

Item No. 8.	Classification: Open	Date: 20 April 2022	Meeting Name: Corporate Parenting Committee
Report title:		Corporate Parenting Annual Summary	
Ward(s) or groups affected:		All	
From:		Alasdair Smith, Director of Children and Families	

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the corporate parenting committee note the content of the annual summary presentation at Appendix 1 and identify any key areas for further scrutiny by the committee in the new municipal year 2022-23.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2. The children and families division of the council holds the operational corporate parenting services that deliver to our children in care and care leavers on behalf of the Local Authority. The duty to be an excellent corporate parent to all children in our care and those who have left our care is a responsibility across all council services and the wider multi-agency partnership.
3. The corporate parenting committee of the council has the responsibility to monitor and review the delivery of services to our children and to maintain oversight of the impact of service delivery on improving outcomes.
4. Appendix 1 of the report provides a summary of the children in our care, outcomes for and the delivery of services to our children in the municipal year 2021-22.
5. Members of the corporate parenting committee are asked to note the contents of the annual summary as set out in Appendix 1 of the report and identify any key areas for further scrutiny by the committee.

KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

6. The Children and Social Work Act 2017 sets out expectations on Local Authorities to deliver against seven corporate parenting principles for children in care and care leavers.

7. At the end of March 2022 there were 463 children in care in Southwark and a further 593 young people in receipt of leaving care support.
8. The corporate parenting committee provides the strategic direction and oversight of the delivery of services and outcomes for children in care and care leavers and the attached presentation provides the committee with an end of year summary of delivery for our children.

Policy framework implications

9. The corporate parenting committee governs the delivery of the Corporate Parenting Strategy. Decisions and views of the committee will be integrated into the ongoing delivery of the strategy.

Community, equalities (including socio-economic) and health impacts

Community impact statement

10. Children in care and care leavers are some of the most vulnerable members of our community, providing assurance on the quality and impact of delivery of services to these groups of children and young people is essential to improving outcomes.

Equalities (including socio-economic) impact statement

11. Children in care and care leavers face significant disadvantage throughout their lives ensuring there is robust oversight of the work to improve outcomes supports improving holistic life chances, including socio-economic outcomes.

Health impact statement

12. There are no health impact issues.

Climate change implications

13. There are no climate change implications.

Resource implications

14. There are no resource implications.

Legal implications

15. There are no legal implications.

Financial implications

16. There are no financial implications.

Consultation

17. No consultation was undertaken in the preparation of the report.

SUPPLEMENTARY ADVICE FROM OTHER OFFICERS

Director of Law and Governance

18. No supplementary advice is required.

Strategic Director of Finance and Governance

19. No supplementary advice is required.

Other officers

20. No further officer comment is required.

REASONS FOR LATENESS

21. The compilation of finalised year-end data can only be initiated once the end of the last month in the municipal year has passed. To ensure the committee are presented with the full years data and information it was necessary for the report to be delayed until the final collation of this data was completed for inclusion in the report.

REASONS FOR URGENCY

22. The corporate parenting committee should be provided with the most current information on delivery of services and outcomes for children in care and care leavers, so that it can hold services accountable for work to improve the lives of our children and young people, and direct the ongoing delivery of the Corporate Parenting Strategy. The status and outcomes for our children are dynamic and presenting a prompt year end statement to Members supports the effective direction of the future work plan of the committee

23. The consequences of delayed reporting to the committee could potentially lessen the informed deliberations of the committees work planning for the future municipal year.

APPENDICES

No.	Title
Appendix 1	Corporate Parenting Annual Summary

AUDIT TRAIL

Lead Officer	David Quirke-Thornton, Strategic Director of Children's and Adults' Services	
Report Author	Michael Crowe, Service Development Manager	
Version	Final	
Dated	20 April 2022	
Key Decision?	No	
CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER		
Officer Title	Comments Sought	Comments Included
Director of Law and Democracy	No	No
Strategic Director of Finance and Governance	No	No
List other officers here	N/a	N/a
Cabinet Member	No	No
Date final report sent to Constitutional Team		14 April 2022