

## NOTICE OF MEETING

# CORPORATE PARENTING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**Monday, 22nd January 2024, 7.00 pm (or at the conclusion of the meeting with ASPIRE, whichever is the later) - George Meehan House, 294 High Road, N22 8JZ (watch the live meeting [here](#), watch the recording [here](#))**

**Members:** Councillors Zena Brabazon (Chair), Felicia Opoku, Elin Weston, Lotte Collett, Marsha Isilar-Gosling, Cressida Johnson and Ibrahim Ali

Quorum: 3

### 1. **FILMING AT MEETINGS**

Please note this meeting may be filmed or recorded by the Council for live or subsequent broadcast via the Council's internet site or by anyone attending the meeting using any communication method. Although we ask members of the public recording, filming or reporting on the meeting not to include the public seating areas, members of the public attending the meeting should be aware that we cannot guarantee that they will not be filmed or recorded by others attending the meeting. Members of the public participating in the meeting (e.g. making deputations, asking questions, making oral protests) should be aware that they are likely to be filmed, recorded or reported on. By entering the meeting room and using the public seating area, you are consenting to being filmed and to the possible use of those images and sound recordings.

The Chair of the meeting has the discretion to terminate or suspend filming or recording, if in his or her opinion continuation of the filming, recording or reporting would disrupt or prejudice the proceedings, infringe the rights of any individual, or may lead to the breach of a legal obligation by the Council.

### 2. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (IF ANY)**

### 3. **URGENT BUSINESS**

The Chair will consider the admission of late items of urgent business. Late items will be considered under the agenda item they appear. New items will be dealt with at item 13 below.

### 4. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

A member with a personal interest in a matter who attends a meeting of the authority at which the matter is considered must disclose to that meeting the

existence and nature of that interest at the commencement of that consideration, or when the consideration becomes apparent.

A member with a personal interest in a matter also has a prejudicial interest in that matter the interest is one which a member of the public with knowledge of the relevant facts would reasonably regard as so significant that it is likely to prejudice the member' judgement of the public interest.

**5. MINUTES (PAGES 1 - 8)**

To agree the minutes of the previous meeting held on 2 October 2023 as a correct record

**6. PERFORMANCE REPORT**

To receive an update on the Performance report.

*Report to follow.*

**7. CORPORATE PARENTING WEEK SCHEDULE (PAGES 9 - 12)**

Corporate Parenting Week is planned for 19 to 23 February 2024. It is a themed week of learning and activities across Haringey Council to promote and strengthen the collective responsibility to the children in care and the young adults leaving care. The week brings together a range of formal and informal events involving a range of stakeholders and importantly to celebrate children and young adults.

**8. SUITABLE ACCOMMODATION - THE CRITERIA FOR CHILDREN IN CARE (PAGES 13 - 18)**

To provide an update on suitable accommodation – the criteria for children in care.

**9. EXPERIENCES OF UNACCOMPANIED ASYLUM SEEKING CHILDREN (UASC)**

*Report to follow.*

**10. THE MISSING APP (PAGES 19 - 20)**

To receive an update on the 'Missing App'.

**11. 'ANY OF US' COUNCIL FOSTERING FILM PROJECT**

To receive a verbal update and video on 'Any of Us' Council fostering film project.

**12. CORPORATE PARENTING CHAMPIONS UPDATE**

To receive verbal update and any agenda item recommendation for Feb meeting.

**13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Date of next meeting:

27 February 2024

Bhavya Nair, Principal Committee Co-ordinator

Email: bhavya1.nair@haringey.gov.uk

Fiona Alderman

Head of Legal & Governance (Monitoring Officer)

George Meehan House, 294 High Road, Wood Green, N22 8JZ

Friday, 12 January 2024

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## **MINUTES OF THE CORPORATE PARENTING ADVISORY COMMITTEE HELD ON MONDAY, 2ND OCTOBER, 2023, 7:30PM – 10:00PM**

**PRESENT:** Councillors Zena Brabazon (Chair), Elin Weston, Cressida Johnson, Lotte Collett, Ibrahim Ali, Marsha Isilar-Gosling.

