

Corporate Parenting Committee

Tuesday 1 May 2012

2.00 pm

Ground Floor Meeting Room G02C - 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH

Membership

Councillor Catherine McDonald (Chair)
Councillor Lisa Rajan (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Barrie Hargrove
Councillor Claire Hickson
Councillor Eliza Mann
Councillor Rosie Shimell
Councillor Althea Smith
Barbara Hills
Gordon McCullough

Reserves

Councillor Poddy Clark
Councillor Patrick Diamond
Councillor Helen Hayes
Councillor Wilma Nelson

INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Access to information

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Or email: bola.roberts@southwark.gov.uk or paula.thornton@southwark.gov.uk

Webpage: <http://www.southwark.gov.uk>

Members of the committee are summoned to attend this meeting

Eleanor Kelly

Acting Chief Executive

Date: 23 April 2012



Corporate Parenting Committee

Tuesday 1 May 2012
2.00 pm
Ground Floor Meeting Room G02C - 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH

Order of Business

Item No.	Title	Page No.
	MOBILE PHONES	
	Mobile phones should be turned off or put on silent during the course of the meeting.	
	PART A - OPEN BUSINESS	
1.	APOLOGIES	
	To receive any apologies for absence.	
2.	CONFIRMATION OF VOTING MEMBERS	
	A representative of each political group will confirm the voting members of the committee.	
3.	NOTIFICATION OF ANY ITEMS OF BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIR DEEMS URGENT	
	In special circumstances, an item of business may be added to an agenda within five clear days of the meeting.	
4.	DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS	
	Members to declare any personal interests and dispensation in respect of any item of business to be considered at this meeting.	
5.	MINUTES	1 - 4
	To approve as a correct record the minutes of the open section of the meeting held on 21 February 2012.	

Item No.	Title	Page No.
6.	ADOLESCENT AND AFTERCARE SERVICE	5 - 13
	2.00pm – 2.15pm	
7.	NEET (NOT IN EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT OR TRAINING) STRATEGY REPORT	14 - 20
	2.15pm – 2.30pm	
8.	PERFORMANCE REPORT - LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN	21 - 24
	2.30pm – 2.45pm	
9.	CORPORATE PARENTING COMMITTEE - WORK PLAN 2011/12	25 - 27
	2.45pm – 2.55pm	

ANY OTHER OPEN BUSINESS AS NOTIFIED AT THE START OF THE MEETING AND ACCEPTED BY THE CHAIR AS URGENT.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

The following motion should be moved, seconded and approved if the sub-committee wishes to exclude the press and public to deal with reports revealing exempt information:

“That 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 1-7, Access to Information Procedure rules of the Constitution.”

PART B - CLOSED BUSINESS

ANY OTHER CLOSED BUSINESS AS NOTIFIED AT THE START OF THE MEETING AND ACCEPTED BY THE CHAIR AS URGENT.

Date: 23 April 2012



Corporate Parenting Committee

MINUTES of the OPEN section of the Corporate Parenting Committee held on Tuesday 21 February 2012 at 7.00 pm at 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH

PRESENT: Councillor Catherine McDonald (Chair)
Councillor Lisa Rajan
Councillor Eliza Mann
Councillor Rosie Shimell
Councillor Althea Smith

OFFICER SUPPORT: Rory Patterson (assistant director of specialist services & safeguarding), Chris Saunders (head of looked after children service), Jackie Cook, Alasdair Smith, Paul McCarthy (children's services), Paula Thornton, Bola Roberts (constitutional team), Bernard Monaghan (chair of the adoption panel) and Dr. Anthony Tam, Guys and St. Thomas' NHS Trust.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Claire Hickson and Barrie Hargrove.

Apologies were also received from Barbara Hills.

2. CONFIRMATION OF VOTING MEMBERS

The members listed as presented were confirmed as the voting members for the meeting.

Additionally, Gordon McCullough (Community Action Southwark) was confirmed as a non-voting co-opted member of the committee.

3. NOTIFICATION OF ANY ITEMS OF BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIR DEEMS URGENT

There were no urgent items.

4. **DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS**

There were no disclosure of interests or dispensations.

5. **MINUTES**

RESOLVED:

That the open minutes of the meeting held on 8 November 2011 be agreed as a correct record and signed by the chair.

6. **PRESENTATION ON CARE PLANNING GUIDANCE AND REGULATIONS FOR CHILDREN IN CARE - THE NEW LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN & CARE LEAVERS**

The committee heard a presentation in respect of the above.

The officer confirmed that the government had renewed the legal framework for children in care, with effect 1 April 2011 and the statutory guidance, regulations and legislation that were now applicable. The background and context for these changes were outlined.

7. **ADOPTION SERVICE INSPECTION REPORT**

The committee heard presentations from Dr. Anthony Tam (Guys and St. Thomas' NHS Trust) and Bernard Monaghan (chair of the adoption panel) in respect of this item.

Officers confirmed that the final Ofsted report was awaited. At this juncture a motion to exclude the press and public was moved in order to consider these preliminary findings.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

It was moved, seconded and

RESOLVED:

That 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 paragraph 7a, Access to Information Procedure rules of the Constitution.

The committee heard an outline of the key issues and likely recommendations of the Ofsted inspection report which were provisional pending the issue of the final report from Ofsted. Therefore the information was considered in closed session.

The committee returned to open session to consider the report on the agenda.

RESOLVED:

1. That the results of a full Ofsted adoption inspection which took place from 9 – 12

January 2012 be noted.

