

## Minutes

### CORPORATE PARENTING PANEL

20 July 2022

Meeting held at Committee Room 6 - Civic Centre,  
High Street, Uxbridge



	<p><b>Voting Panel Members Present:</b> Councillors Nick Denys, Heena Makwana, Gursharan Mand, Helen Smith, Kathryn Angelini, and Alex Coman</p> <p><b>Non-Voting Members Present</b> Representatives of the Children in Care Council, and Care Leavers</p> <p><b>LBH Officers Present:</b> Neil Fraser (Democratic Services Officer) and Tehseen Kauser (Head of Service for Looked After Children and Leaving Care)</p>
55.	<p><b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b> (<i>Agenda Item 1</i>)</p> <p>Apologies were received from Deborah Price-Williams and Siobhan Appleton.</p>
56.	<p><b>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN MATTERS COMING BEFORE THIS MEETING</b> (<i>Agenda Item 2</i>)</p> <p>None.</p>
57.	<p><b>MINUTES OF THE MEETING ON 25 JANUARY 2022</b> (<i>Agenda Item 3</i>)</p> <p>Consideration was given to the minutes of the previous meeting, and it was advised that minute 49 should read 'Youth Justice Services'.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 25 January 2022, inclusive of the amendment above, be agreed as a correct record.</b></p>
58.	<p><b>YP PRESENTATION: SUMMARY OF THE LAST YEAR</b> (<i>Agenda Item 4</i>)</p> <p>Young people (YP) in attendance presented the panel with feedback on the activities attended in the preceding year, together with a quiz. Feedback to the activities, which included football against staff, black history month, and a visit to Jamie's Farm, was overwhelmingly positive. The quiz included statements made by YP and professionals, which highlighted the importance of relationships between the two groups.</p> <p>Feedback to LAC reviews carried out suggested that these could be more inclusive and participatory for the YP in attendance. Officers advised that training was being given to Independent Reviewing Officers to help achieve this.</p> <p>The next KICA awards were confirmed to be scheduled for 18 September, at the same venue as previously. The event would be held outdoors and would include food and performances as part of a festival theme.</p> <p>In response to questions from YP, officers provided further information regarding online</p>

	<p>safeguarding and permissions (e.g., permission to appear in a photograph online). Officers reminded the YP that they could report concerns regarding online safety to their case worker.</p> <p>YP requested that officers attempt to avoid jargon and abbreviations when drafting their reports. It was suggested that a 'YP Pack' that included a glossary of terms, details of entitlements, and helpful contact numbers could be created.</p>
59.	<p><b>ANNUAL REPORT FOR LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN AND CARE LEAVERS</b> (<i>Agenda Item 5</i>)</p> <p>Officers introduced the annual report for Looked After Children (LAC) and Care Leavers. The achievements of the past year, and the challenges to be addressed moving forward, were set out as per the report.</p> <p>Achievements highlighted included the service's response to the significant increase in Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC), the high number of internal audits graded as 'good' or 'outstanding', the reduction in complaints, the completion of all age assessments, and the seven reunifications carried out (all of which were being positively maintained).</p> <p>Challenges included successfully managing the mental health for children and YP, addressing a lack of workplace opportunities for YP, recruitment of foster cares, embedding sufficient pathways for YP who were 18+, and finalising the tender for an Independent Customer and Advocacy Service.</p> <p>Regarding workplace opportunities, officers advised that Catch-22 had been engaged to work with YP on CV writing, interview skills, etc. Internships were being encouraged and details of some YP who had successfully achieved placements were outlined.</p> <p>Councillors agreed that further work would be carried out to review workplace opportunities from within their respective Groups. It was agreed that Councillors would provided feedback to these actions at the meeting in November.</p> <p>Members advised that they were pleased to see so many positives as detailed within the report, and highlighted the efforts to work collaboratively with children and YP to achieve their aspirations.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED: That the report be noted.</b></p>
60.	<p><b>CHILDREN'S SERVICES PERFORMANCE DATA - Q4 2021/22 &amp; Q1 2022/23</b> (<i>Agenda Item 6</i>)</p> <p>Consideration was given to the data from Q4 2021/22 and from Q1 2022/23. Officers provided updated data that had been obtained following publication of the meeting papers.</p> <p>In response to a query, officers advised that there were specific placements for UASC, which included independent living accommodation for 18+, as well as shared accommodation. The difficulty in providing support to UASC due to their often-unique circumstances was highlighted. However, aspirations for UASC were confirmed to be the same as for all children and YP.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED: That the report be noted.</b></p>

61.	<p><b>WORK PROGRAMME</b> (<i>Agenda Item 7</i>)</p> <p>Consideration was given to the Panel's Work Programme.</p> <p>It was agreed that officers would liaise with the Chairman regarding workplace opportunities for YP, with an update to follow at the next meeting.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. That the Work Programme, be noted;</b></li> <li><b>2. That an update on workplace opportunities for YP be provided at the November meeting.</b></li> </ol>
	<p>The meeting, which commenced at 5.30 pm, closed at 7.10 pm.</p>

These are the minutes of the above meeting. For more information on any of the resolutions please contact Neil Fraser on 01895 250692. Circulation of these minutes is to Councillors and officers.