



Cyngor Castell-nedd Port Talbot
Neath Port Talbot Council

NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL / CYNGOR BWRDEISTREF SIROL CASTELL-NEDD PORT TALBOT

Council

4 September 2019

Report of the Corporate Parenting Panel

Matter for Information

Wards Affected: All Wards

Corporate Parenting Panel Annual Report 2017/18 and 2018/19

Purpose of the Report:

The terms of reference for the Neath Port Talbot Corporate Parenting Panel provides for an Annual Report to be produced by the Panel and to be presented to Council. The Annual Report is included at Appendix 1.

Executive Summary:

The Annual Report outlines the work of the Corporate Parenting Panel from 2017 to 2019 and highlights the progress made. It also identifies the future work of the Panel and the actions it aims to take forward.

The work programme has focussed on the following key areas:-

- Improving Educational Attainment
- School Exclusions
- Children who go missing from home or care
- Risky Behaviour Panel
- National Fostering Framework
- Children and Young People's Survey – Summer 2018
- Accommodation and Care Leavers
- National Fostering Framework
- Health Needs of Looked After Children
- Out of County Placements

The Panel also met with the Looked After Children Youth Council and contributed to the information booklet that the Youth Council was developing for children who were brought into care. The booklet was written from a children's perspective.

Accommodation and Care Leavers have continued to be a priority for the Panel and they will continue to monitor this especially in line with the intention of the Welsh Government to extend the leaving care age to 25 regardless of whether young people were in further education or not.

The Panel continues to monitor the educational attainment of Looked After Children and the negative effect that deprivation has on children's performance.

Another key area for the Panel was Fostering. The Panel was pleased with the development of the National Fostering Framework which ensured a consistent approach to foster carers' payments. The Panel will continue to monitor the outcomes of recruitment campaigns to ensure that the numbers of foster carers increases especially for children with challenging behaviours.

The Panel plans to develop and monitor existing work areas as well as examining the support that care leavers receive when seeking employment.

Background:

Looked After Children are one of the most vulnerable groups in our society and improving the lives of these children is a national priority. Providing care and support for them is the role of staff employed by the Council, partner agencies and elected members.

The role of the Corporate Parenting Panel is to champion the rights of these children and young people to ensure their needs are being met and that they have the best chances in life

Financial Impacts:

No Implications

Integrated Impact Assessment:

There is no requirement to undertake an Integrated Impact Assessment as this report is for information purposes.

Valleys Communities Impacts:

No Implications

Workforce Impacts:

No Impacts

Legal Impacts:

No Impacts

Risk Management Impacts:

The role of the Corporate Parenting Panel is to champion the rights of Looked After Children.

Consultation:

There is no requirement for external consultation on this item.

Recommendations:

Matter for Information. No decision required.

Reasons for Proposed Decision:

Matter for Information. No decision required.

Implementation of Decision:

Matter for Information. No decision required.

Appendices:

Corporate Parenting Panel Annual Report 2017/18 and 2018/19

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