2. That the ongoing requirements placed upon the corporate parenting committee outlined in the new adoption regulations April 2011 be noted and agreed.
3. That it be noted that the Ofsted Adoption Inspection was GOOD whilst several key areas were outstanding.
4. The committee extended their thanks and congratulations to officers for their hard work and commitment.

8. OFSTED INSPECTION OF THE FOSTERING SERVICE IN DECEMBER 2011

RESOLVED:

1. That it be noted that Ofsted carried out an announced inspection of the Fostering Service on 12 – 14 December 2011.
2. That it be noted that the report on the inspection was received on 17 January 2012 which confirmed that Ofsted had given the Fostering Service an overall quality rating of GOOD, noting many areas of the service that the inspectors considered to be of outstanding quality (see Ofsted letter – Appendix 1 of the report).
3. That the action plan (set out in paragraph 13 of the report) to address the three recommendations made by Ofsted for securing future improvement of the service be noted and that committee receive updates on the progress of the actions.

9. INDEPENDENT REVIEWING OFFICER ANNUAL REPORT 2010/11

RESOLVED:

1. That the Independent Reviewing Officer Annual report (Appendix A of the report) be noted.
2. That an action plan be drawn up for implementation of the key priorities noted in section 11.2 of the report

10. CHILD AND ADOLESCENT MENTAL HEALTH (CAMHS) - CARELINK

This item was deferred.

11. LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN AND OFFENDING

RESOLVED:

That the report outlining service provision for looked after children who enter the care system as a result of offending behaviour be noted. The committee conveyed

their gratitude to all officers and social workers involved.

12. CORPORATE PARENTING COMMITTEE - WORK PLAN 2011/12

RESOLVED:

1. That the work plan for 2011/12 as set out in paragraph 5 of the report be agreed.
2. That the report on child and adolescent mental health (CAMHS) carelink be considered at the 'Be Healthy' theme meeting in July 2012.

The meeting ended at 9.00pm.

CHAIR:

DATED:

Item No. 6.	Classification: Open	Date: 1 May 2012	Meeting Name: Corporate Parenting Committee
Report title:		Adolescent and Aftercare Service	
Ward(s) or groups affected:		All	
From:		Strategic Director of Children's Services	

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. To note the delivery of the Adolescent and Aftercare Service for looked after children and care leavers (13-21) contributes to economic well being.
2. To note the Children Looked After service will be relocated to a single purpose built central location in Peckham from May 2012.
3. Corporate Parenting Committee to promote key partnerships/protocols with other council services to target looked after children and care leavers to deliver tangible outcomes regarding apprenticeships, training and further education.
4. That the cabinet member for children's services write to all cabinet members to clarify how the needs for adolescent looked after children and care leavers are being met within their portfolio areas and encouraging interventions that are in place or being developed.

KEY MESSAGES

5. The Adolescent and Aftercare service (A & AC), continues to perform well, delivering good outcomes for older children in care and care leavers.
6. The A & AC service has developed a broad range of service partnerships to enhance services and target support where most needed.
7. The new building will enhance service capacity to deliver successful independence transition at 18 for the most vulnerable care leavers and successfully helping them to engage in Education, Employment and Training as young adults.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Adolescent and Aftercare Service

8. The Adolescent and Aftercare Service was established in 2007 as part of a single service (business unit) for Southwark's looked after children and care leavers.
9. The Adolescent and Aftercare service (A & AC) is one of three services which make up the overall service for children in care and care leavers, these being the:

- Adolescent and Aftercare service (13-21)
- Services for children in care 0-12 and primary
- Fostering Support Services

Each service area is led by a Service Manager consisting of a number of social work teams with support from administration, finance and specialist co-located staff.

10. The Adolescent and Aftercare Service provides the care planning function for looked after children from the age of 13-18 and aftercare support until the young person achieves the age of 21 (25 if attending university/higher education).
11. The Adolescent and Aftercare Service has five teams which provide the full range of services for looked after children and care leavers (13-21). These being:-
 - Two teams for children in care aged 13-18
 - Two aftercare teams for care leavers aged 18-21 (24 if in university or higher education).
 - One team for unaccompanied minors and unaccompanied minor care leavers.
12. The core responsibilities of the Adolescent and Aftercare service are:-
 - Deliver personalised care planning to include health, education, pathway and transition plans
 - Maintain meaningful contact and support for young people who have left care up to age of 21
 - Deliver support to young people who wish to attend university/higher education up to the age of 25
 - In partnership with primary health, Specialist Health Trusts and Drug Treatment Agencies deliver effective health interventions to include reducing teenage pregnancy and substance misuse
 - Deliver specialist partnerships with Police, Community Safety and Youth Offending Services to address issues relating to youth offending including children in care who are on the cusp of crime or associating with gangs
 - To work alongside colleagues in Southwark's CLA Education Team to narrow the gap relating to attainment especially at Key Stage 4 (GCSE)
 - Deliver a range of interventions post 16 to promote semi independence skills including group work, mentoring, life skills training and deliver placement stability
 - Deliver effective participation arrangements with young people and

Speakerbox to improve, evaluate and shape services

- Working in partnership with Southwark housing, supporting people (including Adult Services) and the private sector (commissioned services) deliver appropriate living accommodation and support for care leavers
- Contribute towards an effective strategy to support young people in employment, education or training from the age of 16 -21, involving partnerships with Connexions, Southwark works, Southwark College, Southwark's Apprenticeship Scheme and targeted youth support (TYS)
- Provide specialist advice, intervention and support, specific to unaccompanied minors and unaccompanied minors leaving care (and those with no recourse to public funds).

KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

13. There are a number of core functions the A & AC service provides to enhance access to employment, education and training.

