

Children & Young People Select Committee

A meeting of Children & Young People Select Committee was held on Monday, 2nd July, 2007.

Present: Cllr David Harrington (Chairman), Cllr Phillip Broughton, Cllr Mrs Ann Cains, Cllr Mick Eddy, Cllr Miss Barbara Inman, Cllr Alan Lewis, Cllr Andrew Sherris.

Officers: J Morrison, J Palmer, N Pocklington (CESC); G Birtle F C Shayler (LD).

Also in attendance: Councillors Mary Womphrey, Maureen Rigg. Mr G Davies and Mr D Campbell (Non Voting Co-opted Representatives)

Apologies: were submitted on behalf of Councillors David Coleman, Maurice Frankland.

CYP 5/07 Declarations of Interest

None

CYP 6/07 Draft minutes of the meeting held on 13th June 2007

The Draft minutes of the meeting held on 13th June were agreed as a correct record.

CYP 7/07 Review of Corporate Parenting - Information Pack Attached

Members had previously been provided with an information pack supplying them with background information for their review of Corporate Parenting. Included within this information was a report by Neil Pocklington, which he presented at the meeting today. Members were provided with the current figures for children in care. Information was also provided on foster carers, supported lodgings, nurse and paediatric care.

Julia Morrison highlighted the role of Councillors as Corporate Parents and the importance of having a strategy to enable all partners to work together to be better parents of children in care.

The role of the MALAP was discussed and how the terms of reference for this group could become more focused and robust, the membership would need to be expanded to include all appropriate partners including Councillors.

Councillor Mrs Rigg and Mrs Womphrey were in attendance at the meeting to provide evidence as they had previously been members of the Corporate Parenting Group. As Members of this Group they had been involved in regular meetings, undertaken visits to First Contact Team and the Leaving Care Team and had been involved in the discussions for the introduction of the virtual school.

Discussion was held on holding an event possibly at the annual meeting for Members to sign up to being a Corporate Parent on an annual basis.

Members discussed comparators with other authorities and how it was a difficult area to compare. Members suggested areas that could be used as statistical neighbours.

Members determined the recommendations that they wished to include within their report on Corporate Parenting.

CONCLUDED that the Scrutiny Officer put together the final report in order for it to be discussed further at a tripartite meeting then circulated to Members. The Final report be presented to Executive Scrutiny Committee on 24th July, 2007 and Cabinet on 2nd August, 2007.