

Children's Services - Corporate Parenting Overview and Scrutiny Sub Panel Agenda

Monday 29 April 2013, 4.30pm - 6.30pm

Littledown Youth Centre, Chaseside, Bournemouth

Panel Members:

Elected Members

Councillor Christopher Wakefield - Vice Chairman

Councillor Malcolm Davies

Councillor Beverley Dunlop

Councillor Susan Phillips

Councillor Allister Russell

1 vacancy

Councillor Nicola Greene - Cabinet Member with portfolio for Education and Children's Services

Non Elected Members

Ms Lynn Giles	Action for Children
Mrs Ella Christopher	Action for Children
Mrs Janice Gilkes	Primary Phase Parent Governor
Mr Ted Taylor	Virtual School Governing Body
Fiona Haughey	Community Health representative
Teri Roberts	Dorset Police representative
Lesley Bond	Foster Carer representative
Helen Hartnell	Foster Carer representative
Vacancy	Foster Carer representative

and CLICK Members

Minimum Number of Elected Members required to attend - quorum - 3 members

Note to Elected Members: All Members serving on this Panel are required to have a valid Criminal Records Bureau check on account of contact with young people. Please bear this in mind if you are considering substituting for this Panel, and contact Democratic Services at an early stage for advice if you are unsure about this.

Directions to Littledown Youth Centre:

- The Youth Centre is located within the Littledown complex at Chaseside.
- It is separate to the main building and situated within the main car park. The Youth Centre building is close to the basketball court, at the far side of the car park near Castle Lane.
- A number of main bus routes stop at Royal Bournemouth Hospital, which is opposite the Littledown Centre.

For further information please contact: Matthew Wisdom, Democratic Services Officer,
Legal and Democratic. Tel: 01202 451107. E-Mail: matthew.wisdom@bournemouth.gov.uk

For electronic copies of agenda and minutes visit the Council's web site:
<http://www.bournemouth.gov.uk/CouncilDemocracy/Councillors/BoardsPanels/CoporateParentingPanel.aspx>

Please note that this is a timed agenda

Items for Discussion with the Press and Public Excluded*

* NOTE: In relation to the items of business appearing below, the Panel is asked to consider the following resolution:-

"That under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1 and 2 in Part I of Schedule 12A of the Act and that the public interest in withholding the information outweighs such interest in disclosing the information.

1. MEMBERSHIP OF PANEL

The Democratic Services Officer will report on the membership of the Panel together with any apologies.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive any declarations of interest from Members of the Panel on matters before the meeting.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 28 January 2013, circulated at 'A'.

4. ICE BREAKER - 4.35 pm - 4.45 pm

5. HOW EFFECTIVE ARE WE IN PROVIDING SERVICES FOR AND WORKING WITH LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN? - 4.45 pm - 5.25 pm

To receive a presentation from the Service Manager - Children's Social Care.

6. BREAK - 5.25 pm - 5.30 pm

7. DRAFT LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN STRATEGIC COMMISSIONING AND IMPROVEMENT STRATEGY 2013/14 - 5.30 pm - 6.10 pm

To receive a presentation from the Service Manager - Children's Social Care.

8. DRAFT CORPORATE PARENTING PANEL WORK PROGRAMME 2013/14
- 6.10 pm - 6.30 pm

To consider the draft Work Programme for 2013/14, to be tabled at 'B'.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

To consider any other business of which prior notice has been received and by special circumstances, which shall be specified in the minutes, the Chair is of the opinion that the items should be considered as a matter of urgency.