Case Management

14. The core function of the Adolescent and Aftercare Service is to provide qualified experienced and motivated social workers and personal advisors to be allocated to each looked after child and care leaver. Currently the Adolescent and Aftercare team have no social worker or personal advisor vacancies. Social workers currently have a maximum case load level of 14 looked after children and personal advisors have between 22 & 25 care leavers
15. Social work and personal advisor activities are monitored with regards to the impact of their direct work with children and care leavers as well as delivering key planning activities around education, employment and preparation for independence (from 18).
16. The children looked after service recognises that the Adolescent and Aftercare Service provides support for some of the most vulnerable young people and young adults in the community. It is recognised that this group may be particularly subject to issues relating to youth crime, substance misuse and anti social behaviour and would therefore want Southwark's services to be effective in delivering economic well being and ensuring care leavers are able to make a positive contribution. The Adolescent and Aftercare Service therefore has a key role to lead a range of strategic partnerships to provide targeted interventions as appropriate.
17. Many of Southwark's looked after children do not begin to settle and make sense of their lives until they have left care. It is therefore crucial that the Adolescent and Aftercare Service maintain effective contact with care leavers up to the age of 21 to provide all the necessary support and encouragement. Over 95% of Southwark's care leavers at the age of 19 are still in touch with their personal advisor and living in suitable accommodation.

Additional Vulnerability

18. Some looked after children may be additionally vulnerable to teenage pregnancy, substance misuse and engagement in youth crime. Others might have additional pressures upon their emotional well being (mental health) as a result of previous trauma or neglect. The Adolescent and Aftercare Service therefore have a screening process which can identify young people from the age of 13 (or later if arriving in care over the age of 13) which can highlight specific vulnerability and trigger referrals to key partners.
19. As a result of the vulnerability screening the following specialist referrals can be made: -
 - (a) Teenage pregnancy services. The CLA Service joint funds a women's worker with the teenage pregnancy strategy to target young women in care. The Family Nurse Partnership Service is also available to provide support to young mothers.
 - (b) Insight (commissioned substance misuse services for young people) through a specific protocol which offers targeted services to looked after children.

NB: Members of Insight and the women's worker attend Southwark's drop in and group work programmes to directly engage with Southwark's most vulnerable children and will receive referrals directly from social workers who have undertaken screening activities relating to substance misuse.

- (c) Vulnerability to youth crime. The screening process enables young people to be identified as vulnerable to youth crime which triggers a strategy meeting involving Southwark's youth offending service to identify early intervention and diversionary activities as well as support to placement carers.
- (d) Emotional Well Being. All looked after children coming into the care system are subject to mental health screening (Strength and difficulty questionnaires – SDQ) which can identify early issues relating to mental health. This screening process enables prompt referrals to be made to Southwark's co located mental health team (Carelink) to deliver specific interventions.

NB: It is well known that children in care who have issues relating to crime, emotional health, substance misuse and early motherhood are less likely to access the world of work and further education. The A & AC Service therefore screens at 13 to identify issues as early as possible.

Key initiatives

20. The Adolescent and Aftercare Service has developed a number of key initiatives to enhance services provided and improve outcomes for children leaving care at 18 and achieving full independence at 21.

These are as follows: -

Apprenticeship Scheme

21. In partnership with Southwark's organisational development team, the looked after service has developed a protocol to enable care leavers to fully access the council's apprenticeship scheme (20%).
22. The protocol has clear targets with regards to Southwark's care leavers accessing apprenticeship placements as a percentage of all apprenticeships on offer.
23. To support this process, each year the Adolescent and Aftercare Service deliver a short preparation course for those care leavers who wish to apply for a Southwark apprenticeship.
24. The CLA Service provides a leadership role (modeling) through the establishment of two apprenticeship posts within the service, (finance and group work)
25. To support care leaver apprenticeships successfully completing their training and placements, there are designated lead officers within the Aftercare Service and organisation development who track progress and will intervene early as soon as any problems arise.

Coaching Scheme

26. In partnership with Southwark's organisational development team, a pilot project was successfully delivered in 2009 which allocated care leavers with Senior Southwark Managers who wished to coach care leavers. Specific training was provided for Southwark Managers to develop coaching/mentoring skills for vulnerable young adults and raise awareness of the needs of care leavers.

Drop In Service

27. The Aftercare service introduced a "drop in" service at Bradenham Close in 2010. The drop in service is a key initiative delivered in partnership with Southwark's youth work service (TYS) to maintain contact with the most difficult to engage children in care and care leavers aged 16-21. The Bradenham resource centre is available three days per week for young people who are not engaged in employment, education and training or have been assessed as having raised vulnerability. The service has input and advice from partner workers including specialist nurses, employment advisors, Connexions and Insight. From 2012 it is proposed to expand the provision to include CAB and dental services. .
28. The drop in is provided to maintain contact with vulnerable care leavers to enable the service to continue supporting them and maintaining some momentum towards them regaining access to employment, education and training opportunities.
29. The service will be relocated to new premises from May 2012. The drop in

resource has been reshaped with input from young people to include kitchen, groupwork and IT resource.

Housing Protocol

30. Southwark Specialist services has a long standing protocol with Southwark housing (over 20 years). The protocol enables care leavers to access level 2 priority for Southwark housing at 18. Under leaving care legislation, local authorities are required to provide suitable accommodation for all care leavers. For most care leavers in London this results in care leavers being allocated a house of multiple occupation or a temporary tenancy in the private market. Through Southwark's protocol with housing (including supporting people) Southwark is able to offer a tenancy (twelve month probationary tenancy in keeping with general Southwark policy) at 18 which provides suitable accommodation at affordable rental costs. For all young people who are deemed to be vulnerable at 18 and require additional support, Southwark housing allow the children looked after service to have direct referral access to "supporting people" placements which provide up to 2 years supportive housing till the young person is ready and able to cope with their own tenancy.