**ALSO PRESENT:** Councillor Lucia das Neves

### **1. FILMING AT MEETINGS**

The Chair referred to the filming of meetings and this information was noted.

### **2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (IF ANY)**

No apologies had been received.

At 7:31pm, the meeting adjourned to meet with ASPIRE and then reconvened at 8:00pm.

### **3. URGENT BUSINESS**

There were none.

### **4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **5. MINUTES**

Councillor Dana Carlin's name on the attendance record would be changed to read Councillor Lotte Collett.

RESOLVED: That subject to the above change, the minutes of the meeting of 12 July 2023 be agreed as a correct record.

### **6. PERFORMANCE REPORT**

Mr Richard Hutton, Senior Performance Officer, introduced the report.

The meeting heard that:

- Suitable accommodation was defined through regulations for Children in Care, OFSTED and Housing. Specific to this discussion staying with one's own foster carers rather than

staying in a multiple occupancy home was the context for defining suitability and this was achieved largely through Staying Put arrangements.

- At a previous meeting of the Committee, a report was submitted which discussed what constituted suitable accommodation. Under the new changes with OFSTED, the Committee took a decision not to use accommodation such as the YMCA, to move away from any model around HMOs for children and young people in care and that the Council would work to identify suitable accommodation to ensure that the standard would be good enough for one's own child. It would be helpful if a short note could be re issued to the Committee regarding how "suitable accommodation" would be defined with all the newly attained changes.
- Some young people may be allocated suitable accommodation who then decided they would prefer to stay with family after their eighteenth birthday. This was a challenging situation as there was little in law that could be done to change the situation. Although the numbers for situations such as these were low. An update could be provided to the Committee regarding the issue.
- Much work had gone into placement stability. The Council in the past six months had placement stability meetings with partner agencies to ensure that the needs were being identified to prevent children having to move placements. Providers were being held to account for the work they were doing with the key work support. OFSTED had commented that the borough was on the right trajectory in terms of placement stability. The meetings were reviewed regularly and the Council continued to examine the children being brought into Haringey and track those placements to ensure that they remained where they were.
- The Council had recently launched a video along with another local authorities trying to attract foster carers. Councillors were encouraged, whilst engaging in Champions work, to have conversations with people on how they could become foster carers. Haringey was working in collaboration with Islington. The video would be sent to members of the Committee.
- Information would be provided to the Committee regarding orthodontic care for young people.
- Data reports regarding those in the system up to age 25 could be provided to the Committee, including at the next meeting.
- There had been a number of factors that had impacted on the three or more moves for the same child over different periods. One of them related to the way the court processes work. Whilst the courts had completed significant work to clear the backlog created by the coronavirus lock down, the borough was still experiencing some of the effects of delayed proceedings. There were still children who had waited two years for their proceedings to end and, during that time, it was difficult to contain them in one placement separately. There was also volatility around the residential mother and baby units. Sometimes the quality of the assessments meant that reassessments had to be made at the Court's request at another setting. This counted as another placement move and sometimes the prematurity of the direction to test in the community meant that they came back into care and would be separated. This would appear as instability in the data. In relation to adolescents, in a market that was volatile, it was challenging to offer stability in the semi-independent and residential arena so investment was being made in the borough's LAC Sufficiency Strategy.

