

Corporate parenting Implications in cabinet reports – guidance

Purpose

This short guidance note aims to help those completing and signing off Cabinet reports to ensure that they have considered and included implications.

Why this is important

The Council has a firm commitment to ensuring the best outcomes for children in our care, and now has statutory responsibilities around corporate parenting to ensure we fulfil this role.

In Stockton-on-Tees we discharge these through the Children in, and leaving, our care strategy which was agreed at Cabinet in May 2018, and a copy of which is available here [Our strategy for children in, and leaving, our care 2018-21.docx](#)

Guidance

All report authors should take the following into account when considering the corporate parenting implications of reports:

1. A broad principle
2. The family business
3. Strategy priorities.

A broad principle for all reports

- The starting point is to always consider whether the report has implications for children, and to ask yourself: ‘if this was my child would it be good enough?’

The family business for reports which are more about how the Council works

- The secondary consideration is to think about whether the report includes anything specific which could create an opportunity to prioritise the ends of children in care, as part of the ‘family businesses of the Council. Are there opportunities to engage with children in care, to involve them in a decision making process, or to create work experience or employment opportunities as part of what is proposed?

Links to the strategy for more thematic reports

- Consider how the report helps to achieve the priorities as set out in the strategy, recognising that these will be more relevant for some types of reports and services than others
 - Be involved in their care and treated as individuals
 - Have productive relationships: family, friends and community
 - Have suitable accommodation and support to meet assessed needs
 - Be safe
 - Be healthy
 - Get the best education and skills
 - Be supported in the transition to adulthood and as care leavers.