

Notice of Corporate Parenting Panel Meeting

Monday 4 June 2018 at 5:00pm

**HMS Phoebe Committee Room, Town Hall,
Bournemouth**

Panel Members:

Elected Members:

Councillor Nicola Greene

Cabinet Member with portfolio for
Education and Children's Services - Chair
Member of Children's Services Overview
and Scrutiny Panel – Vice-Chair

Councillor Bobbie Dove

Member Champion for Children and Young
People

Councillor Rae Stollard

Councillor Michael Weinhonig

Member of Community Overview and
Scrutiny Panel

Councillor Blair Crawford

Member of Fostering/Adoption Panel

Councillor Lynda Price

Member of Fostering/Adoption Panel

Non-Elected Members:

Sue Ross

Director Adults and Children - Children's
Social Care

Lisa Male

Looked After Children Participation
Worker

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 Disclosure and Barring Service check. Please bear this in mind if you are considering substituting for this Panel. Please contact Democratic Services at an early stage for advice if you are unsure about this.

For further information, please contact: Samineh Richardson, Senior Democratic and Overview and Scrutiny Officer, Legal and Democratic. Tel: 01202 454713.

E-mail: samineh.richardson@bournemouth.gov.uk

For electronic copies of the agendas, reports and minutes please visit the Council's website:

<http://www.bournemouth.gov.uk/CouncilDemocratic/CouncilMeetings/CommitteesPanels/CorporateParentingPanel.aspx>

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.

NOTE: Timings are approximate and subsequent agenda items may run later than scheduled depending on the number of public items received.

5.00pm – 5.15pm

1. MEMBERSHIP OF PANEL

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

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members are asked to declare in accordance with Procedure Rule 5:

- a. any disclosable pecuniary interests in any item under consideration at the meeting as required by the Localism Act 2011;
- b. any memberships of outside bodies where such membership involves a position of control or significant influence on the organisation concerned;

Members are also asked to state fully the nature of the interest(s). If any member has a query on any particular matter, please contact the Deputy Head of Democracy in advance of the meeting.

3. NOMINATION OF VICE-CHAIR

The Panel will elect a vice-chair for the period May 2018 – May 2019

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING – circulated at '4'.

To confirm the minutes of the meetings held on 28 February 2018

5.15pm – 5.20pm

5. ITEMS CIRCULATED TO MEMBERS FOR INFORMATION

The following items have been circulated separately by email to Members of the Panel for information.

- **Performance data** – Mike Felstead,

If Members have any comments or questions on these items please could these be emailed to the Democratic Services Officer at the details above by **Thursday 17 May 2018**.

Members will be asked to confirm whether further work is required on these items and the agreed method for this to take place.

5.20pm – 5.50pm

6. A CHILDS JOURNEY THROUGH THE CARE SYSTEM - CLICK PRESENTATION

To review the experience of children in care and looked after children throughout their journey in the care system, and; to consider the number of different people involved in caring for a child. CLICK will also provide a presentation that will highlight areas concerning a Child's Journey in the Care system and as Care Leavers.

5.50pm - 6.10pm

7. CONSISTENCY OF SOCIAL WORK ALLOCATION FOR CHILDREN IN CARE

The Panel requested a 6 month update on the number of social workers involved in a child's care, following a meeting on this issue last year.

6.10- 6.40pm

8. CARE LEAVERS – HOUSING PROVISION FOR LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN AND CARE LEAVERS

An update will be provided on what support is available, what progress has been made over the last two years and how housing and budget issues could be further improved.

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

**Corporate Parenting
Panel
28 February 2018**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillor Nicola Greene (Deputy Leader) - Chair; Councillor Bobbie Dove - Vice-Chair, Councillors Rae Stollard, Michael Weinhonig, and Blair Crawford.

NON-ELECTED MEMBERS PRESENT:

Lisa Male Participation Worker, Children's Social Care
Click Member

OFFICERS PRESENT:

Kayleigh Jones 16+ Care Leavers Team
Mike Felstead Service Manager - Quality Assurance and Safeguarding
Penny Lodwick Service Manager - LAC and Care Leavers
Suzie Levett Virtual School Head Teacher
Tracey Tomlin Post-16 Looked After Children/Care Leavers team
Wayne Chappell Caseworker

FROM LINWOOD SCHOOL:

Sue Bridle Assistant Head Teacher

FROM PARLEY FIRST SCHOOL:

John Bagwell Head Teacher

FROM BOURNEMOUTH AND POOLE COLLEGE:

Sara Churchill Student Welfare Coach - Bournemouth and Poole College

The meeting started at 5pm and finished at 7pm

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

<https://www.bournemouth.gov.uk/councildemocratic/CouncilMeetings/CommitteeMeetings/CorporateParentingPanel/2018/02/28/corporateparentingpanel28-feb-2018.aspx>

Please note that the next meeting of the Corporate Parenting Panel is scheduled to take place on 4 June 2018.