- Efforts needed to be made to ensure that families were assisted with acute stress to prevent them from needing to come into care. It was important to have good recording systems and note the complex ways young people could be affected. For example, the agency afforded to adults to self-determine if they had capacity and this could mean that adults services could not intervene. Children and Social Care had to then ensure that harm did not extend to those adult children. This could happen in cases like substance misuse. It may be possible to examine areas of stress affecting families and report back to the Committee in January 2024. Whether it was acute stress, domestic abuse or housing issues, it was generally the case that families were in stressed situations which were usually also compounded by the cost-of-living and the quality of housing.
- There had been an increase in the unaccompanied asylum-seeking children. As the children were coming in, there were young people ageing out. Whilst the young people turned 18, they still required a service, but this was not visible in the statistics. The overall pressure when numbers only were presented was not always clear. The borough was still about 20 under its threshold. There was a steady intake of around three children a month. The borough had been approached by Kent County Council to take some children from the hotels and other local authorities surrounding Haringey were also seeing an increase. Local authorities were seeking assistance around resources and placements. There was difficulty in finding “matched” placements for the children. A number had gone into IFAs (independent foster carers) and the borough had managed to place some individuals locally. Finding the right therapeutic supporters was also a pressure. Accessing the right ESOL was also a concern because when children arrived in the middle of term, it could be difficult to get them into the right ESOL classes. Work was being done with the virtual school regarding tuition for some of the children. Another issue had been around accessing the right immigration lawyers and there seemed to be some challenges around this. Support was being sought from the London Asylum Consortium. The rota referral meant that the Council had to place young people within 5 working days and this depended on finding the right matched placements within the market. Age assessments, when required had to be within 28 days which was challenging when trying to find the right interpreter. Until recently, the Council had been quite reliant on an independent social worker to assist with some of the age assessments, but the Council had built up the expertise and a pool of trained social workers within the service. Attempts were being made to look at the next steps in terms of the increasing numbers and what that really meant for the service and staffing. The meeting agreed that there would be a more detailed report on this issue at the next meeting. It would also be useful to also have details in the report such as country of origin, languages spoken and other demographic details. The report could list the changes in the incident that happened between the Home Office and Kent County Council at the next meeting.

The Chair felt that the Council could consider finding a way to consult with a wider range of residents in Haringey who wanted to give something back to the community and may wish to become foster carers or be involved in other ways.

**RESOLVED:**

That the report be noted.

## **7. CHILDREN IN CARE KNOWN TO THE YOUTH JUSTICE SERVICE**

Mr Matthew Knights, Head of Service, Youth At Risk, presented the item.

The meeting heard that:

- In relation to the qualitative research into stop and search, work was being done within the assessment processes in addition to research into the actual experiences of the young people. Further, young people would be provided with knowledge around the stop and search process including their rights. Documenting experience was important but it was also important to build upon this. Interventions were done with Police officers within the service around ensuring that children understood their rights around stop and search. As a result of the work of the Director of Children's Services, the Haringey Stop and Search pilot had been accepted by MOPAC and Sir Mark Rowley. Some of the work for the Haringey Youth Justice would sit under that pilot. This would include analysis across the Police in London and fed through the Youth Justice Service to understanding the experiences of young people and how adjustments could be made to the assessment process.
- In relation to the Disproportionality MOPAC project, this was being externally evaluated. It was part of a wider project involving Islington, Camden and Barnet youth justice services. Within the final stages of the mentoring happening, a last cohort of referrals that had just been submitted. That would then go into phase two, which would be about the evaluation process to then get the impact and understanding around what's worked and what had not worked. Haringey would also feed into that evaluation from a staff perspective.
- In relation to social prescribing, this was a new model that had just been embedded with our public health colleagues and it was flexible depending on the child's needs. There was a North Central London working group to look at the evaluation process. It was on a smaller scale and was done locally. It was important to ensure that children in care had access to the pilot and because the cohort was not always placed in Haringey. A lot of the children were placed outside the borough and they could sometimes miss out on some interventions. This would be funded that as part of our work that was being done for the child that would follow them wherever they went.
- Update reports should be brought to the Committee with the detail and intended impact of social prescription in January 2024.
- In relation to young people in custody, there was regular contact with the children and young people in custody, their caseworkers, with their Independent Reviewing Officer (IRO) and with Children and Social Care. It was important to note any concerns regarding the child's inability to participate in engagements within the custodial establishment. There was also an escalation process.

RESOLVED:

That the update be noted.

## **8. ADOPT LONDON NORTH ANNUAL REPORT**

Ms Lydia Samuel, Head of Service, Adopt London North, presented the report.