Southwark Works and Connexions

31. The Adolescent and Aftercare Service have an active partnership with Southwark Connexions and Southwark Works to provide allocated staff who are able to target the most vulnerable care leavers who may struggle to access the employment, education and training markets.
32. In partnership with the CLA education Service, social workers also identify the young people who do not have firm plans and directly intervene to help young people from 16 clarify their pathways and access special projects to help them engage and prepare. The impact of these partnerships and protocols are measurable through attainment levels at 18 and those that are accessing employment, education and training at 17 and 19 (key performance indicators). The CLA Services ability to maintain its current employment, education and training levels in the current economic circumstances reflects the impact of these partnerships.
33. There is a 6 weekly tracking group chaired by the A & AC service manager with key personnel to track every individual aged 16-19 who is NEET.

Group Work and Fusion Partnership

34. The CLA service has a group worker who is able to deliver a range of activities and learning opportunities for young people in care and care leavers. This acts as a focal point for partners who wish to deliver key health and developmental inputs for looked after children and care leavers. Examples of the impact of group work can be seen through the delivery of sexual health promotional activity and more social events such as black history month (Windrush) and the young people/staff choir (CLA celebration ceremony).
35. Southwark's leisure centre contractor, Fusion is committed to a further protocol

from April 2011 to deliver free gold memberships to looked after children and care leavers from 14 – 20.

36. From April 2012 a new initiative is being introduced to promote sport and hobbies for every child in a Southwark foster placement.

Communication and Participation

37. The Adolescent and Aftercare Service are fully committed to consulting with young people relating to their individual care plans and evaluation and shaping of services. The service actively uses the Speakerbox magazine to promote services and delivers a range of information materials for young people. In addition all young people when they reach the age of 13 are invited to visit the Adolescent and Aftercare Service for an induction event where they meet staff and key partners.
38. Speakerbox plan to develop their own facebook page in 2012/13 to enhance communication and service feedback.
39. A similar induction event is managed by the Aftercare Team when young people reach the age of 18 to explain the service and introduce them to key partnership staff.
40. The Adolescent and Aftercare Service have almost completed the development of an interactive website to promote service awareness, signpost forthcoming events and book appointments with key staff.

Single Location for CLA Service

41. That the whole CLA Service will be integrated into a single location May 2012. The current design proposals incorporate all of the current facilities available to the Adolescent and Aftercare Service which will be updated and modernised. This resource will enhance the work of the service as a whole particularly the drop in, employment, training, skills development and group work processes. It is expected that through the co location of the Carelink team (now increasing its remit from 16 years to 18 years of age) there will be more effective early intervention planning for young people who have emotional well being issues.

Service Overview

42. The performance and impact of the Adolescent and Aftercare Service is subject to regular scrutiny by the Corporate Parenting Committee through the series of partnership reports and performance reports.

Policy implications

43. There are none.

Resource implications

44. The Adolescent and Aftercare Service delivers statutory provision for looked after children and care leavers and is delivered within current resources allocated to the

Children's Looked After Services. There are no additional resource implications in this report.

45. As part of the overall looked after service, the Adolescent and Aftercare service has a key part in delivering direct involvement of young people in their individual service plans and evaluating and shaping service delivery.

Community impact statement

46. Southwark CLA Services works to promote the five outcomes for children in care as outlined in every child matters. It is recognised that placement stability, engagement in education, access to leisure and healthy lifestyles all help to build resilience for young people to successfully achieve economical wellbeing and making a positive contribution from 18.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
Support for young people leaving care http://www.southwark.gov.uk/info/840/children_in_care/628/support_for_young_people_leaving_care	www.southwark.gov.uk	Alisdair Smith Telephone 020 7525 0654

APPENDICES

No.	Title
None	

AUDIT TRAIL

Lead Officer	Rory Patterson, Deputy Director, Children's Specialist Services & Safeguarding	
Report Author	Rory Patterson, Deputy Director, Children's Specialist Services & Safeguarding	
Version	Final	
Dated	18 April 2012	
Key Decision?	No	
CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER		
Officer Title	Comments Sought	Comments included
Strategic Director of Communities, Law & Governance	No	No
Finance Director	No	No
Cabinet Member	No	No
Date final report sent to Constitutional Team	18 April 2012	

Item No. 7.	Classification: Open	Date: 1 May 2012	Meeting Name: Corporate Parenting Committee
Report title:		NEET (Not in Education, Employment or Training) Strategy Report	
Ward(s) or groups affected:		All	
From:		Strategic Director of Children's Services	

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the committee note the information and advise of further actions required.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2. The local authority has a statutory duty to ensure that all young people aged between 16 and 19 are offered a suitable course of post 16 study. The authority has an additional duty to offer targeted support for the most vulnerable groups. This includes children who are looked after. From 2015 the duty changes to ensuring that all young people participate in learning up until the age of eighteen.

KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

3. The Specialist Education Services (SES) team takes a strategic lead on the council's policies and plans for raising participation and ensuring that all young people are fully prepared to be economically independent during their adult lives.
4. There are three key areas to this strategy:

Locate and engage

Most Southwark 16 year olds progress into further education. A small number do not. Many of these young people are known to us and engage with our services and the majority will progress into learning. When a young person does not engage with our services we work to locate them and engage them in some form of positive activity.

Develop

There is a vast array of education, pre-employment and employment opportunities in Southwark. The challenge is in ensuring that pathways for learners are coordinated, and that provision is accessible and of high quality. Central to this is understanding what young people and employers need and want, and ensuring that the local offer provides appropriate solutions.