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: Samineh Richardson, Democratic and Overview and Scrutiny Officer

☎ 01202 454713

✉ samineh.richardson@bournemouth.gov.uk

Corporate Parenting Panel, 28 February 2018

Agenda Item / Report No.	Minute No.	Matter Considered	Decisions to be confirmed at the next meeting
Item 1	1	<p>MEMBERSHIP OF THE PANEL</p> <p>Apologies were received from Councillor Lynda Price</p>	
Item 2	2	<p>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</p> <p>There were no declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests or other interest from members.</p>	
Item 3	3	<p>MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 29 NOVEMBER 2017 AND THE MEETING OF 4 SEPTEMBER</p> <p>There were no actions arising from the minutes.</p>	The minutes were agreed as a correct record.
Item 4	4	<p>ITEMS CIRCULATED TO PANEL MEMBERS FOR INFORMATION</p> <p>Performance data was circulated by the Quality Assurance and Safeguarding Head of Service. The data looked at key LAC statistics for Bournemouth Borough Council including the number of Looked After Children, 237, and the rate of LAC per 10,000 of the child population which was 66.75 compared to 72.1 in the South West and 62 in England.</p>	
Item 6	5	<p>CLICK SURVEY PRESENTATION ON EDUCATION</p> <p>The Panel received a presentation from CLICK members. The presentation highlighted the key findings from part of the review of The Promise, which is Bournemouth's promise to Looked After Children (LAC). All children and young people, aged 8 to 17, who were in care, were asked to fill in a survey that identified what was very important, important or not</p>	The Participation Worker agreed to send a copy of the presentation and the

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		<p>important to them in considering their care, 55 responses were received. The presentation was split into themes that included contact with family, health, money, preparation for independence, social workers, being involved in their own care, their placement and education.</p> <p>It was highlighted to the Panel that most LAC found it either important or very important to know why they weren't able to have contact with their families. In considering their health, most LAC said it was important to have support with their emotions and to have a placement that helped them to stay healthy, however 24 respondents said a regular visit with a LAC nurse was not important. Nearly all LAC said that pocket money and allowances were important or very important (52) and that they wanted have a say in how their money was managed (48). They also wanted help learning how to manage their money (38). Most respondents said support to develop the skills needed to live independently was important, this included receiving information before they turned 18 on options for accommodation when they leave care.</p> <p>Of all the responses 42 respondents said that having a social worker was important. The responses highlighted that the majority of LAC wanted their social worker to listen to them, ask about their wishes and feelings, be accessible and be able to speak to them in private. Nearly all respondents, 53, said that staff following through with their promises was important or very important and similarly 54 LAC said that honesty was important or very important. In response to the survey questions about their placement, most LAC said they wanted a safe place where they could settle and where they were also fed and clothed. Most also wanted the opportunity to get to know their carers before they moved in and to live with friends and family where possible.</p> <p>In education, it was important to LAC to be able to attend school trips, to have help planning their next steps and for their status as LAC to be kept confidential. Thirty-eight respondents wanted their carers or keyworkers to go to parent's evenings with them and 39 LAC wanted</p>	<p>full review of The Promise to members</p>

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		<p>information about 6th forms and universities. Support with accommodation, information about grants, costs and the application process for university was important. LAC also wanted volunteering and work experience opportunities to be offered to them.</p> <p>Members discussed why respondents considered certain things unimportant and whether there were some young people who didn't want intervention. They also discussed the work that could be done to make despondent LAC feel like a priority. The chair highlighted to the Panel that the Promise had been to Cabinet on the 24 January and would be agreed at Full Council on 6 March. The participation worker agreed to send a copy of the full review of The Promise and a copy of the presentation to members.</p>	
	6	<p>PROGRESS AND ATTAINMENT OF PUPILS ATTENDING BOURNEMOUTH'S VIRTUAL SCHOOL FOR LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN AND AN OVERVIEW OF EDUCATIONAL ISSUES</p> <p>The Panel received an update from the Virtual School Head Teacher on the educational progress, attainment, outcomes and provision of education for looked after children in Bournemouth. It was highlighted to the Panel that a new Personal Education Plan for LAC had been successfully implemented. The plan included direct feedback from LAC whose input had led to improvements in the service, for example, feedback had highlighted that LAC saw staff's identity badges' as a visual indicator that they were in care. It was important to LAC to not be identified as a looked after child, so badges were no longer displayed while staff were with the child. The feedback was considered a valuable tool in helping to tackle LAC's issues as they arose.</p> <p>It was also highlighted that there had been a successful event at Absolute Music. LAC had come together to rehearse for a live piece of music and had appreciated the opportunity to rehearse and to spend time with other LAC who were going through similar</p>	<p>The Vice-Chair, Virtual School Head Teacher and the LAC and Care Leavers Service Manager agreed to meet to see how communication channels could be improved and to see whether a monthly meeting could be set up to ensure any issues could be tackled.</p>