The meeting heard that:



- There was no current level of concern about the level of referrals from Haringey. When considering the number of family finding referrals, the percentage of referrals that resulted in a match provided an indication of how many of those children were likely to end up going on to have a care plan for adoption.
- The purpose of Adopt London beginning to provide the training for social workers was because it became apparent that, across the boroughs, the adoption expertise had largely come into the regional adoption agency. Therefore, some of the expertise to provide training and guidance had largely been lost from the local authority. This was why it would be beneficial to coordinate the training centrally. The training would be provided regularly enough so that all of the social workers that needed attend it could do so. Monitoring was done with quality assurance in relation to how often it needed to run. It would be interesting to look over time at whether the quality of the work improved. It would be possible to observe this easily because reports would be submitted to the Adoption Panel and Quality Assurance.
- In relation to the Black Adoption Programme, one of the things examined was the proportion of Black children within the adoption system and the project was aimed at Black and Mixed Black ethnicity children rather than the global majority children. It was well-known that within adoption, Asian children could particularly be placed for adoption very quickly. There was a surplus of Asian adopters and very few Asian children that place for adoption. In the past, when research was done into global majority children as a whole, it had been the case that, in many ways, the extent of the disparities for Black children had been masked. The figures in the report showed that over the five-year period of the analysis that was done, 35% of children within the Adopt London North boroughs were Black or Mixed Black ethnicity children. This compared to an average of 26% across Adopt London, which was significant.
- In relation to children in care, Black children were over represented in the care system. There was a report detailing all the research on Black Adoption projects. This could be presented to the Committee.
- It was rare for adoptive families to receive an adoption allowance. There was provision for adoption allowances where those were needed and they were similar to special guardianship allowances. In most cases, they were attached to the needs of the child. For example, if somebody adopted a sibling group or a disabled child, it was up to the local authority to approve adoption allowance for those families. Families were also able to re-approach Adopt London later on if their situation changed and they came under financial hardship and had to be supported with an allowance. However, the vast majority of families did not have an allowance and did not need one.
- Social media had been helpful. Some of the recruitment methods had changed significantly since the organisation had become a regional agency as there was little competition and most people who were interested in adoption do an internet search or look on social media to find Adopt London very quickly. Work was also being done with local authority media teams to specifically look at campaigns at the specific parts of the year to local residents. This helped residents to understand that Adopt London was Haringey's adoption agency. In relation to Black adopters, the work that had been done in the project showed methods that were successful with other prospective adopters were not successful with Black adopters to the same degree. One of the pilots that Adopt London had applied for funding was to have a community led arrangement where the organisation would have people who had relationships in local community groups to learn about the needs of adoption and Black children and be given tools and resources

to go back into their community space and promote adoption. Work was also being done to make sure that if there was an increase of black adopters, the organisation was ready to deal with the demand.

- In relation to governance arrangements, the Governance Board had been very strong and there had been a benefit from the continuity in that group. There had been governance challenges in the last year, including renegotiated funding arrangements and which meant that the DCSS became involved across the boroughs and successful resolutions had been reached. The relationships generally across this area and the other areas of work that was done jointly across had been beneficial. The Assurance Board looked at the operational work. Having different layers of governance had been useful.
- Discussions had been held with the London Improvement Innovation Alliance, who coordinated the need members meeting regarding how a presentation could be made to all of the lead members in London together about the project. A briefing had been offered for all the directors across London to attend all at once and ask questions.

RESOLVED:

That the presentation be noted.

## 9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

### Update on the Champions Model

The meeting heard that discussion would be held with Champions on having a Corporate Parenting Week. The meeting agreed that this would go ahead in the new year.

### LAC Sufficiency Strategy

An update on this would be provided by the C&YPS Commissioner in January 2024

### Educational Results of Children in care

The meeting heard that in relation to key stage two data, regarding reading writing and maths, the borough attained 42.9% accepted standards. A comparison to last year showed a significant improvement. Reading was recorded at 57.1%, maths was at 71.4%. The strongest areas performance was maths and Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling. The Council had invested in Letterbox, a service which helped improve reading.

