

<b>Item No.</b> 11.	<b>Classification:</b> Open	<b>Date:</b> 29 April 2013	<b>Meeting Name:</b> Corporate Parenting Committee
<b>Report title:</b>		Corporate Parenting Committee – Work plan 2012/13	
<b>Ward(s) or groups affected:</b>		All	
<b>From:</b>		Director, Children’s Social Care	

## RECOMMENDATION

1. That the corporate parenting committee review the work plan for 2012/13 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 2012/2013 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 have followed this framework since. Additionally, the committee agreed at its meeting on 21 April 2010 to receive a mid year performance review report. The committee also agreed to receive report/s of any significant performance variations evident from the monthly review of services for looked after children and care leavers.

### **Policy implications**

4. The policy agenda has been measured against the 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 on these themes. In addition, the outcomes of the Ofsted inspection of safeguarding and looked after children's services published on 10 July 2012 and other Government guidance will be taken into consideration in determining and reviewing the committee's work programme.

### **Future agenda items**

5. The following work plan sets out themes for future meetings.

#### **29 April 2013**

##### **Stay Safe Theme**

- Annual report on adoption services \*
- Annual report on fostering services \*
- Children in care and youth offending
- Independent reviewing officer (IRO) annual report
- Adolescent and After Care Service.

\* Requested at 26 February 2013 committee that officers include a specific reference to Special Guardianship issues.

#### **17 July 2013**

##### **Making a Positive Contribution**

- Feedback from joint meetings between Speaker Box and members of the Corporate Parenting Committee and Speaker Box action plan
- Speaker Box mission statement
- Adoption and permanence for children in care (deferred from April 2013).

### **Reports to be allocated**

- Pupil Performance. Interim position statement with regard to data collection (requested 26 February 2013)
- Impact of Welfare reform on looked after children, providing detail of case studies (requested 26 February 2013)
- Initiatives being undertaken to effect continuous improvement within the safeguarding and looked after children service (requested 26 February 2013).

## Ongoing/monitoring

- Performance monitoring – committee to receive report/s of any significant variations evident from the monthly performance review of looked after children and care leavers services.

## 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 <a href="http://moderngov.southwark.gov.uk/ie/ListMeetings.aspx?CId=129&amp;Year=2012">http://moderngov.southwark.gov.uk/ie/ListMeetings.aspx?CId=129&amp;Year=2012</a>	Constitutional Team 160 Tooley Street London SE1 2QH	Sean Usher 020 7525 5338

## AUDIT TRAIL

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<b>Dated</b>	9 April 2013	
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<b>CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER</b>		
<b>Officer Title</b>	<b>Comments Sought</b>	<b>Comments included</b>
Director of Legal Services	No	No
Strategic Director of Finance and Corporate Services	No	No
<b>Cabinet Member</b>	No	No
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