Place

As young people finish their education, many have a clear idea of where they want to go. In the current economic climate many will need additional support to achieve their goals. Others will have successfully finished their studies but lack focus as to how they progress to economic sustainability. Some will have failed to complete their studies or will have failed to engage properly. All will need some help in finding the place that they want to be in as they turn 20.

5. The SES team works closely with the Adolescence and After Care Team to ensure that all children looked after are supported throughout the journey described above.

Description of activities

Tracking group

6. This group meets regularly [every six weeks] to track and target young people in care who are at risk of being NEET, from year 10 onwards or those who are already NEET and excluded from school. To focus on, intervene and develop action plans in collaboration with allocated workers, carer or semi-independence provider

Apprenticeships

7. Apprenticeships are seen as a very important pathway for young people. Support is offered to children looked after to secure an apprenticeship through designated apprenticeships, offered to care leavers, with Southwark Council. These jobs are usually within the Adolescent and after Care Service. Young people's skill levels are developed through pre-apprenticeship workshops, in English, maths, CV writing and interview skills, with a designated adviser. A minimum of one place for a care leaver is also ring-fenced on the highly regarded KPMG stars project. KPMG is one of the best-known names in business, whose network of member firms provides Audit, Tax, and Advisory services to local, national, and multinational organisations. In addition to ring fenced opportunities with the council CLA also have access to apprenticeships and jobs via connexions. Recruitment for 2011- 12 into apprenticeships with De Vere cookery and customer service were particularly successful due partially to absence of entry requirements

Engagement project

8. Research showed that high number of NEET young people in care who were over the age of 16 suffer from Dyslexia. This project aims to re-engage and support these 16 to 18 year olds back into education through an informal digital media project in a dedicated safe place in Southwark College. The young people have support to access taster sessions, courses and learning support particular for those with dyslexia. They receive ongoing careers education, information, advice and guidance) CEIAG and mentoring, while having the opportunity to achieve the Arts Award at level 1 or 2.

Drop in Centre

9. A high number of care leavers are reluctant or ill equipped to access statutory services on their own. The Adolescence and After Care Service runs a drop in centre at their headquarters. This is run through a youth work approach, with access to multi-agency support. A specialist adviser is allocated to each young person for whom they will develop an individual action plan to help them become EET, (in education, employment or training). The centre allows young people to have access to engaging projects that are linked to it.

Policy implications

10. New legislation transfers the responsibility for careers advice from the local authority to schools from September 2012. We do however retain responsibility for offering advice and guidance to the most vulnerable. From 2013 young people will need to stay in full-time education or training until they are 17 or be in a job with training. From 2015 (Raising the Participation Age) RPA will apply to 18 year olds as well. Planning for this change is in process.

Community impact statement

11. This scheme supports some of the more vulnerable young people in the community and aims to narrow the gap between them and the general population.

Resource implications

12. The plans can be met within existing resources.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
NEET publicity information, raising participation strategy	160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH	Phillippa Beagley 020 7525 5162

APPENDICES

No.	Title
Appendix 1	Activities for NEET's in Southwark

AUDIT TRAIL

Lead Officer	Rory Patterson, Deputy Director, Specialist Children's Services and Safeguarding	
Report Author	Darren Coghlan, Head of Service for Specialist Education	
Version	Final	
Dated	1 May 2012	
Key Decision?	No	
CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER		
Officer Title	Comments Sought	Comments included
Strategic Director of Communities, Law & Governance	No	No
Finance Director	No	No
Cabinet Member	No	No
Date final report sent to Constitutional Team	18 April 2012	

Activities for NEETs in Southwark

Type of activity	Duration
<p>LB+ - A rolling 16 week training offer for NEET young people that includes Arts Award accreditation, work experience and some paid employment where they will take part in regular drama workshops, train as workshop leaders, devise and perform their own piece of forum theatre and prepare to apply for further training or employment. Expenses Paid!</p>	<p>3 years From September , 16 week offer</p> <p>kicking off with a three day taster from Wednesday 31st August-Friday 2nd September.</p>
<p>Millwall Sports leadership training</p>	
<p>ESF Pre-NEET project – short course in business admin, accounting, health and social care, martial arts, followed by 1:1 mentoring to keep YP in education/training for 26 weeks. From St Mary’s services and Liral Viget</p>	<p>3 years , rolling programme from September 2011</p>
<p>ESF Pre-NEET project – short courses from Dame Kelly Holmes Legacy Trust, TBG and Lifeskills, followed by 1:1 mentoring to keep YP in education/training for 26 weeks.</p>	<p>3 years , rolling programme from September 2011</p>
<p>Fit4Life Mentors, coaches, workshops, job club, gym and swim membership Foundation Learning</p>	<p>3 years from 06.06.</p>
<p>Life Skills Solutions Construction, Brickwork, Plastering, Painting and Decorating. Can Offer Retail Skills, Childcare, Administration, Introduction to Hairdressing at a site outside of the borough</p>	<p>11Continuous rolling programme throughout the year</p>
<p>Roots and Shoots Foundation Learning Based in Lambeth but 80% of Southwark Learners with LDD attend. Foundation Learning: - Horticulture, Retail Skills, Employability Skills.</p>	<p>Continuous rolling programme throughout the year</p>
<p>BOSCO Foundation Learning:- Business Administration, IT, Childcare, , Youthwork, Hair and Beauty, Sport, Art. Apprenticeships :-Childcare, Youthwork, It, Business Administration</p>	<p>Continuous rolling programme throughout the year</p>
<p>Southwark works Job club CV writing, application forms, cover letters, interview techniques, internet jobsearching etc etc.. We aim to have an up to date jobs and apprenticeships board on display and young people will be encouraged and supported to apply for any suitable vacancies.</p>	<p>(16-19) is on a Wednesday afternoon - 4.30pm - 6.30pm</p>
<p>Southwark Works Foot in the Door</p>	
<p>Dame Kelly Holmes Legacy Trust Get on Track programme-designed to provide stepping stones into volunteering,</p>	<p>Once a week</p>