For GCSEs, there were 51-year 11s who were eligible for exams. For maths there were seven young people, Grade 7 and above. English Literature had twelve young people Grade 4 and above. English Language had seven young people Grade 4 and above. Science had eight young people Grade 4 Four and above. There needed to be a closer monitoring of young people at Key Stage 4.

For university destination, there were 46 heading to university. There were 11 currently in their first year, 14 in their second year and 16 in their second year. The Committee welcomed this news.

IRO Annual Report and First Quarter Update

Mr Nazim Hussain, IRO Service Manager, introduced a presentation on the item. He provided an overview of the annual report. The meeting heard an update of progress from the last annual report, child participation in reviews, feedback received from participants, the post OFSTED action plan, the use of the dispute resolution policy and the IRO priorities for 2023/24.

CHAIR:

Signed by Chair .....

Date .....

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**Report for:** Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee

**Item number:**

**Title:** Corporate parenting week

**Report**

**authorised by:** Beverley Hendricks, AD, Children's Services

**Lead Officers:** Keith Warren & Emma Cummergen

**Ward(s) affected:** N/A

**1. Describe the issue under consideration.**

1.1 The proposed schedule for corporate parenting week is being presented to Members.

**2. Recommendations**

2.1 That Members endorse the schedule.

**3. Reasons for decision**

3.1 Members have corporate responsibility and therefore the proposal needs their endorsement.

**4. Background information**

4.1 Corporate Parenting Week is planned for 19 to 23 February 2024. It is a themed week of learning and activities across Haringey Council to promote and strengthen our collective responsibility to the children in our care and the young adults leaving our care. The week brings together a range of formal and informal events involving a range of stakeholders and importantly to celebrate our children and young adults.

**5. Contribution to strategic outcomes**

N/A

**6. Use of Appendices**

Appendix 1- Proposed schedule

**7. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985**

N/A

## Appendix 1



### Corporate Parenting Week 19<sup>th</sup> February 2024

Corporate Parenting Week 2024 is a themed week of learning and activities across Haringey Council to promote and strengthen our collective responsibility to the children in our care and the young adults leaving our care. The week brings together a range of formal and informal events involving a range of stakeholders and importantly to celebrate our children and young adults.

#### Monday

**12.00-12.45pm**

#### **Corporate Parenting Week Launch\***

Who: The Leader Councillor, Lead Member for Children's Services, DCS and CEX

This launch will focus on our corporate parenting values and a call for pledges in the following areas:

- Developing our professional understanding and empathy for the lived experience of children and young adults in our care –promoting our training offer Total Respect, for all staff in CSC, but also open to education professionals, foster carers and other care staff, Councillors and partner agencies.
- Networking and sponsorship – donations and in-kind support for our activities programme throughout the year.
- Befriending – become an Independent Visitor to befriend and offer social support for a child in care or a young adult leaving care through monthly social time.
- Fostering – can you or someone you know foster, or offer host and support?
- Council internships and internships in partner organisations and local business – can you offer a young adult leaving our care a fixed term job opportunity? A part-time internship can offer a care leaver in education, a meaningful pathway into the world of work. A budget awarded every month, could create a ring-fenced job role for a care leaver in areas that support their training and development. Internships to develop talent for future apprenticeships.
- Christmas – Supporting our looked after children and care leavers at Christmas (physical and monetary donations), including care leavers with children – Just Giving Page to go live ....
- Make a pledge in one of these areas!

*\*Comms and social media coverage*

**12.45 - 1.30pm**

#### **Corporate Parenting Week Information & Stalls** (banners throughout)

What:

CPW Timetable and Participation Timetable

Fostering Information Stall with Banners

IV Information Stall with flyers

Total Respect Information and dates

Information on host an internship

Just Giving Campaign

Helpers across the week:

Fostering rep, CLA rep, leaving care rep, Participation and Virtual school on rotation and Request for helpers sent

**3.30-6.00pm**

**Monday Club Special (After school activities)**

What: Superheroes and Life stories Feedback

Who: Special guests from Children in Care Service and Guest of honour

**Tuesday**

**12.30 - 1.30pm**

**Corporate Parenting Week Information & Stalls (banners)**

**6pm – 8pm**

**Positive Journeys Seniors (Cooking Special)**

Who: Participation Leader, 2 Support Staff, 3 special guests and approximately 12 young people (max. 18).

