

## **Corporate Parenting Board**

**Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2023 at 6.30 p.m.**

**Conference room 2, Walsall Council House**

### **Board Members Present:**

Councillor S. Elson (Chair)  
Councillor T. Jukes (Vice-Chair)  
Councillor V. Waters  
Councillor R. Worrall

### **Officers Present**

Jenny Cockcroft	Interim Head of Practice, Quality & Improvement
Alison Jones	Designated Nurse LAC (Walsall ICB)
Colleen Male	Director, Children's Social Work
Zoe Morgan	Head of Service
Catherine Masterson	Designated Children In Care Nurse - Black Country ICB
Dion Prescod	Group Manager
Sally Rowe	Executive Director
Lorraine Thompson	Head of Virtual School

## 1 **Apologies**

Apologies were received on behalf of Councillor Latham.

## 2 **Substitutions**

There were no substitutions for the duration of the meeting.

## 3 **Minutes**

A copy of the minutes of the meeting held on 4 April 2023, were submitted.

(see annexed)

### **Resolved (Unanimous)**

That the minutes of the meeting held on 4 April 2023, copies having previously been circulated to each member of the Board, be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

## 4 **Future Governance of Corporate Parenting Board**

The Director (Children's Social Work) presented the report and detailed the reasons for the proposal that the Corporate Parenting Board was de-established as a Council Committee.

These reasons included conversations with children and young people revealing that the Children in Care Council described themselves as just a '*reference group*', Officers stated that this was a powerful statement which indicated that they did not feel Part of the board. Consideration was needed as to how the Corporate Parenting Board could be more participatory with children and young people being co-producers.

Members debated the issue and suggested that best practice from other councils be collated and presented to Members via a Teams meeting to enable them to make an informed decision.

### **Resolved**

That a special informal meeting be arranged via Teams (as soon as practically possible) to present information on best practice of other Local Authorities when discharging the functions of Corporate Parenting Board.

5. **Setting a Work Programme**

The Chair asked Members to consider the priorities for the Board in the coming municipal year.

**Resolved:**

That Members considered the following areas to be of high priority and added them to their work programme:

- CPB strategy and action plan
- Placement sufficiency strategy
- Annual adoption report
- Annual Fostering service report
- Independent Visiting Service annual report
- Quarterly performance reports
- Housing options for care leavers
- Update on residential homes
- Virtual school annual report
- Health annual report
- IRO annual report
- Care leavers (dedicated meeting to be held with care leavers)
- Leisure and Housing/WHG
- Website and ease of access
- CAMHS report
- CPB annual report

The following Member champions were appointed to the following children's residential homes:

- Hilton Road – Councillor Jukes
- Redruth – to be confirmed
- Bluebells – to be confirmed
- Pine View – to be confirmed

There being no further business the meeting terminated at 6.55 p.m.

Signed .....

Date .....