

**Open Report on behalf of Debbie Barnes, Executive Director of Children's Services**

Report to:	<b>Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee</b>
Date:	<b>08 June 2018</b>
Subject:	<b>Corporate Parenting Strategy</b>

**Summary:**

The Council has a legal Corporate Parenting responsibility to all of its Looked After Children and Care Leavers. The attached strategy is a document designed to help embed Corporate Parenting across the council to ensure the responsibility of parenting our children and care leavers is at the forefront of our thinking when making decisions and designing services.

The Corporate Parenting Strategy will be presented at the County Council meeting in 14 September 2018 to ensure full member wide commitment to our responsibilities.

**Actions Required:**

The Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee is invited to consider the content of the Corporate Parenting Strategy and endorse the process of embedding Corporate Parenting into the council's culture.

## **1. Background**

Corporate Parents ensure that Looked after Children and Young People and Care Leavers have the same care, nurture, health and well-being, and life chances as any other child or young person. We believe that good, responsible parenting involves, but is not limited to:

- 1) Making sure that children and young people have a strong sense of belonging, that they are cared about as well as cared-for.
- 2) Supporting children and young people through school, college or work, being ambitious for them and helping them develop a sense of aspiration and self-belief.
- 3) Making sure children and young people are safe.
- 4) Making sure children and young people are healthy, and health-aware, and are offered the very best parenting.

- 5) Making sure children and young people have the best start in life and opportunities to thrive and grow.
- 6) Making sure children and young people are actively listened to, respected and valued, encouraging them to develop and participate as citizens now, not simply as 'citizens in waiting'.
- 7) Encouraging and supporting children and young people to form and sustain a range of healthy relationships, developing how they manage their feelings and behaviours, and understanding those of others.
- 8) Ensuring young people have a sense of belonging, know who they are, where they have come from and know that they belong to a wide and diverse community.

This strategy is to support elected members understanding of their role and duties and how they can ensure every looked after child and care leaver has the very best opportunities in life.

The strategy is designed to help elected members:

- Understand their roles and responsibilities as Corporate Parents, and scrutinise and challenge how the Local Authority performs in delivering its services as a Corporate Parent.
- Support children and young people themselves to engage in activities that support and inform scrutiny and challenge, enabling them to be able to contribute to shaping how our services can be harnessed to deliver the best outcomes for them.

## **2. Conclusion**

Lincolnshire is in a very strong position and we continue to demonstrate our commitment to Looked after Children and Care Leavers. Members of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee are asked to endorse this strategy and ensure every elected member and officer knows of our responsibilities to our children and young people.

## **3. Consultation**

**a) Have Risks and Impact Analysis been carried out?**

**b) Risks and Impact Analysis**

#### **4. Appendices**

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Corporate Parenting Strategy 2018 - 2021

#### **5. Background Papers**

No background papers within Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the preparation of this report.

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