What: Launch Proud to be me -

**Wednesday**

**10am – 12midday Foster Carer Coffee Morning\***

CPAC Champion leading the discussions.

A special edition of our monthly foster carer coffee morning to show appreciation for our foster carers and those colleagues supporting them.

*\*Comms and social media*

**12.30 - 1.30pm Corporate Parenting Week Information & Stalls (banners)**

**5.30-7.30pm**

**Tottenham Football Club**

Supporting Foster carers, CIC and CL ....

**Thursday**

**12.30 - 1.30pm Corporate Parenting Week Information & Stalls (banners displayed)**

**Friday**

**5pm – 9.30pm**

**Talent Achievement Awards for Children and young people in care and looked after – Virtual school**

Who: Children in our care up to 18 and care leavers up to 25 , foster families, key workers, parents, professionals, special guests/sponsors and elected members to take place in the public gallery

What: A formal achievement ceremony to celebrate CIC and CL creative abilities, transitions to independence etc...

*\*Comms and social media*



**Report for:** Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee

**Item number:** 8

**Title:** **Suitable Accommodation**

**Report**

**authorised by:** Beverley Hendricks, AD, Children's Services

**Lead Officer:**

**Ward(s) affected:** All Wards

## **1. Describe the issue under consideration.**

1.1 To provide an update on update on semi-independents for UASC and CIC 16 plus.

1.2 Definition of unregulated and unregistered placements

- Unregulated provision is allowed in law. This is when children (usually over the age of 16) need support to live independently rather than needing full-time care. Ofsted do not currently regulate this type of provision. However, within the ILACS framework, Ofsted will investigate this area of practice to ensure it is robustly managed, is subject to effective quality assurance and overseen by senior managers.
- Unregistered provision is when a child who's being provided with some form of 'care' is living somewhere that is not registered with Ofsted. This is illegal. Once a provider delivers a care element as well as accommodation, they must register as a children's home. It's an offence not to.
- An unregulated placement also becomes unregistered if the child placed there is under 16 years old. If, when they turn 16 years old and children have care needs it will remain unregistered, if they do not have care needs it will become a legal unregulated placement.

1.3 From 28 October 2023, Local Authorities will no longer be permitted to place looked after children aged 16 and 17 in provision that is not registered with Ofsted as supported accommodation.

1.4 Ofsted began registering providers from 28 April 2023. The Regulations and guidance must be complied with for the purposes of registration and as soon as providers and managers are registered with Ofsted. If a complete application for registration with Ofsted has not been made before 28 October 2023, it will be an offence for providers to carry on or manage a supported accommodation service for 16 and 17 years old on or after that date.

1.5 Across the UK there was 4000 YP in semi-independent units – this equates to 600 units.

1.6 The Regulations set out standards (“the Quality Standards”) that must be met by supported accommodation. The Quality Standards describe outcomes that each young person must be supported to achieve while living in supported accommodation. Each standard contains an overarching, aspirational, outcome statement with young people at its heart, followed by a set of underpinning, measurable requirements that providers and settings must achieve in meeting each standard.

## **2. Recommendations**

2.1 Children under 16 years of age should not be placed in a setting that is unregulated and should only happen in extra ordinary circumstances where other placements are not available. If a placement of this type is needed; it is expected that each child’s circumstance is reported and considered by senior managers at Directorate levels within the organisations and the following issues covered.

2.2 From the 4<sup>th</sup> of September 2023 the placements team were directed not to make any new placements of 16 and 17 years old with providers who had not provided indicated that they would be applying to Ofsted.