Type of activity	Duration
<p>training and employment. We utilise sport and world class sporting champions as mentors</p> <p>In addition we have been names as a provider for the CLC ESF bid.</p>	<p>2 day course when requested</p>
<p>Princes Trust/Fairbridge?</p>	
<p>Kids Company Urban Academy Arts award, GCSE, Functional skills, PSD programmes accredited through NOCN, mentoring and keywork</p>	<p>weekly</p>
<p>Digital Literacy and Reading project The project is based around digital literacy and is primarily delivered by Rolling Sound. Young people can engage with their choice of media and the aim is to develop a comprehensive website to showcase their work. This project is also based on a youth club model where young people can engage in computer gaming and play all the latest games in a community setting..</p>	<p>3 days a week from Sept 2011 – July 2012</p>
<p>Back to Business (B2B) Project Central London Connexions Back to Business is a project for 14-19 year-olds who are at Risk of NEET Programme. The project is £1.8m funded until March 2014 via the European Social Fund (ESF) and Skills Funding Agency (SFA) on behalf of the Young Person's Learning Agency.</p>	<p>Until March 2014</p>
<p>London Volunteering This contract will support 16-19 year olds across London to access and complete volunteering opportunities before moving into employment, education or training.</p>	
<p>RST pre-Apprenticeship training programme Running in Security for 16-18 year olds.</p>	
<p>Inspire! City of London NEET project Each cohort will participate in an employability day followed by a visit to a city company. Selected participants will then undertake a work experience preparation day followed by up to one week of work experience in a City company. All participants will receive appropriate careers education, information, advice and guidance (CEIAG) through the programme and be signposted to appropriate progression to education, employment or training including opportunities provided by the projects mentioned above. The time frame for each cohort from recruitment to work experience will generally be no more than 3 months.</p>	<p>Oct 2011 – August 2013</p>
<p>Southwark Employment Training Scheme The Southwark Employment Training Scheme is open to anyone resident in Southwark who is aged 16-24 and out of work but not participating in the Work Programme.</p>	

Type of activity	Duration
<p>Red Kite Learning <i>Get Started</i> – Employer-led skills training, peer mentoring, job clubs and individual support with getting a job.</p>	
<p>Southwark Employment Training Scheme</p> <p>The Southwark Employment Training Scheme is open to anyone resident in Southwark who is aged 16-24 and out of work but not participating in the Work Programme.</p> <p>South Bank Employers Group <i>Pathways to Success</i> – Work placements, skills training and job opportunities with over 70 local employers.</p>	
<p>Southwark Employment Training Scheme</p> <p>The Southwark Employment Training Scheme is open to anyone resident in Southwark who is aged 16-24 and out of work but not participating in the Work Programme.</p> <p>The Creation Trust <i>Pop Up Shop Project</i> – Retail training and work placements including a pop-up shop run by young people on the project.</p>	
<p>Southwark Employment Training Scheme</p> <p>The Southwark Employment Training Scheme is open to anyone resident in Southwark who is aged 16-24 and out of work but not participating in the Work Programme.</p> <p>Elephant Jobs Ltd <i>Vocational IT Skills Youth Employment Project</i> – Training in IT repair and remanufacture, work placements in the sector and support with getting a job.</p>	
<p>Southwark Employment Training Scheme</p> <p>The Southwark Employment Training Scheme is open to anyone resident in Southwark who is aged 16-24 and out of work but not participating in the Work Programme.</p> <p>The Horniman Museum and Gardens <i>Horniman Youth Work Placements</i> – Work placements in Gardening and Customer Service in the popular local visitor attraction.</p>	
<p>Southwark Employment Training Scheme</p> <p>The Southwark Employment Training Scheme is open to anyone resident in Southwark who is aged 16-24 and out of work but not participating in the Work Programme.</p> <p>Inspire at St Peters <i>Inspire to Work - Youth Training and Personal Development Programme</i> – Training in employability skills, confidence building and food, catering and business skills; work placements, mentoring and support with getting a job.</p>	
<p>Southwark Employment Training Scheme</p> <p>The Southwark Employment Training Scheme is open to anyone resident in Southwark who is aged 16-24 and out of work but not participating in the Work Programme.</p> <p>Southwark Muslim Women's Association <i>SMWA Youth Employment Project</i> – Employability skills, confidence building and work</p>	

Type of activity	Duration
placements.	
<p>Southwark Employment Training Scheme</p> <p>The Southwark Employment Training Scheme is open to anyone resident in Southwark who is aged 16-24 and out of work but not participating in the Work Programme.</p> <p>Southwark Works <i>Southwark Works RADAR Project</i> – Specialist employment support for young adult offenders.</p>	

Item No. 8.	Classification: Open	Date: 1 May 2012	Meeting Name: Corporate Parenting Committee
Report title:		Performance Report – Looked After Children	
Ward(s) or groups affected:		All	
From:		Strategic Director of Children’s Services	

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the Corporate Parenting Committee notes this report.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2. Children in Care. This report relates to performance for quarter 3.

KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

3. Overall performance in the service and its key performance remain strong. This reports sets out some key issues for consideration.
4. The number of looked after children continues to rise, current figure is 551. Of these, approximately 45% of children looked after are between 0-12. 31% of all children are accommodated under section 20, and 40% on full care orders.
5. Overall stability of placements remains good with good performance levels for 3 plus placements and long term stability. NI 62 – 3 plus placements, year to date shows an improvement in those children had 3 or more placements, currently at 12%. However, it should be noted that although the indicator shows improvement approximately 70 children have had three or more placements, a similar rate to last year. Due to growth of LAC numbers, this now reflects a smaller percentage of LAC given growth of looked after numbers. Performance remains within the good banding. This time last year our performance was at 13%, showing an improvement this year. Long term stability of placements remains good at 85.6%.
6. Permanence planning remains good. Recent inspections of fostering and adoption found services to be good with some outstanding features. Adoptions performance is on a par with last year, with 17 completed so far, against 18 for last year’s outturn. Recent figures released by the DfE regarding adoption timeliness shows that in 2012 Southwark had a shorter than average time scale between the appointment of court authority and matching to an adoptive family (93 days compared to the 171 nationally). However the proportion of children adopted from care and adoptions for children aged over 5 years in particular, fall below the national averages.
7. Planning and review of children looked after remains strong. At present, 96% of children have had an up to date review and 74% have up to date health assessments. In both cases, this is improvement performance. All reviews are completed by the Independent Reviewing Officer (IRO) Service, which also monitors the quality of reviews and care planning. For older children, there is

proactive screening of drug use and teenage pregnancy, although improving timeliness of pathway planning remains an area for improvement.

8. The council continues to perform on par with the national picture on finding suitable accommodation for care leavers. NI 147 - Percentage of care leavers at age 19 who are living in suitable accommodation (as judged by the council). Current performance for care leavers in suitable accommodation has increased to 89%, compared to 86.6% at the same time last year. The children looked after service and Youth Offending Service work together to support young people who enter custody to ensure that they have accommodation, and access to employment, education and training when they leave custody. This area of work was commended in the recent YOS inspection
9. Due to the economic climate there was an expectation that that the performance of care leavers in employment, education or training would decrease by March 2012. NI 148 - % of Care leavers in employment, education or training at age 19 LAA, recent figures show that, in contrast, the proportion of EET care leavers has increased to 63.6%, with 62% in full time education, and now in line with national performance.
10. The Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire (SDQ) suggests mental and emotional wellbeing of CLA is improving. NI 58 - Emotional and behavioural health of children in care, the current score of 13, an improvement on the previous year's performance (14.2) and again in line with national figures. Children and young people do not have to undertake this questionnaire, so some caution must be applied when interpreting the results.

Community impact statement

11. The decision to note this performance report has been judged to have no or a very small impact on local people and communities. Clearly the quality of these services has an impact on children looked after from all communities and good performance outcomes are dependent on equalities considerations being central to delivery of services and provision

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
CLA Key Performance Indicators	160 Tooley Street, SE1	Monika Ciurej monika.ciurej@southwark.gov.uk

APPENDICES

No	Title
Appendix A.	Data and graphs with further details of key performance

AUDIT TRAIL

Lead Officer	Rory Patterson, Deputy Director, Specialist Children's Services	
Report Author	Rory Patterson, Deputy Director, Specialist Children's Services	
Version	Final	
Dated	18 April 2012	
Key Decision?	No	
CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER		
Officer Title	Comments Sought	Comments included
Strategic Director of Communities, Law & Governance	No	No
Finance Director	No	No
Cabinet Member	No	No
Date final report sent to Constitutional Team	18 April 2012	

NI Ref	CYP Ref	Long Description	2009/10	2010/11	Provisional 2011/12	Performance direction of travel	England	London	SN average
	CYP 24	Number of children looked after	557	522	551		65520	10390	411
NI 66		CH39: Children looked after 31 March per 10,000 pop aged under 18	101.0	94.3	94.8	↑	59	61	83
NI 62	CYP 25	PAF C68: The percentage of children looked after at 31st March all of whose reviews during the year were completed on time.	92.8%	95.7%	96.0%	↔	not available	not available	not available
		Number of children looked after with 3 or more placements during the year	83	70	70	↔	not available	not available	not available
NI 63		PAF A1: Percentage of children looked after with 3 or more placements during the year	14.9%	13.4%	12.0%	↔	10.7	11.8	10.9
NI 61		Stability of placements of looked after children: length of placement. % of LAC aged under 16 at 31 March who had been looked after continuously for at least 2.5 years who were living in the same placement for at least 2 years, or are placed for adoption	72.8%	72.7%	85.6%	↑	68.6	69.9	68.7
NI 101 (LAA)		% of looked after children adopted during the year who were placed for adoption within 12 months of the decision that they should be placed for adoption, and who remained in that placement on adoption	81.8%	82.4%	not available		74.0	71.5	73.2
NI 99 (LAA)		Children in care achieving 5 A*-C GCSEs (or equivalent) at Key Stage 4 including English and Maths) PSA 11 LAA	NEW	13.7%	23.9%	↑	12.8	14.4	16.1
NI 100 (LAA)		Children in care reaching level 4 in English at Key Stage 2 PSA 11 LAA	NEW	60.0%	not available		50	51	52
NEW	NEW	Children in care reaching level 4 in Maths at Key Stage 2 PSA 11 LAA	NEW	40.0%	55.0%	↑	48	48	51
NI 148		Children in care reaching level 4 in English & Maths at Key Stage 2 PSA 11 LAA	NEW	40.0%	not available		40	42	44
NI 147		% of Care leavers in employment, education or training at age 19 LAA	60.5%	61.4%	63.6%	↔	61	66	61
		Percentage of care leavers at age 19 who are living in suitable accommodation (as judged by the council)	97.5%	95.2%	89.1%	↓	90	90	94

