

Report for: Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee – January 2025

Item number: To be added by the Committee Section

Title: Care experience as a protected characteristic

Report authorised by : Ann Graham, DCS

Lead Officer: Dionne Thomas, Interim AD Children's Safeguarding & Social Care

Ward(s) affected: N/A

1. Describe the issue under consideration

1.1 This report provides Members with an update on the Council's approach to Care Experience as a protective characteristic.

2. Recommendations

2.1 The report is for information.

3. Reasons for decision

N/A

4. Background information

4.1 The Independent Review of Children's Social Care headed by Josh McCallister published in May 2022, made a recommendation that the Government should make care experience a protected characteristic, and that the Government should pass new legislation broadening the corporate parenting responsibilities.

4.2 Some Local Authorities have agreed to add Care Experience as a protected characteristic.

5. Contribution to strategic outcomes

N/A

6. Use of Appendices

Appendix 1 – Care experience as a protected characteristic - update

7. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

N/A