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		<p>experiences. There had also been special educational needs and disability (SEND) activities organised for LAC and a literacy event at Kinson Library.</p> <p>The Virtual School Head Teacher highlighted that Key Stage 2 results for LAC were the best in the South West and were approaching the average for non-looked after children. The Panel were also informed that the team would be fully staffed by Easter and that a new post 16 case-worker, employed to spend 50% of their time with separated children, would soon be in post. It was also brought to the attention of the Panel that staff caseloads had more than doubled in the last ten years.</p> <p>A member of the Post-16 Looked After Children Team updated the Panel on LAC in education post 16. The Panel were informed that no care leavers had dropped out of university and that two were accessing higher education courses at Bournemouth and Poole College. A post 16 case-worker had also been employed to offer a drop-in service at Bournemouth University, it was hoped that this would improve retention rates. There was also a new process in place to help LAC who wanted to make an application to college.</p> <p>The Chair invited the Head Teachers present at the meeting to share their experiences, particularly any experiences relating to LAC that could be important to the Council as a Corporate Parent. The Head Teachers highlighted the positive work that was being done with LAC and emphasised the importance of good communication between the schools, the Local Authority and the social care workers. Communication was described as a priority by those that attended the Panel. The Vice-Chair, Virtual School Head Teacher and the LAC and Care Leavers Service Manager agreed to meet to see how communication channels could be improved.</p>	

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		<p>The impact of the pupil premium was discussed. A looked after child told the Panel that he enjoyed his extra-curricular activities and had support for his schooling. Another young person said that he hadn't enjoyed school until he had an education case worker.</p> <p>A number of questions were raised by members. The main points discussed were as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whether interventions to help reduce young people Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) were working. The Panel discussed policy that was helping, for example transport help including lifts and pre-apprenticeship programmes. They also highlighted that some LAC may be struggling with mental health issues or have other priorities that need to be addressed before they can enter employment or training. The Panel were informed that flexibility was important because young people may need to come off programmes due to personal circumstances and in these cases a plan should be put in place that allows them to continue once they are able; • It was highlighted to the Panel that there needed to be a balance between sport, academic and musical opportunities depending on what the young person's talents and passions were. The more that the children and young people engaged with these activities the more likely they were to engage in other areas. • The difficulties that young people face at school were discussed and whether intervention could be carried out earlier and be personalised to make the education system work for the young person. The possibility of using Pupil Premium Mentors was raised and the importance of raising the young person's self-esteem was discussed; • All LAC were allocated a Personal Advisor prior to their 16th birthday, this coincided with a planned withdrawal of the LAC's social worker. The Panel 	

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		<p>discussed the impact of this happening during the GCSE period and queried whether the conversations regarding post 16 options could start earlier. Bournemouth University had said that aspirations to attend University should start in primary schools and should challenge stereotypes. A care leaver stressed their own experience of achieving at school and then leaving 6th form after 4 months, not realising there was support available. The importance of information regarding support being readily available was pointed out;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ofsted and accountability in teaching was discussed and the importance of personalising the young person's curriculum. • The Panel discussed the recognisable link between carers attendance at university and the subsequent attendance of LAC in their care. The Panel were informed that carers needed reminding that it was important to provide a space for the young people to work, they did not need to be able to understand the work themselves. The Panel were informed that foster carers have annual reviews and an education caseworker will provide feedback for that review. There were also a number of mechanisms in place for flagging and escalating concerns. Additionally, there were annual rewards for carers that recognised their commitment to training. • It was highlighted that the South West did not perform well nationally when looking at the educational attainment of LAC. The question of what more could be done for young people was posed to the Panel. It was explained that statistics were sometimes unhelpful, for example where there are extreme educational needs in the cohort and where pupils underachieve due to their personal circumstances. To improve LAC's results, it was put forward that looking at the stability of placements could be beneficial. LAC may also benefit from an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) to assess the child's need, this would also benefit out of borough LAC. 	