DESCRIPTION OF EXEMPT INFORMATION

Paragraph 1 - Information relating to any individual

Paragraph 2 - Information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual

Children's Services Corporate Parenting
Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Panel
28 January 2013

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillor Chris Wakefield - Vice-Chair in the Chair; Councillors Malcolm Davies; Beverly Dunlop and Susan Phillips

ALSO PRESENT:

Councillor Barry Goldbart

NON-ELECTED MEMBERS PRESENT:

Lesley Bond	Foster Carer representative
Ella Christopher	Action for Children
Janice Gilkes	Primary Phase Parent Governor
Fiona Haughey	Community Health Representative
Ted Taylor	Virtual School Governing Body

and 2 CLICK Members

ALSO PRESENT:

Gill Bishop	Service Manager, Family Support & Placement Services
Aideen Cleary	Team Manager, Looked After Children
Hilary Evans	Strategy Leader, Vulnerable Groups
Lisa Male	Looked After Children Participation Worker
Peter McMutt	Strategy Lead for Secondary on behalf of Helen Thomson, Virtual School head
Susan Poole	Team Manager, Looked After Children
Mary Taylor	Team Manager, Fostering

The meeting started at 4.35pm and finished at 6.43pm.

Councillor Dunlop arrived at 4.42 pm and Councillor Phillips arrived at 5.02pm
Ted Taylor left at 6.02 pm and Fiona Haughey left at 6.20 pm.

The meeting adjourned between 5.39pm and 5.42pm

Note: To see a copy of the public reports that were considered by the Panel at this meeting please visit:

<http://www.bournemouth.gov.uk/CouncilDemocracy/Councillors/BoardsPanels/CoporateParentingPanel.aspx>

Please note that the next meeting of the Corporate Parenting Panel is scheduled to take place at the Littledown Youth Centre at 4.30 pm on Monday 29 April 2013.

It is recommended that you check this information with Democratic Services closer to the scheduled date of the next meeting in case the arrangements have been changed.

Contact: Claire Gray, Democratic Services Officer
☎ 01202 454627
✉ claire.gray@bournemouth.gov.uk

Children's Services Corporate Parenting Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Panel, 28 January 2013

Agenda Item / Report No.	Minute No.	Matter Considered	Decisions Made
Item 1	1	<p>Membership of Panel</p> <p>The Vice-Chair reported that Councillor Anne Rey had resigned from the membership of the Panel consequently a new Chairman needed to be appointed. However at the time the meeting was inquorate and therefore a new Chairman could not be elected.</p>	<p>It was agreed that the election of a new Chairman for the Panel would be deferred until the next meeting.</p> <p>Apologies were received from Kim Drake and Lynn Giles and apologies for lateness were received from Councillor Philips.</p>
Item 2	2.	<p>Declarations of Interest</p>	<p>There were no declarations of interest made by Panel members on any of the agenda items.</p>
Item 3	3.	<p>Minutes of the last meeting held on 1 October 2013</p> <p>Clause No: 34 - Action Training on Missing Children</p>	<p>The minutes were agreed.</p> <p>Gill Bishop advised that no training had been scheduled since the last meeting but that she would remind Jean Haslett of the need to include CPP Members.</p>
Item 4	4.	<p>Ice Breaker</p> <p>Two CLICK Members presented their ice breaker and everyone present took part. A Number of Members and Officers shared their responses with the Panel.</p>	<p>The CLICK Members were thanked for organising the Ice Breaker.</p>
Item 5	5.	<p>Educational Achievements of Looked After Children (LAC)</p> <p>Peter McNutt on behalf of Helen Thomson, Head of the Virtual School for LAC and Hilary Evans provided the Panel with background information on the attainments of LAC.</p>	<p>The information provided on the Educational Achievements of Looked After Children be noted.</p> <p>In response to the issues raised concerning the designated teacher role the Panel agreed that</p>

