

**MINUTES OF THE CORPORATE PARENTING ADVISORY COMMITTEE
THURSDAY, 31 JULY 2014**

Councillors Gunes, Hare, Stennett, Waters (Chair) and Weston

Apologies Councillor Berryman and Morris

Also Present: Councillor

MINUTE NO.	SUBJECT/DECISION	ACTON BY
CPAC1	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (IF ANY) Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Berryman, Councillor Morris, Lisa Redfern and Elaine Redding.	Clerk
CPAC2	URGENT BUSINESS There were no items of urgent business submitted.	
CPAC3	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST There were no declarations of interest put forward.	
CPAC4	ACTIONS ARISING FROM THE INFORMAL MEETING WITH ASPIRE CPAC agreed for the following requests from Aspire to be taken forward: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Templates used by social workers to assess care, education, job, and training requirements to have a frontend focus on child's/young person in care's views, wishes and feelings. • A mechanism in the assorted Children's plans and templates for accountability. • Information on how PPG[Pupil Premium Grant]is spent on young people in care and if they are involved, with the school, in the decision making of how this money is spent on them. [Report to also come forward to Corporate Parenting Committee] • A less formal process for young people in care raising concerns with the council • More time to be able to move from accommodation and more information about Temporary Accommodation when in University Aspire would be working on draft Haringey Pledge and this would also come back to the next CPAC /Aspire joint meeting in September.	NB NB TH NB/LR DG
CPAC5	TERMS OF REFERENCE The terms of reference were noted with no recommended changes put forward to Cabinet.	Clerk
CPAC6	MINUTES The minutes of the meeting held on the 6 th March were agreed as an	

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	accurate record of the meeting.	Clerk
CPAC7	<p>MATTERS ARISING</p> <p>CPAC noted that young people in care can begin to bid for permanent accommodation from the age of 17 and a half. There were also tenancy workshops facilitated by the Young Adults Service to prepare young people leaving care to live independently, these are held on a quarterly basis. The Committee further noted the types of accommodation available to young people leaving care and the availability of a support worker.</p>	
CPAC8	<p>TRAINING ON CORPORATE PARENTING</p> <p>The Assistant Director for Children's Services provided Corporate Parenting Committee Members with: an overview of how the Children's Services worked; the vision for the service and the outcomes for families being worked to.</p> <p>The Committee further learned about: which wards had a higher ratio of children and young people living in them, where there were high levels of need, the statutory responsibilities of the service to children and young people, the management team details, the service areas covered by the Children's Service, and the councillor's role as a corporate parent. Some of the key objectives also outlined were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keeping children and young people in care Haringey by recruiting internal foster carers in the borough • Maintaining and exceeding the adoption timescales • Early help and prevention • Outstanding for all • Delivering the Haringey 54K Transformation programme <p>The presentation was noted by the Committee.</p>	
CPAC9	<p>UPDATE ON OFSTED INSPECTION</p> <p>The Committee considered an overview of the recent Ofsted inspection of the services for children in need of help, and protection, looked after children and care leavers and the review of the effectiveness of the Local Safeguarding Children Board. They noted the key findings of the inspection, the areas of strength, areas of challenge and the next steps for the service.</p> <p>The Committee agreed to consider the Ofsted improvement plan.</p>	LR
CPAC 10	<p>PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT : CHILDREN AND FAMILIES</p> <p>The Committee considered an analysis of the performance data and trends for an agreed set of measures relating to looked after children. This included</p> <p>In response to Member questions the following information was noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children and young people in care will be visited by Haringey 	

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social workers at their placement, whatever the distance. One of the reasons why a child/young person maybe be placed at a distance from the borough, could be due to living with a family member, in a kinship carer placement. The Children's Service will be striving to place children and young people in the borough and there are currently 20 new foster carer assessments being taken forward to meet this service objective.

- There were no children's residential homes managed by the council but there was one respite centre for disabled children which did receive Regulation 33 visits.
- There were 64 adoptions and special guardianship orders in the year exceeding the target by a third. There were also no breakdowns in the placements and this was attributed to officer's use of imaginative ways to find good quality placements. Officers were also maintaining their efforts and focus on keeping siblings together.
- The Committee noted that for the first 3 years of an adoption there will be a support package provided by the council and this would continue until the child reaches 18. Members further noted that if an adopted child has special needs then there is also access to financial support which can continue to above the age of 18.

CPAC further sought understanding about how foster care placements are chosen for children/young people in care and work on ensuring the stability of a placement. Noted that the Children's Service will try to achieve a placement where the needs of the child are best met and there is careful consideration given to the ethnicity of the child when making the placement. The fostering recruitment team will also focus on finding foster carers from all sections of the community. CPAC members asked for a fostering update - to cover progress with recruiting in borough placements, provide understanding to new members of the distances of foster carers outside Haringey to the borough, performance on ethnic matches and how foster carers from ethnic backgrounds are being recruited .

PM

Further information was provided about the ways that a child/ young person will come into the care of the council apart from a care order. Members noted that this could be due to the following conditions:

- Where a parent has independently given up parental responsibility for the child/young person. This could be, if the parent can no longer cope with the child/ young person and come into the care of the council or have an illness and do have family support to care for the child
- Young people in remand services
- Children that have come to the attention of the council from being on child protection plans
- Unaccompanied minors.

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	CPAC further noted that the service was working on improving the completion of initial child assessments within the 10 days. There was focus on getting the required strategy meetings organised within the ten days to meet this target.	
CPAC 11	NEW ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS None	
CPAC 12	EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC Not required	
CPAC 13	TO CONSIDER ANY URGENT EXEMPT ITEMS None	
CPAC 14	ANY OTHER BUSINESS In response to a Member question about the process followed by the council for informing all Members about the publication of Serious Case Reviews, the Chair advised that the council followed the guidelines established by the LSCB which gave precedence to the protection of the child, whose care was the subject of the review. The child's welfare was at the heart of actions going forward for the LSCB and this included protecting the child's identity and wellbeing by not informing the public and Council Members of a review until publication of the summary. At an earlier member training session about SCR's in the year, with the previous LSCB chair, had suggested providing simultaneous briefings to council Members on the day a SCR is published, as a way of keeping Members appropriately informed.	

Councillor Ann Waters

Chair