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was pointed out to the Panel that out of borough children needed to be reached; the Council needed to look externally for best practice and there needed to be effective and timely communication between professionals. The Virtual School Head Teacher, The Service Manager-LAC and Care Leavers and the Vice-Chair agreed to meet to discuss communication and the potential for monthly meetings. The Chair invited the Virtual School Head Teacher to attend the next Corporate Parenting Panel meeting on Education. <p>The Chair thanked all those in attendance and advised them they were always welcome.</p>	

Children's Services

Corporate Parenting Panel

Report Subject	Consistency of social work allocation for children in care
Meeting date	4 th June 2018
Cabinet Portfolio	Councillor Nicola Greene, Education and Children's Services
Corporate Lead	Jane Portman, Adults and Children, Executive Director, Deputy Chief Executive
Service Director	Sue Ross, Director Adults and Children
Status	Public
Classification	For Consideration
Report author	Mike Felstead, Service Manager Standards  01202452720  Mike.Felstead@Bournemouth.gov.uk
Executive summary	<p>As children and young people go through the difficult and stressful experience of growing up in care they need a strong and enduring relationship with their social worker that provides a source of continuous support, advice, inspiration and advocacy.</p> <p>The introduction of the POD structure is one of a number of strategies recently introduced to reduce the number of different social workers that work with our children and young people.</p> <p>This report provides data on the current cohort of children in care and highlights the number of social workers that have been involved with them. Described within the report are strategies in development that will minimise further the potential for social work inconsistency with children and young people.</p>
Recommendations	That the Corporate Parenting Panel have an overview of the current levels of consistency of social worker and the strategies that have been introduced to minimise the level of change in the lives of young people in the care system.

Reasons for recommendations	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Stable relationships are the platform on which children in care can build their lives and achieve their potential. 2. Consistent, high quality relationships are important; they help children develop secure attachments and enhance feelings of security, support their ability to form relationships as they grow into adults, and enable the development of a sense of belonging and identity. 3. Changing professionals such as social workers may mean secure connections are lost and trust must be rebuilt.
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Consistency of social work allocation for children in care

1. Introduction

- 1.1 As children and young people go through the difficult and stressful experience of growing up in care they need a strong and enduring relationship with their social worker that provides a source of continuous support, advice, inspiration and advocacy.
- 1.2 Some young people who are or have been in care suggest that the relationship with their social worker can lack continuity. Whilst some children and young people have a strong relationship with their social worker many have none: they have had too many social workers and have seen too little of those they have had.
- 1.3 Key to addressing the issue of continuity of social worker for the children and young people is a strong retention strategy. As part of the measures put in place to retain staff in Bournemouth was the introduction of the POD structure.
- 1.4 The POD structure was introduced in Bournemouth in 2017. This structure was designed to ensure that sufficient workers were allocated to children and young people in care; caseloads were manageable; staff had an employment progression route; and continuity was available for children if circumstances arose where the social worker was unable to meet with the child or undertake tasks to progress the care planning process.
- 1.5 Monitoring the number of social workers that have been allocated to children and young people is a way to check that the implementation of the POD structure fulfils these expectations. However, monitoring continuity of social worker is a complex process for several reasons:
 - The cohort of children in care is constantly changing.

- Who was allocated to each child is not recorded on the electronic recording system in a way that can measure over time.
- Young people themselves may request a change of worker.
- Data collected relate to who undertakes a statutory visit. Social workers cover for each other during extended periods of leave or sickness.

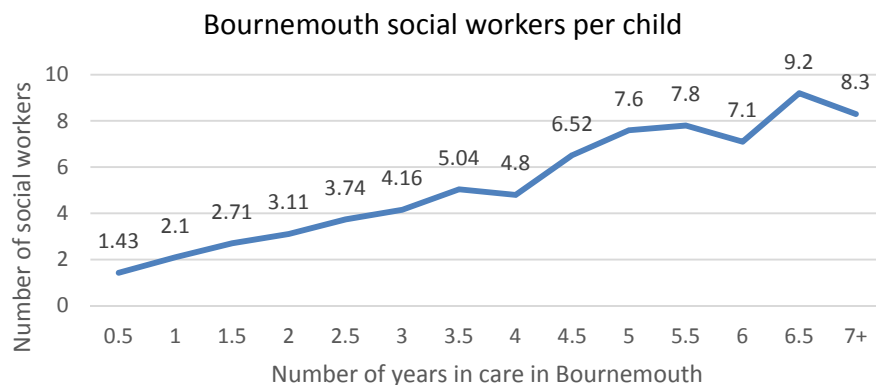
For these reasons the data presented below should be read with some caution.

