



RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET

14TH JANUARY 2021

CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD ANNUAL REPORT 2019/20

REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, DEMOCRATIC SERVICES AND COMMUNICATION IN DISCUSSION WITH THE RELEVANT PORTFOLIO HOLDER, COUNCILLOR CHRISTINA LEYSHON.

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1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to provide the Cabinet with the Annual Report of the Corporate Parenting Board for the Municipal Year 2019/20.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Cabinet:

- 2.1 Provide comment as appropriate on the Annual Report (which is attached at Appendix 1 to the report).

3. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 Under the Leaders Scheme of Delegation (the 3A) the Corporate Parenting Board, comprising of a cross party membership was formed to take the lead in ensuring that the Council fulfils its responsibilities as corporate parent's to children who are looked after and formulate Council policy in respect of children who are looked after and children in need.

- 3.2 As part of the Board's Terms of reference, the Board must report its work to the Cabinet and it has been agreed that this will take the form of an Annual Report.

4. BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The first Annual Report for the Corporate Parenting Board was produced for the 2015/16 Municipal Year.

- 4.2 The content of the report acted as a useful basis for a number of upcoming topics, which the Members felt needed particular attention in the 2016/17 Municipal Year.
- 4.3 This is the fifth Annual Report of the Corporate Parenting Board, which provides a summary of the role and work of the Board undertaken in the 2019/20 Municipal Year. The report is attached at Appendix 1.
- 4.4 On 16th July 2020, the Corporate Parenting Board approved the Annual Report for the 2019/20 Municipal Year.
- 4.5 To continue what is considered to be a positive synergy between the Board and the Council's Scrutiny Committees, the Annual Report was presented to the Children & Young People Scrutiny Committee on the 13th January 2021 for information.

5. THE WORK OF THE CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD 2019-20

- 5.1 Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, a number of scheduled meetings of the Corporate Parenting Board were cancelled during the year and as such, a number of the reports detailed within the work programme were postponed to the following Municipal Year. Members recognise the importance of Children's Social Services and were assured that officers continued to carry out their roles effectively.
- 5.2 Despite the circumstances, the Corporate Parenting Board considered the following vast range of reports, which led to challenging discussions:
- Overview of the Community Wellbeing and Resilience Service
 - New Operating Model for Young Carers
 - Independent Reviewing Officer Report
 - CIW Inspection Update
 - Regional Fostering Update
 - Pupil Deprivation Grant Update
 - Cwm Taf Statement of Intent for Children and Young People: 'A Shared Regional Strategy for Supporting Children, Young People and Families'
 - 'Carn Ingli' New Residential House Update
 - Miskin Annual Report
 - Vale, Valleys & Cardiff Regional Adoption Annual Report
 - RCT Placement Commissioning Strategy
 - Implementation of the Bright Spots Survey Findings
- 5.3 The Corporate Parenting Board have developed a robust and varied [Work Programme](#) for the 2020-21 Municipal Year, to continue good practice and to enhance transparency. Members will also have the

opportunity to raise any matters that they would like to add to the programme during the year.

5.4 The following key elements of focus were agreed by the Corporate Parenting Board for the 2020-21 Municipal Year:

- To continually review the Regular Performance Data
- To further interact with young people
- To welcome further training opportunities
- To review the progress of the Two Sides website
- To strengthen the link with the Council's Scrutiny Committees

6. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

6.1 An Equality Impact Assessment is not needed because the contents of the report are for information purposes only.

7. CONSULTATION

7.1 There is no consultation required for this report.

8. FINANCIAL IMPLICATION(S)

8.1 There are no financial implications aligned to this report.

9. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS OR LEGISLATION CONSIDERED

9.1 The report has been prepared in accordance with Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council's constitution.

10. LINKS TO THE COUNCILS CORPORATE PLAN / OTHER CORPORATE PRIORITIES/ FUTURE GENERATIONS - SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT.

10.1 The work of the Corporate Parenting Board links directly to the Council's Corporate Plan priority – 'Rhondda Cynon Taf's Children will receive a great start in life...'

10.2 In respect of the Well-being of Future Generations Act, the work of the Corporate Parenting Board meets the Five Ways of Working:

1. Working together with other partners to deliver objectives

The Corporate Parenting Board considers reports and presentations from various service areas of the Council. Members are aware that a number of partners and areas must contribute to tackle the range of

different issues, which young people may experience, such as mental health, education and budgeting.

2. Involving those with an interest and seeking their views

The Corporate Parenting Board provide looked after young people and care leavers in RCT with the opportunity to attend meetings and have their voice heard. It allows them to promote their life experiences at a strategic, policy and legislative level and provides Members with the chance to hear first-hand experiences.

11. CONCLUSION

- 11.1 The Corporate Parenting Board Annual report outlines the work of the Board in the 2019/20 Municipal Year and features the priority areas the Board will consider in the future ensuring that the Council provides continuous improvement to the services that it delivers for its children and young people within the Looked After System.