a copy of our plan.

**Training and Development**

- Justuz have been asked by the teaching partnership to be involved in the training of social work students.

- Justuz are helping to deliver key messages to our ASYE during their induction week.

- Continuing to develop new ways of informing our workers about key messages from children.

- Our young people have been involved in training for foster carer’s and social workers

**Celebrating Our Children’s Achievements**

Our yearly Celebration of Achievement awards will be once again held on Friday 6th March 2020. In line with our Blackpool Families Rock model of practice the Justuz group have requested we re-name the awards **THE YOU ROCK AWARDS 2020.**

Nomination forms have been circulated to carers, social workers, IRO’s, personal advisors, schools so they can nominated their children and young people for 2020 awards.
Corporate Parenting Panel Report 2019

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