1.6 Isolating and then comparing the period where the POD structure was introduced is not possible unless considered longitudinally over many years.

2. What the data shows

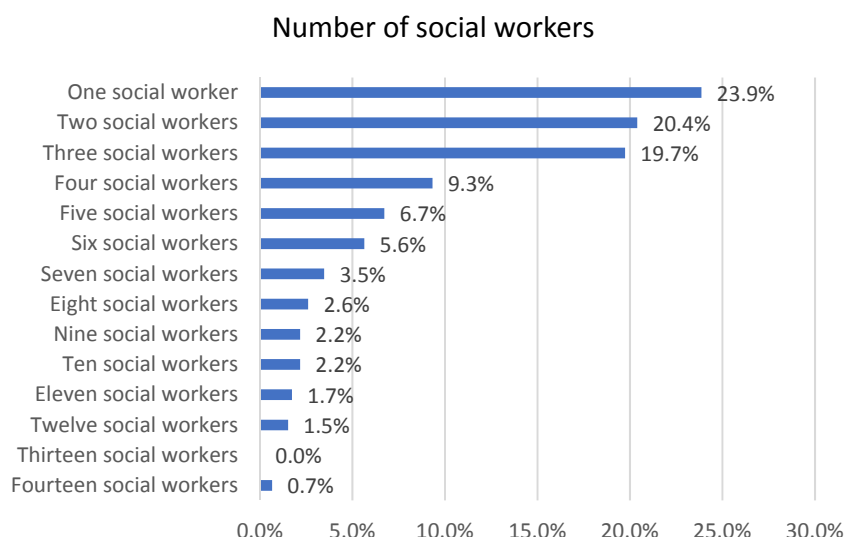
2.1 The data looked at every child and young person who received a statutory LAC visit from a social worker. By establishing how many different social workers undertook the visits to the child gives an indication of the number of social workers allocated.

2.2



2.3 This graph shows that the longer a child/young person spends in care the greater the chance of having an increased number of social workers undertaking the statutory visits. After six months in care the average number of social workers per child is 1.43. This increases by around half a social worker every six months. By the time the child/young person has been in care for three and a half years they will on average have experienced five different social workers.

2.4



2.5 On average a child/young person experiences a different social worker visiting them every 219 days they are in care. Nearly a quarter of young people go through their whole time in care with only one social worker, 64% of children and young people have just three changes of social worker.

2.6 A small number of children and young people experience a high number of social workers during their time in care. The graph above suggests 0.7% or 3 children and young people are in this position. These three children have been in the care system for an average of 8.57 years.

2.7 Without data from other local authorities it is difficult to know whether Bournemouth performance compares favourably. The data identifies the number of social workers who have been involved with the child, often over many years

3. Stability in the Looked After Children Team

3.1 The introduction of the POD structure brought a period of unprecedented stability in the Looked After Children Team, based at the Town Hall. In the 13 months since the POD system was introduced only one social worker has left the team to go on maternity leave.

3.2 The LAC Team have on their caseload 114 children. Whilst in the LAC Team only 5 children have had a change of social worker.

3.3 Much work has been done to minimise the number of social workers prior to them coming to the LAC Team or moving from the LAC Team into the 16+ Team. Each child or young person's situation is looked at individually to explore how the transfer protocol can be adapted to fit the young person's unique circumstances. This often involves discussions with the young

person, with any decision-making being based on the wishes of the young person and what is in their best interest.

- 3.4 The various measures that are taken to improve stability for children in care and reduce the number of placement moves can also have an impact on the stability/consistency of social workers. For example, when adoption is the plan for the child wherever possible and when appropriate we are moving children to early permanence 'foster to adopt' placements. Case responsibility for these very young children transfers to Aspire Adoption once the placement order is made and the allocated social worker remains with the child until the final adoption order is made.
- 3.5 The transfer protocol is not rigidly applied for young people moving into the 16+ and Care Leavers Team. The LAC Team are currently working with ten children who are over 16 years of age. Their transfer to another team and subsequent change of social worker has been delayed because the young person is not wanting a change of social worker or the young person has a number of other changes in their life such as exams, school issues, placement issues or family changes.
- 3.6 The social work teams are committed to considering a transfer at a time that is right for the child rather than one that fits with the system in place. It is envisaged that the transfer point for some young people may be closer to 17 years as required.

4. **Future developments to improve social work consistency**

- 4.1 The robust focus on securing permanence for our looked after children and preventing drift in care planning will hopefully lead to a reduction of the amount of a time children remain in the care system and thus reduce the opportunity for several changes of social workers.
- 4.2 It is envisaged that the introduction of the Signs of Safety, in the case of LAC children, Signs of Stability strengths based practice model in Bournemouth and Poole over the coming year will help us improve our practice and outcomes of looked after children and care leavers.