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		<p>The number of children at each key stage was outlined and a significant minority of children were educated in schools outside Bournemouth presenting particular challenges.</p> <p>The Panel was asked to take part in Phonics tests aimed at six year olds and Key stage two and three tests in English and Maths in order to gain a better understanding of the attainment levels that children were expected to achieve. This was especially relevant in light of the frequent stories in the press concerning falling test standards.</p> <p>Hilary reported on the barriers to learning for some LAC which included not having English as a first language, some children had not been in the country for very long, some children had only recently become looked after and often had very poor attendance records.</p> <p>Case studies for a number of looked after children were circulated to the Panel to consider some of the problems and challenges they faced and then what they had gone on to achieve. It was noted that once children were in care their attendance often improved and consequently they had the opportunity to improve attainment. The Panel also considered a data set for achievement at KS1, KS2, KS3 and KS4. However as the numbers in each cohort were very small they were not considered statistically relevant. Although they were in line with national averages.</p> <p>Feedback from CLICK members was that, whilst in some schools designated teachers were really effective,</p>	<p>a piece of further work should be done on this particularly taking into account the views of looked after children to recognise the gaps and weaknesses, asses why these have occurred and identify what can be done better. It was suggested that the virtual school governing body could assist with looking into this. Helen Thomson and Hilary Evans to arrange and report back to a future meeting of the Panel.</p> <p>That a list of Designated Teachers be forwarded to Mary Taylor for circulation to all foster carers to ensure that all LAC knew who their designated teacher was.</p> <p>Any Member who was a school governor was asked to find out who the designated teacher was at their school.</p> <p>Members were asked to note that two 'Celebrating the Success of Young People' events were being held on the 1st and 2nd March and that so far 130 nominations for awards had been received.</p>

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		<p>sometimes LAC did not even know who their designated teacher was. The Participation Worker asked if the change to academies would make any difference to the Council's role in terms of designated teachers but it was confirmed that it should not.</p>	
<p>Item 7 Presentation</p>	6.	<p>OFSTED Inspection of Fostering Services</p> <p>Mary Taylor reported on the Ofsted Inspection for fostering services which took place over four days in October last year. Mary explained that the process was 'scary but positive'. The inspection judgements had changed since the last inspection and it was now more difficult to achieve a 'good' rating, despite this Bournemouth's fostering service had improved since the last inspection from satisfactory to good.</p> <p>Some of the areas highlighted in the report included the positive impact of the youthful, creative and challenging fostering team, that children and young people feel part of a family, the skills training for foster carers, the CLICK audit and focus groups for foster carers.</p> <p>The report found that there was positive work by foster carers concerning responding to boundaries and there was also good support received by foster carers. Mary drew the Panel's attention to the comments in the report which were the most satisfying, that the service was 'child focused and aspirational'.</p>	<p>It was noted that the full report was available on the Ofsted Website.</p> <p>That a copy of the presentation slides should be included with the next Councillor Information Bulletin.</p> <p>The Vice-Chairman asked CLICK members whether they agreed with the outcomes of the inspection concerning boundaries. Lisa Male suggested that feedback could be gathered on this issue through the TRG.</p> <p>That the presentation slides should be circulated to all foster carers by email.</p>

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Item 8	7.	<p>Support for Young People Leaving Care</p> <p>Aideen Cleary gave a presentation to the Panel on young people leaving care in Bournemouth. Aideen reported on the number of care leavers, where support from care leavers could come from, EETS and NEETS and the work being done to improve the position and assistance with accommodation.</p> <p>It was noted that the number of care leavers overlapped with the number of children in care. As the number of care leavers was based on those young people who were 16+ but the number of children in care included all young people in care up to 18 years old.</p> <p>It was noted that the number of care leavers had increased in recent years but that the number of Pathways Workers and actually decreased by one over this time. However 16 and 17 year care leavers would also have a social worker.</p> <p>The training flat had been used very successfully and many young people had stayed there. It helps with assessing a young person's readiness for independence. Life skills training for self-sufficiency as well as skills training for employment was very important and there were links in place with Bournemouth and Poole College to promote this.</p> <p>Aideen finished by sharing a case study on a young person who was seeking financial assistance to continue in higher</p>	<p>It was agreed that a small working group should be set up to look further into the issues raised by the case study which was presented to the Panel.</p>

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		education and asked the Panel for their response on the case. All members acknowledged that it was a difficult decision and this was exasperated by the fact there was no funding for post 18 care leavers.	
Item 9	8.	Meeting dates 2013	The meeting dates for the remainder of 2013 were noted.
Item 10	9.	Councillor Anne Rey	Following the resignation of Cllr Rey from the Panel, it placed on record its thanks to Cllr Rey for her work as a Member and subsequently Vice-Chairman and Chairman of the Corporate Parenting Panel and her role as independent visitor at Milton House.