

NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNCIL

CABINET

10th JULY 2024

REPORT OF THE HEAD OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SERVICES – K. WARREN

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Matter for Decision

Wards Affected All Wards

SUPPORTING PARENTS IN AND LEAVING CARE

1. Purpose of Report

To inform Cabinet of the Charter developed to support parents in and leaving care and to ask Cabinet to adopt the Charter.

2. Background

To strengthen corporate parenting support for parents in and leaving care, a good-practice Charter has been developed. This has been largely based on the work of Dr Louise Roberts who has been working on an ESRC funded Impact project to challenge stigma, discrimination and poor outcomes for young parents in and leaving care. The Charter was co-produced with care-experienced parents and benefitted from extensive consultations with professionals in both the statutory and third sector.

The Charter considers the range of support that should be available to young people before and after they become parents. The Charter sets out what we will do to help parents in and leaving care to help them plan for parenting a parent, how we will support when they become a parent and what we will do to challenge the stigma and disadvantage. The Charter is to support parents up to the age of 25, with a commitment to continuing to review how we are doing to ensure that parents continue to be well supported and treated fairly.

3. Financial Impacts

There are no financial impacts arising from this report.

4. Integrated Impact assessment

'A first stage impact assessment has been undertaken to assist the Council in discharging its legislative duties (under the Equality Act 2010,

the Welsh Language Standards (No.1) Regulations 2015, the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and the Environment (Wales) Act 2016.

The first stage assessment has indicated that a more in-depth assessment is not required. A summary is included below.'

- Positive impact on people with a protected characteristic of age and disability.
- No impact on people with other protected characteristics.
- No impact on Welsh Language opportunities.
- Neutral impact on biodiversity.
- Supports the five ways of working.

5. Valleys Communities Impact

There are no implications.

6. Workforce Impacts

The workforce will have relevant training and information in respect of the Charter

7. Legal impacts

There are no legal impacts arising from this report.

8. Risk Assessment Impacts

There are no risk management requirements arising from this report.

9. Crime and Disorder Impacts

Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 places a duty on the Council in the exercise of its functions to have “due regard to the likely effect of the exercise of those functions on and the need to do all that it reasonably can to prevent:

- a) Crime and disorder in its area (including anti-social and other behaviour adversely affecting the local environment);
- b) The misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances in its area; and
- c) Re-offending the area”.

There is no impact under the Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.

10. Counter Terrorism Impacts

The proposals are likely to have no impact on the duty to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism.

11. Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Impacts:

Section 2(1) of the Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) Act 2015 introduced a general duty where a person exercising relevant functions must have regard (along with all other relevant matters) to the need to remove or minimise any factors which:

- (a) increase the risk of violence against women and girls, or
- (b) exacerbate the impact of such violence on victims.

The proposals contained in this report are likely to compliment and work alongside the impact on the above duty. VAWDA SV is included in the priorities of the Board under exploitation.

12. Consultation

There is no requirement for external consultation on this item; a consultation has already been undertaken with young people in the development of this Charter. This Charter has already been presented to and considered by Corporate Parenting Panel.

13. Recommendations

Having due regard to the Integrated Impact Assessment it is recommended that Members approve the Charter.

14. Reasons for Proposed Decision

To ensure that the Council has signed up to the Charter as a good Corporate Parent.

15. Implementation of Decision

The decision is proposed for implementation after the three day call in period.

16. Appendices

Appendix 1: Supporting Parents in and leaving care Charter

Appendix 2: Integrated Impact Assessment

17. Background Papers

www.exchangewales.org

18. Officer Contact

Victoria Smith, Principal Officer, Care Experienced Children and Young People and Complex Care

v.smith@npt.gov.uk

Keri Warren, Head of Children and Young People Services
k.warren@npt.gov.uk