

## Corporate Parenting Panel

23 October 2020

## Corporate Parenting Strategy 2020-22



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### Report of Helen Fergusson, Head of Children's Social Care, Durham County Council

#### Electoral division(s) affected:

Countywide

#### Purpose of the Report

- 1 The purpose of the report is to advise members that Helen Fergusson, Head of Children's Social Care, Durham County Council will provide a presentation at the meeting to give an overview of the developing Corporate Parenting Strategy for Children and Young People.

#### Executive summary

- 2 The Corporate Parenting Strategy outlines the statutory obligations and collective responsibilities within County Durham in regard to children and young people who are in the care of the Local Authority.

#### Recommendation

- 3 Members of the Corporate Parenting Panel are requested to receive the presentation at the meeting on 23 October 2020.

## **Background**

- 4 The Corporate Parenting Strategy is in development, which reflects on achievements over the previous year, and sets out ambitions for our Children Looked After and Care Leavers, as well as key priorities moving forward.
- 5 It is proposed that this will be a two-year strategy to include the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic.
- 6 The Corporate Parenting Strategy will be subject to the following sign off process:
  - (a) Children's Social Care Management Team: 3 November 2020 for comment
  - (b) Children and Young People's Services Senior Management Team: 19 November 2020 for comment
  - (c) Corporate Management Team: 9 December 2020 for agreement
  - (d) Corporate Parenting Panel: 18 December 2020 for information

## **Conclusion**

- 7 A range of work is taking place across County Durham to improve outcomes for our children looked after and care leavers, and plans are in place to make continued improvements.

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## **Appendix 1: Implications**

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### **Legal Implications**

The Corporate Parenting Panel's role is to lead on ensuring the corporate parenting responsibilities of the Council are being met in line with the duties under the Children Act 1989.

Section 22 of the Children Act 1989 sets out the general duty of the local authority in relation to children looked after by them, to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of these children, ensuring effective, individualised support and access to services.

### **Finance**

Financial implications are noted and considered within the service.

### **Consultation**

No implications

### **Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty**

No implications

### **Human Rights**

No implications

### **Crime and Disorder**

No implications

### **Climate Change**

No implications

### **Staffing**

Staffing implications are noted and considered within the service.

### **Accommodation**

Accommodation implications are noted and considered within the service.

### **Risk**

No implications

### **Procurement**

No implications