## **3. Reasons for decision**

3.1 It will be illegal for local authorities to accommodate 16- and 17-year-olds children in unregistered provisions as of 28<sup>th</sup> October 2023.

## **4. Background information**

4.1 According to the latest data, there were 5,980 children looked after (CLA) aged 16 to 17 living independently or in semi-independent living accommodation at 31st of March 2021. This is equivalent to almost a third of all CLA aged 16 to 17 (32%). Of these children, there is a higher proportion of children aged 16 to 17 in these placements who were unaccompanied asylum-seeking children (UASC) (32% living independently and 34% in semi-independent accommodation) compared to the national average for 16- to 17-year-old CLA (18%). Therefore, approximately 1,914 children aged 16 to 17 living independently or in semi-independent accommodation are unaccompanied asylum-seeking children.

4.2 Ofsted have sent notification to all LAs advising of the following:

- Ofsted has no power to waive regulations but will take a pragmatic approach in the current circumstances.
- Ofsted would not want any children to move unnecessarily while recent applications are processed.
- Ofsted’s priority is to process incomplete applications from existing providers as quickly as possible to a registration decision.
- Any other action taken will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

### **4.3 Preparing Semi-independent Providers for Ofsted Regulations**

4.3.1 Commissioning worked in collaboration with the providers to ensure that they are kept abreast of the upcoming changes.

4.3.2 Regular information was forwarded to providers on upcoming virtual and face to face training offered through the Sector Awareness and Provider Preparedness Programme.

4.3.3 Regular forums were held to help providers understand the significance of compliance in the new regime and to give ongoing support when practicable, these were held both face to face and virtual. Provider given support with paperwork, as many documents have been purchased as off the shelf policies and must be tailored to the organisation.

4.3.4 All providers delivering semi-independent accommodation were required to re-register on Dynamic Purchasing System (DPS) effective from the date the new regulation comes into effect. Commissioning worked with the DPS team to review and modify the system to reflect the new regulations.

4.3.5 Placements manager to have oversight of any children or young people who may need an unregulated /unregistered placement, and for any child not to proceed to an unregistered placement without approval from the Assistant Director.

## 4.4 Haringey's UASC and CIC 16 plus in Semi Independent Accommodation (SI)

4.4.1 As of 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024, Haringey data shows the following:

- According to our data as of 08/01/2024 there are 131 young people 16+ in semi-independent accommodation.
- We have placements with 28 SI providers who supply a range of accommodation of which 10 providers support UASC.
- 44 CiC aged 16- and 17-year-olds are accommodated with 16 SI providers of which 14 SI providers have a complete registration with Ofsted.
- We received notification from 1 provider at the end of November advising that they would be withdrawing their Ofsted application, and this affected 1 YP who will be moving to alternative accommodation. Another provider is still in the process of progressing to a complete application and commissioning have been in regular communication with the provider, we have 3 YP placed with this provider. Ofsted requested the provider to make amendments to the application which was completed and resubmitted.

4.4.2 There are commissioning arrangements in place with two key providers with a block booking arrangement in place.

- **Irish Causeway**, a housing association providing low-cost housing for unaccompanied minors, this provider supplies three properties, with 20 bed spaces. Irish Causeway is the single largest provider for 18 + UASC cohort in Haringey.
- **Atlantic Lodge** provides 5 bed spaces locally for care leavers.

## 4.5 Standards for Supported Accommodation Providers

4.5.1 The Ofsted Regulations prescribe four Quality Standards which must be met by supported accommodation:

- The leadership and management standard (see regulation 4)
- The protection standard (see regulation 5)
- The accommodation standard (see regulation 6)
- The support standard (see regulation 7)

4.5.2 Commissioning works in partnership with providers to ensure that the services that are commissioned are of high quality, safe and deliver positive outcomes to the children, young people, and families in Haringey.

4.5.3 Quality assurance officers conduct annual monitoring visit to SI Providers.

4.5.4 The purpose of these visits is to evaluate the quality of the service and to ensure that they are meeting the standards and expectations of Haringey and the services delivered are in line with Ofsted Quality Standards for SI provision.

