

Title of the Report; Future Governance of Corporate Parenting Board

Portfolio: Children's Services

1. Aim

To review the future governance arrangements of Corporate Parenting Board.

2. Recommendations

- To support proposals to de-establish Corporate Parenting Board as a Council Committee Meeting.
- To support a report going to Council requesting permission to de-establish Corporate Parenting Board as a Council Committee Meeting.
- That if agreed a full report with revised Corporate Parenting Board Terms of Reference to be presented to the first meeting of Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee in the new municipal year.
- That the future overview and scrutiny of services to be delivered to children in care and outcomes to be achieved to be the responsibility of Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

3. Consultation with Young People

If these proposals are supported by the board, then future arrangements will be informed by views of children in care and care leavers. Children and Young People to at the heart of future arrangements and future proposals.

Conversations with children and young people have already commenced and The Children in Care Council recently described themselves as just a '*reference group*', this is a powerful statement and one we are seeking to address.

We need to consider with the Children in Care Council and the Care Leavers Forum how we can make Corporate Parenting Board more participatory and as we move forward for them to be co-producers.

The Board recently met with children and young people to explore their priorities for the year to inform an annual work plan. This will mean that the work of the Board is more focused and informed by their views and the things that are important to them.

4. Report detail – know

Please refer to attached PowerPoint presentation.

5. Financial information

No financial considerations.

6. Reducing Inequalities

Corporate Parenting Board seeks to secure improvements in the equality of services, which, when achieved will have a positive impact on our most vulnerable children, young people and their families

7. Decide

Corporate Parenting Board to consider if they support the proposals to de-establish Corporate Parenting Board as a Council Committee Meeting or whether they would advocate for Corporate Parenting Board remaining as a Committee Meeting.

8. Respond

These proposals will be considered at Annual Council Meeting on 22.05.2023.

9. Review

If new proposals are accepted then oversight, scrutiny and review of the Corporate Parenting Board would sit with Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Author

Colleen Male
Director of Children's Social Work
☎ 653718
✉ colleen.male@walsall.gov.uk