Corporate Parenting Panel

Report Subject	HOUSING PROVISION FOR LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN AND CARE LEAVERS
Meeting date	Monday, 4 th June 2018
Cabinet Portfolio	Councillor Nicola Greene, Education and Children's Services
Corporate Lead	Sue Ross, Director Adults and Children
Service Manager	Penny Lodwick, Service Manager, (Children, Young People and Families Services)
Status	Public
Classification	For information
Key Decision	No
Impacts on Key Policy Framework	No
Report author	<p>Sarah Langdale, Access To Resources (ART), Team Manager (Community Learning and Commissioning) ☎ 01202 458848 ✉ sarah.langdale@bournemouth.gov.uk</p> <p>Dave Crewe, Supported Lodgings, Separated Children Seeking Asylum, 16+ and Care Leavers, Team Manager (Children, Young People and Families Services) ☎ 01202 458970 ✉ dave.crewe@bournemouth.gov.uk</p>
Executive summary	This report provides a summary of the provision of accommodation for Looked After Children (LAC) and Care Leavers aged 16 years and over in Bournemouth and the commissioning intentions for 2018/2019.
Recommendations	Report is for information only
Reasons for recommendations	As above

Background detail

1. This report sets out the housing arrangements currently in place for Looked After Children (LAC) and Care Leavers aged 16 years and over provided through Adults and Children's Commissioning along with Housing.
2. It is recognised that it is a corporate responsibility held jointly by Children, Young People and Families Services, Commissioning and Housing to develop a pathway to address Looked After Children and Care Leavers housing and support needs using the resources we have available whilst continuing identifying commissioning needs for the future

An update will be provided on what support is available, what progress has been made over the last two years since this subject area was previously discussed at Corporate Parenting Panel and how housing and budget issues could be further improved.

Legalisation and Governance

3. The Housing Operational Group is a multi-agency meeting with members from Housing, Children, Young People and Families Services, Children's and Adults Commissioning, Early Help Hub, and Bournemouth & Poole Youth Offending Team. The role of this group is to resolve the operational issues that occur for professionals and young people when accessing accommodation services and in turn inform current and future commissioning of young people accommodation services based on identified need. This will include issues around demand for services.
4. The work of the Housing Operational Group has been successful over the last five years in establishing close working relationships between teams and facilitating the successful roll out of joint protocols and processes.
5. In our experience the welfare reform changes have not impacted on care leavers to date. The proposed move to remove Housing Benefit for 18 to 21 year olds did not proceed and there were sufficient exceptions to this that care leavers would not have been affected anyway.
6. Care Leavers over 18 are given automatic priority need within homelessness legislation until the age of 21 years. This means they will be eligible for assistance with their accommodation.

7. All the accommodation and support options detailed within this report are commissioned through statutory processes and continually monitored for performance and quality.

Accommodation Provision Options

Supported Housing Services

8. In Bournemouth, we have 29 units of supported housing accommodation over three sites delivering high and medium housing related support to 16 – 18 years old. Referrals are made through the SP Hub within Housing Options and priority is given to 16 and 17 year olds.
9. Previously there was an emergency bed located at one of the high support services however through the Housing Operational Group it was raised that this arrangement was not effective and a new emergency process has been introduced which allows practitioners to identify if a young person has nowhere to stay and prioritise them for the next available vacancy in either of the high support services.

Rent deposit/Tenancy Schemes

10. A rent deposit loan scheme is available to young people who are moving on from supported accommodation. The young person is put forward for the scheme by the support provider who evidences the progress a young person has made and confirms they are ready for independent accommodation. This option gives young people choice about the area in which they can live and flexibility in terms of the accommodation however with lower local housing allowance rates for under 35's in reality this will mean renting in a shared house.
11. Children's Commissioning, ART have also worked with Legal and Housing colleagues to facilitate accommodation options including signing tenancies on behalf of a young person when the situation is right for the young person. The tenancy would automatically transfer to the young person when they turn 18 years.
12. The implementation of the multi-agency 'Housing Allocation Panel' by Children, Young People and Families Services in April 2017 and overseen by the LAC and Care Leavers Service Manager enables 16+ Personal Advisors to present cases where it may be appropriate for young people to access a 'rent deposit/rent in advance loan scheme' which enables young people to access the private rented market to secure accommodation