Item No. 9.	Classification: Open	Date: 1 May 2012	Meeting Name: Corporate Parenting Committee
Report title:		Corporate Parenting Committee – Work Plan 2011/12	
Ward(s) or groups affected:		All	
From:		Strategic Director of Children’s Services	

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the corporate parenting committee review the work plan for 2011/12 as set out in paragraph 5 of the report.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Role and function of the corporate parenting committee

2. The constitution for the municipal year 2011/2012 records the corporate parenting committee’s role and functions are as follows:
 1. To secure real and sustained improvements in the life chances of looked after children, and to work within an annual programme to that end.
 2. To develop, monitor and review a corporate parenting strategy and work plan.
 3. To seek to ensure that the life chances of looked after children are maximised in terms of health educational attainment, and access to training and employment, to aid the transition to a secure and productive adulthood.
 4. To develop and co-ordinate a life chances strategy and work plan to improve the life chances of Southwark looked after children.
 5. To recommend ways in which more integrated services can be developed across all council departments, schools and the voluntary sector to lead towards better outcomes for looked after children.
 6. To ensure that mechanisms are in place to enable looked after children and young people to play an integral role in service planning and design, and that their views are regularly sought and acted upon.
 7. To ensure performance monitoring systems are in place, and regularly review performance data to ensure sustained performance improvements in outcomes for looked after children.
 8. To receive an annual report on the adoption and fostering services to monitor their effectiveness in providing safe and secure care for looked after children.
 9. To report to the council’s cabinet on a twice yearly basis.
 10. To make recommendations to the relevant cabinet decision maker where responsibility for that particular function rests with the cabinet.
 11. To report to the scrutiny sub-committee with responsibility for children’s services after each meeting.
 12. To appoint non-voting co-opted members.

KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

3. The corporate parenting committee agreed on 7 July 2010 to move towards thematic meetings and followed this framework for the remainder of the municipal year 2010/11. Additionally, the committee agreed at its meeting on 21 April 2010 that the 'enjoy and achieve' committee meeting would coincide with mid year performance review (November). The committee also agreed to receive 'on an exception basis' report/s of any significant variations evident from the monthly review of looked after children/care leavers.

Policy implications

4. The policy agenda has been measured against the government's five "Every Child Matters" outcomes: Be Healthy; Stay Safe; Enjoy and Achieve; Make a Positive Contribution; Achieve Economic Well-Being. The committee's programme of work has been developed to meet these outcomes.

Future agenda items

5. The following work plan sets out the allocation of items for future meetings. The committee may wish to review the scheduling.

May 2012

Economic Wellbeing Theme

- Verbal update at meeting on unaccompanied minors (including request from April 2011 with regard to the feasibility and practicalities of the reference of minors to other boroughs legal teams (to utilise legal experience from other authorities on an independent basis).
- Adolescent and After Care Service
- Children Looked After (CLA) performance indicators for the Economic Wellbeing theme and wider performance data
- NEET Strategy (Not in Education, Employment or Training) (including university support, apprenticeships, coaching, drop-in services, connexions, Southwark Works and training partnership).

July 2012

Be Healthy Theme

- To receive the draft 2011/12 Young People's Substance Misuse Commissioning Update Treatment Plan for comment prior to its presentation to the Southwark Children and Families trust and the Drug and Alcohol Action Team Board
- Annual Performance Report 2011/12
- That officers include as part of the 'Be Healthy' theme HIV infection rates among young people in developed countries (as part of a sexual health report)
- Child and Adolescent Mental Health (CAMHS) Carelink
- Overview of Health for Looked after Children (to also include health issues at point of coming into care).

September 2012

- Report back to committee to monitor the situation relating to any likely impacts on access to higher education in light of the change in the fee regime.

Community impact statement

6. The work of the corporate parenting committee contributes to community cohesion and stability.

Resource implications

7. There are no specific implications arising from this report.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
Minutes of meetings of Corporate Parenting Committee	Constitutional Team 160 Tooley Street SE1 2QH	Bola Roberts 020 7525 7232

AUDIT TRAIL

Lead Officer	Rory Patterson, Assistant Director, Children's Specialist Services & Safeguarding	
Report Author	Bola Roberts, Constitutional Officer	
Version	Final	
Dated	18 April 2012	
Key Decision?	No	
CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER		
Officer Title	Comments Sought	Comments included
Strategic Director of Communities, Law & Governance	No	No
Finance Director	No	No
Cabinet Member	No	No
Date final report sent to Constitutional Team	18 April 2012	

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CORPORATE PARENTING DISTRIBUTION LIST (OPEN)**MUNICIPAL YEAR 2011-12****NOTE:** Original held by Constitutional Team; all amendments/queries to
Bola Roberts Tel: 020 7525 7232

Name	No of copies	Name	No of copies
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Councillor Catherine McDonald	1	Bola Roberts	10
Councillor Lisa Rajan	1		
Councillor Barrie Hargrove	1		
Councillor Eliza Mann	1		
Councillor Claire Hickson	1		
Councillor Althea Smith	1	Total:	29
Councillor Rosie Shimell	1		
Reserves		Dated: 18 April 2012 (pt)	
Councillor Poddy Clark	1		
Councillor Patrick Diamond	1		
Councillor Helen Hayes	1		
Councillor Wilma Nelson	1		
Co-opted members			
Barbara Hills	1		
Gordon McCullough	1		
Children's Services			
Romi Bowen	1		
Rory Patterson	1		
Legal			
Sarah Feasey	1		