Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee



5 October 2015

Care Leavers Strategy - Consultation

Report of Rachael Shimmin, Corporate Director Children and Adult Services

Purpose of the Report

1. This covering report to the Care Leavers Strategy outlines the importance of having a Care Leavers Strategy, who we will consult with about the strategy and when this will take place.

Context

2. The National Care Leavers Strategy was launched in October 2013 and sets out the actions that government departments will take in order to improve the support care leavers receive during their transition to adulthood and independence. A one year on progress update to the Care Leavers Strategy was launched in October 2014. These documents set out clear expectations for local authorities' support to care leavers. In order to meet all expectations placed on the local authority, a three year Care Leavers Strategy has been developed in line with DfE requirements and is attached to this report.

Consultation Process and Timeline

3. Table 1 below outlines the range of groups that we will consult with about the Care Leavers Strategy. A copy of the strategy will be shared for information purposes, to highlight how the local authority will work in partnership to deliver improved outcomes for care leavers.

Table 1 – Consultation Forward Plan

Group / Forum	Date
Children in Care Council	21.07.15 - complete
Corporate Parenting Panel	31.07.15 - complete
LSCB	20.08.15 - complete
Health and Wellbeing Board	Circulate early Sept for comment
Children and Families Partnership	21.09.15
Overview and Scrutiny Committee	05.10.16
Cabinet Pre-Agenda	04.12.15
Cabinet Briefing	14.12.15
Cabinet	16.12.15

Recommendation

- 4. The Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee is asked to:
 - (i) Note the contents of this report.
 - (ii) Consider the attached Strategy and provide feedback.

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Appendix 1: Implications

Finance - N.A

Staffing - N.A

Risk - N.A

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty - The Care Leavers Strategy highlights how we will provide care leavers with the same opportunities as their peers.

Accommodation - The strategy highlights the range of accommodation available to our care leavers.

Crime and Disorder - N.A

Human Rights - N.A

Consultation - A range of operational teams, services, CSSMT and CASSMT have been consulted with during the development of this strategy. The Young People's Service has consulted with young people about the strategy.

Procurement - N.A

Disability Issues - N.A

Legal Implications - As a local authority we have statutory obligation to provide support services to care leavers. These are reflected in the strategy.