Accommodation Options for Care Leavers

13. Children, Young People and Families Services provide Care Leavers with an opportunity to access a 'training flat' from 16 years plus, this gives young people a taste of independence within a furnished flat with support provided. The experience can last up to three months and gives professionals the opportunity to identify the areas of independence support required for the young person prior to them leaving their current placement.
14. Supported lodgings placements including Enhanced Carers are also available, currently there are 19 approved carers with 27 beds available (an increase of 19 beds since last reported in November 2016). A young person is matched to a family providing a home in a family environment. Care leavers are identified by their Personal Advisor and a referral is completed and sent to ART and then onto the Supported Lodgings Practice Manager for matching against suitable carers.
15. Despite the limited availability of Council housing stock and around 4,000 people on the Housing Register, there are up to 15 flats made available through Dorset HomeChoice for Care Leavers who have been identified by their Personal Advisor and presented at the 'Housing Allocations Panel' for approval to allocate Gold Band Status so they bid for suitable accommodation.

2015/16

13 lets

12 council – all still occupying

1 Housing Association (not confirmed if still resident)

2016/17

15 lets

10 council (2 evicted & 1 abandoned)

5 Housing Association (1 transferred through housing register – rest not confirmed if still resident)

2017/18

4 lets

3 council (all still resident)

1 housing association (not confirmed if still resident)

It is important to note that the 2017/2018 figures are reflective of the robust matching of young people to appropriate accommodation. The Housing Allocation Panel ensures all young people can afford the accommodation and are prepared to live independently, additional young people were referred in this period however they are currently bidding for suitable accommodation.

16. Since 2014 Bournemouth, in line with legislation, has had 'Staying Put' arrangements in place for all young people. This means LAC residing in foster care placements have the right if they wish to stay with their foster families after their 18th birthday, when both the young person and the foster family agree. We currently have 22 young people under the 'staying put' scheme which is an increase of 8 since last reported in November 2016.
17. Children's Commissioning, ART have recently developed semi-independent accommodation provision for care leavers aged 16 plus when appropriate. There are now seven spot purchase supported accommodation self-contained flats available which provide ART with the flexibility to commission based on the needs of young people. This has increased by two since last reported however it is important to note that the figure fluctuate as young people move in or out of the accommodation.
18. Post 16 accommodation in a supported residential environment is also available to care leavers, this is shared accommodation with support within a house of multiple occupancy.
19. In addition to this ART have contracts in place with two providers out of borough who will locate suitable accommodation for care leavers currently placed out of borough and manage their moves to the new accommodation and support them thereafter. For some young people this will enable them to remain in the area they have become settled following a residential placement.

Future Commissioning Need

20. The Housing Operational Group will continue to analyse the accommodation needs of care leavers and report strategically on their commissioning needs. Operationally ART ensure services and accommodation options are available to meet young peoples identified need.
21. In September 2017 ART launched it's 'Professionals Guide to Post 16 Accommodation Options for Looked After Children and Care Leavers', the purpose of this document is to ensure that all Personal Advisors and professionals are aware of the accommodation options available to young people.

22. Separated Children Seeking Asylum cohort, joint work continued and the market was developed to meet this emerging need, we now support 26 young people ranging in age from 15 – 19 years old. We have a range of accommodation options available which include in-house supported lodgings and foster care, supported lodgings with an external provider called International Care Network, hostel accommodation with support and semi-independent provision with support in a shared house
23. Continue the expansion of the In-House Supported Lodging Scheme, already increased capacity by 137% over the last two years. This scheme enables young people to live in a family based setting with support. A recent Facebook campaign has returned over 100 new enquiries from people in Bournemouth interested in becoming Supported Lodgings Carers.
24. Working alongside Housing colleagues we will continue to review the accommodation needs of our 18yrs plus cohort, an innovative new idea to support young people pre 18yrs in accommodation which they can continue in post 18yrs is currently being developed. It is hoped this project will be implemented in 2018/2019.
25. Further promote the MOMO app which is designed for young people in order that they can freely share their wishes and feelings at any time and prior to statutory reviews, this can be used to raise concerns to professionals regarding accommodation concerns. Increase awareness of the commissioned support provider's complaints process which young people should use to voice concerns.
26. The 'Training Flat' is currently being refurbished, our vision is that it will be used for intensive work (based on AQA modules) with young people over a three-month period to prepare them for independent living.
27. The 16+ and Care Leavers team are in the process of setting up budgeting sessions and developing other independence training sessions for our children and young people aged 16 and over.
28. An enhanced version of Supported Lodgings has been developed to accommodate our more complex and often challenging young people. As part of the enhanced scheme we have introduced AQA Unit Awards. These are training activities that are linked to the Government's 21 Life Skills and enable young people to develop a portfolio of evidence of their independence skills. Bournemouth Council are an accredited AQA centre and the plan is to roll out the

AQA Unit Awards to all Supported Lodgings carers and Foster Carers in Bournemouth.

