



RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD

30th March 2023

EMPLOYMENT, EDUCATION & TRAINING

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1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to provide the Corporate Parenting Board with an update in respect of the Council's dedicated programmes to support Children Looked After, Care Leavers and those with care and support needs into employment, education and training.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Corporate Parenting Board:

- 2.1 Note the content of the report.

3. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 To inform Members of the various employment, education and training programmes available for Children Looked After, Care Leavers and those with care and support.

4. PROGRAMMES

4.1 Step in The Right Direction

Step in The Right Direction programme is a two year paid traineeship for young people aged 16-25 living in and leaving care in Rhondda Cynon Taf. We have extended the eligibility of the scheme to include those who have a Care and Support Plan (CASP). Trainees are given work opportunities within a variety of Council departments and are managed by the Traineeship Coordinator, supported by an allocated 16+ Worker and overseen day to day by a Placement Manager. These young people have all the support needed to gain the work experience and training required to help them gain full time employment at the end of the programme.

Breakdown of Outcomes from April'22 – March'23:

Trainees Recruited – 9

Trainee Placements Secured – 13

Internal Placements:

- Social Care – Tegfan Resource Centre
- Social Care - Learning Curve Day Services
- Social Care - Cwmni Dda Day Centre (Dementia)
- Social Care – The Barn (Supported Living)
- ICT – Front Line Support
- Parks – Aberdare & Pentre Park
- Leisure – Ystrad Leisure Centre
- Abercynon Primary School
- Pontrhondda Primary School
- Play Development
- Waste Management

External Placements:

- TJ Plumbing
- Tollgate Engineering Services

Trainees securing employment in RCT Council – 3

Trainees securing employment externally - 1

4.2 Care2Work

Providing children looked after and care leavers aged 15-25, with encouragement and support to identify and access a range of employment and training opportunities. Care2Work Coordinators support the young people through listening, advising, boosting confidence, offering reassurance and emphasising the positive aspects of a job or career. Access to relevant work experience placements are provided, along with employability courses and training. The ultimate aim of the Care2Work programme is to ensure young people living in and leaving care, within Rhondda Cynon Taf, are provided with individual tailored support in order to access suitable training and development opportunities to maximise their potential.

Breakdown of Outcomes from April'22 – March'23:

Referrals Received – **70**

Secured Employment - **12**

Entered Education and Training - **12**

Work Experience – **7**

Currently still working with Care2Work – **24**

Did not engage - **15**

5. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

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

6. CONSULTATION

- 6.1. There are no consultation implications as a result of the recommendations set out in the report.

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATION(S)

- 7.1 There are no financial implications aligned to this report.

8. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS OR LEGISLATION CONSIDERED

- 8.1 There are no legal implications as a result of the recommendations set out in the report.

9. LINKS TO THE CORPORATE AND NATIONAL PRIORITIES AND THE WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS ACT.

- 9.1 Supporting children who are looked after to achieve the best possible outcomes supports the Council's Corporate Priorities to build a strong economy and to promote independence and positive lives for everyone and ensures that the Sustainable Development principle and the Wellbeing Goals of the Wellbeing for Future Generations Act (Wales) underpin the vision and working practices of the service.

10. CONCLUSION

- 10.1 There are various employment, education and training programmes available for Children Looked After, Care Leavers and those with care and support.
- 10.2 The report seeks to inform the Corporate Parenting board of the outcomes of each of the programmes from April 2022 – March 2023.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

AS AMENDED BY

THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

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