

CABINET ITEM COVERING SHEET PROFORMA

AGENDA ITEM

REPORT TO CABINET

25 OCTOBER 2007

**REPORT OF CHILDREN AND
YOUNG PEOPLE SELECT
COMMITTEE**

CABINET DECISION

Children & Young People – Lead Cabinet Member – Councillor Cunningham

CORPORATE PARENTING

1. Summary

The Children and Young People Select Committee's investigation of the level of partnership working and arrangements between the Council and North Tees Primary Care Trust (PCT) in their care of looked after children in the borough. This work complemented the select committee's earlier work which supported the introduction of a Corporate Parenting Strategy.

2. Recommendations

It is recommended to Cabinet that:

1. the PCT be requested to make every effort to recruit a male health worker to increase the choice/options for young men in order to increase the number of annual health assessments taken.
2. Appropriate partnerships identify Looked After Children as a specific group within their monitoring and reporting of Be Healthy initiatives (e.g. Teenage Pregnancy Strategy, Obesity Strategy, Substance Misuse initiatives).
3. the Council and the PCT be required to continue the high level of partnership arrangements and extend this to all necessary agencies.

3. Reasons for the Recommendations/Decision(s)

In order to further assist the development the Corporate Parenting strategy and help meet the health needs of looked after children.

4. Members' Interests

Members (including co-opted Members with voting rights) should consider whether they have a personal interest in the item as defined in the Council's code of conduct

(paragraph 8) and, if so, declare the existence and nature of that interest in accordance with paragraph 9 of the code.

Where a Member regards him/herself as having a personal interest in the item, he/she must then consider whether that interest is one which a member of the public, with knowledge of the relevant facts, would reasonably regard as so significant that it is likely to prejudice the Member's judgement of the public interest **(paragraphs 10 and 11 of the code of conduct)**.

A Member with a prejudicial interest in any matter must withdraw from the room where the meeting considering the business is being held -

- in a case where the Member is attending a meeting (including a meeting of a select committee) but only for the purpose of making representations, answering questions or giving evidence, provided the public are also allowed to attend the meeting for the same purpose whether under statutory right or otherwise, immediately after making representations, answering questions or giving evidence as the case may be;
- in any other case, whenever it becomes apparent that the business is being considered at the meeting;

and must not exercise executive functions in relation to the matter and not seek improperly to influence the decision about the matter **(paragraph 12 of the Code)**.

Further to the above, it should be noted that any Member attending a meeting of Cabinet, Select Committee etc; whether or not they are a Member of the Cabinet or Select Committee concerned, must declare any personal interest which they have in the business being considered at the meeting (unless the interest arises solely from the Member's membership of, or position of control or management on any other body to which the Member was appointed or nominated by the Council, or on any other body exercising functions of a public nature, when the interest only needs to be declared if and when the Member speaks on the matter), and if their interest is prejudicial, they must also leave the meeting room, subject to and in accordance with the provisions referred to above.

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RECOMMENDATIONS

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DETAIL

1. At the outset of the Select Committee's review of Corporate Parenting it was made aware of the draft Corporate Parenting Strategy that was being developed and due to be presented at Cabinet prior to the conclusion of the Select Committee's work. The Committee's first stage dealt with issues about the strategy whilst this second report examined partnership working in order to assist the preparation and response to the Joint Area Review and Comprehensive Performance Assessment process.
2. The Committee found that joint funded posts between Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council and North Tees PCT are not only enabling closer working arrangements and greater understanding of the different organisations but also areas of pooled resources.
3. It was recognised that there will always be a small cohort of children and young people who, for a variety of reasons are reluctant to see a health professional or dentist. Work is ongoing to