Note

1. The layout and paragraph numbering style can also be viewed on the example of a recent Cabinet report based on the new template attached at Appendix 1 to this briefing paper.
2. Do not number headings - number paragraphs/sub-paragraphs only.
3. Do not use full stops after paragraph and sub-paragraph reference numbers/letters.
4. Document text size should be 12pt. Sub-headings should be 14pt.
5. Use Verdana font – this has been agreed by the Corporate Management team as an exception to the current corporate font
6. All body text should be left aligned.
7. Use bold sparingly. Only highlight a few words rather than a paragraph.
8. Don't use blocks of capitalised letters, and try not to use any italics or underlining.
9. Do not use un-numbered bullet points.

Consultation

Paper for information only

Options

Paper for information only

Summary of finance and resourcing implications

N/A

Summary of legal implications

N/A

Summary of human resources implications

N/A

Summary of environmental impact

N/A

Summary of equalities and diversity impact

Paper for information only

Summary of risk assessment

Paper for information only

Background papers

Appendices

Supported Housing Pathway

Corporate Parenting Panel

Work Programme 2018

Panel meeting date: 4 June 2018

Care Leavers / A Child's Journey

Item Title	Reason for Item	Lead Officer(s)/Member(s)
CLICK Presentation	To receive a presentation from CLICK members on the key issues and experiences of looked after children and care leavers in relation to the theme - a child's journey in the care system.	CLICK members
A Child's Journey in the Care System	To review the experience of children in care and looked after children throughout their journey in the care system, and; to consider the number of different people that a child in care comes into contact with on their journey.	Penny Lodwick, LAC and Care Leavers - Service Manager and Lisa Male, Participation Officer Councillor Blair Crawford
Changes in Social Worker for Looked After Children	To receive a 6-month update on the number of Social Workers for LAC and to consider information gathered from CLICK on how the changes in Social Workers effect young people. The Chair requested that a newly qualified and an experienced social worker from the LAC team be invited to share their experience.	Penny Lodwick, LAC and Care Leavers - Service Manager Councillor Lynda Price

Item Title	Reason for Item	Lead Officer(s)/Member(s)
Care Leavers - Budgeting and Housing Issues	An update will be provided on what support is available, what progress has been made over the last two years and how housing and budget issues could be further improved.	Dave Crewe, Team Manager Children's Social Care and Sarah Langdale Councillor Michael Weinhonig

Panel Meeting date: 5 September 2018

Fostering / Identity

Item Title	Reason for Item	Lead Officer(s)/Member(s)
CLICK Presentation	To receive a presentation from CLICK members on the key issues and experiences of looked after children and care leavers in relation to the theme - a child's journey in the care system.	CLICK members
Revised Scheme of Fees and Charges for In-House Fostering	For the Panel to review the effectiveness of the recently introduced scheme.	Councillor Lynda Price
Matching	For the Panel to receive an update on how this takes place and what opportunities there are for LAC to become involved with the process and the choices that are provided to LAC and foster carers.	
Maintaining relationships with friends and family, including extended family	For the Panel to receive information on the links and contact that LAC have with friends and family prior to placement and from previous placements both within the care system and when moving to permanency.	

Item Title	Reason for Item	Lead Officer(s)/Member(s)
Community/religion and cultural links to LAC's backgrounds	For the Panel to consider how the community, religious and cultural links are maintained and promoted for LAC	

- The identity element may involve a workshop

Panel Meeting date 26 November 2018

Health

Item Title	Reason for Item	Lead Officer(s)/Member(s)
CLICK Presentation	To receive a presentation from CLICK members on the key issues and experiences of looked after children and care leavers in relation to the theme - a child's journey in the care system.	CLICK members
Mental Health Barriers	To receive feedback and an update on the issues that the Panel raised 12 months previously concerning mental health issues for LAC and how these are being addressed.	Designated and Named Nurses for LAC
Looked After Children Health Annual Report	For the Panel to consider the annual report following its sign-off by the CCG Governing Body and ask questions of the Designated Nurse prior to a presentation on the key themes.	Designated and Named Nurses for LAC

Annual Items/Items to allocate

Item Title	Reason for Item	Lead Officer(s)/Member(s)
Advocacy Annual Report	To receive the annual report on advocacy and for the Panel to be assured that LAC have access to advocacy as and when needed to a high standard.	