4.5.5 Visits will be done once a year and officers will review, staff files, young people files, assess the quality of the accommodation alongside reviewing other relevant documents. Following the visit, a report will be drafted, and a rating will be provided using RAG rating matrix **RED, AMBER, GREEN**. Providers rated RED or AMBER will have actions noted for completion within a specified timescale. A report will be generated at the end of each quarter to update Senior Management.

## **4.6 How CIC and UASC are supported with their educational needs**

4.6.1 The Virtual School's current number of Care Leavers is 115. There are 82 Care Leavers in Education, Employment and Training (EET) and 33 are Not in Education, Employment and Training (NEET).

4.6.2 The Virtual school continues to support education through Personal Education Plan (PEP) meetings up until the age of 18 at which point the young person can withdraw consent and we cease our PEP meetings; however, if they do not withdraw consent, support is continued until they complete their post-16 Education.

4.6.3 For young people out of an educational placement, due to the time they came into care and general college admission points we offer tuition of up to ten hours per week. Currently, there are four young people receiving tuition, and out of the four two are UASC. We do not receive stable funding from DfE for our post-16 cohort, so we often deploy the pupil premium grant (PPG) for statutory education to support our post-16 offer.

4.6.4 In the academic year 2023-2024, we have received additional funding for post-16, and a portion has been used to fund salaries and purchase laptops through allocating funds to Young Adults Services (YAS) to support the post-16 offer.

4.6.5 We offer Advice and Careers guidance through Careers Information Advice and Guidance (CIAG) surgeries, which are held twice a year at the key transition points.

4.6.6 For our young people who are NEET, we hold weekly NEET panels and update our tracking and monitoring of our young people in conjunction with external partners, YAS, and Early Help.

4.6.7 28 of our post-16 cohort have EHCP plans; 8 are NEET, and they are supported by the NEET panel. There are fortnightly meetings with SEND and the Virtual school to track and discuss the education of post-16 students with EHCP, and when possible, combine their Annual Review with a PEP meeting.

4.6.8 There has been recent work with local colleges to streamline the process for our young people with EHCPs to ensure they know the young person has an EHCP plan and are in Care or Care Leavers. We continue to forge strong links with external Local Authority SEND Teams to ensure that our Post-16s living outside the borough, are supported in their education and that EHCP statutory requirements are met.

## **5 Contribution to strategic outcomes**

N/A

## **6 Use of Appendices**

N/A

## **7 Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985**

N/A

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# The 'Missing' App

**Haringey**  
LONDON

...an app to help you if you're under 18 and missing from home and needing advice or... maybe, just wanting to let people know you're okay.

If you're in Haringey and under 18 there is a 'The Missing' app that has been designed by young people, for young people to use, should you want to keep in touch while missing from home. The app provides you with access to a range of guidance from trusted support services to assist you during this period. 'The Missing' app allows you to stay in touch without being traced. It gives you control, if you choose to make contact. When accessing the app, personal information is not shared unless you choose to submit it, and if you do submit it, you can choose who you want to submit it to.

## Young People Being Stopped and Searched by Police:

If you are stopped and searched by the police, the app also provides you with on-the-spot information to help, regarding your rights and what to expect. It allows you to make a personal log of a stop and search incident, and of your experience.

In such instances, the app can remind you that the police must follow the GO WISELY guidance:

**Grounds** – A clear explanation of the reasons for the officer's search, why they find you suspicious

**Object** – What the officer will be looking for

**Warrant** – Warrant card to be produced. If the officer is not in uniform

**Identity** – The officer must state their name and collar number (except in suspected terrorism cases, where the officer can provide just their collar number)

**Station** – The officer must identify the station at which they are based

**Entitlement** – The officer must inform you of your entitlement to a copy of the stop/search record (which will be either handwritten or, increasingly, electronically recorded)

**Legal** – The officer must specify the legislation under which they are searching you for example The Misuse of Drugs Act 1971

**You** – The officer must clearly explain to you, that you are being detained for the purpose of a search



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