

RHONDDA CYNON TAF
CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD
ANNUAL REPORT
2020/2021



RHONDDA CYNON TAF



CONTENTS

Chair Foreword	3
About the Corporate Parenting Board <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relevant Legislation • Meet the Corporate Parenting Board • Terms of Reference • The Vision of the Corporate Parenting Board 	4 - 7
Children Looked After within RCT	8 - 9
Reports considered by the Corporate Parenting Board ~ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regulation 73 Reports • Complaints & Compliments • Advocacy • Employment, Education and Training Programmes for CLA • Independent Reviewing Officer Report • RCT Forum • Overview of the Community Wellbeing and Resilience Service • Independent Sector Monitoring • CLA Educational Outcomes Improvement Strategy • Cwm Taf Regional Fostering Front Door Update • Miskin Annual Report 2019-20 • Therapeutic Families Team Annual Report 2019-20 • Vale, Valleys & Cardiff Regional Adoption Annual Report 2019-20 • Fostering Service Quality of Care Report 2019-20 • Child Practice Review 	10 – 17
Corporate Parenting Board – Moving Forward	18 – 21
Corporate Parenting Board Work Programme 2021/22	22 - 23

FOREWORD



Councillor Christina Leyshon
Cabinet Member for Children's Services
Chair of the Corporate Parenting Board

It is with great pleasure, that I present to you the Corporate Parenting Board Annual Report for the 2020/21 Municipal Year.

The Corporate Parenting Board is the principle place within the Council for cross-party Elected Members and officers to meet on a regular basis as critical friends, to support, challenge and strive for stronger collaborative working. By creating a non-judgemental environment, both officers and Members can freely voice their opinions to ensure the best possible outcomes for the children and young people who are looked after in RCT.

As such, I would like to take this opportunity to extend my thanks to all Members of the Corporate Parenting Board, both new and longstanding; and, of course, to the officers for their ongoing support.

During the 2020/21 Municipal Year, the Corporate Parenting Board have, once again, considered a vast range of reports, which were inclusive of various stories of success. Regular updates were more important than ever as the Corporate Parenting Board sought assurance that both staff and young people were provided with support through the pandemic. We have endeavoured to ensure the pandemic has not prevented the continuation of key services and we remain committed to ensuring that the children

and young people of Rhondda Cynon Taf are safe from harm and given the care and support that they deserve, regardless of numbers.



WHAT IS THE CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD?

The concept of Corporate Parenting was introduced in 1998 by the then Secretary of State for Health, Frank Dobson, who outlined the duties of members towards Children who are Looked After: *“For children who are looked after, your council has a legal and moral duty to try to provide the kind of loyal support that any good parents would give to their children...you should do your utmost to make sure that those children in public care get a good start in life...”*

➤ **LEGISLATION**

- **The Children and Social Work Act 2017 set out seven corporate parenting principles, to which councils should have regard in exercising their responsibilities to looked after children and care leavers:**
 1. To act in the best interests, and promote the physical and mental health and wellbeing, of those children and young people.
 2. To encourage those children and young people to express their views, wishes and feelings.
 3. To take into account the views, wishes and feelings of those children and young people.
 4. To help those children and young people gain access to, and make best use of, services provided by the local authority and its relevant partners.
 5. To promote high aspirations, and seek to secure the best outcomes, for those children and young people.
 6. For those children and young people to be safe, and for stability in their home lives, relationships and education or work.
 7. To prepare children and young people for adulthood and independent living.

- **The goals set out in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015:-**
 1. A more Equal Wales - A society that enables people to fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances (including their socio economic circumstances);
 2. A Healthier Wales - A society in which people’s physical and mental well-being is maximised and in which choices and behaviours that benefit future health are understood; and
 3. A Wales of Cohesive Communities - Attractive, safe, viable and well-connected.

- **The Council’s Corporate Plan ‘Making a Difference’ 2020-2024, which is guided by the Vision of making Rhondda Cynon Taf “the best place in Wales to live, work and play, where people and businesses are independent, healthy and prosperous.**
 1. PRIORITY: Ensuring **PEOPLE**: are independent, healthy and successful
 - *Improving services for children and young people and ensuring the needs of children are considered in everything we do.*

MEET THE CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD



Councillor C Leyshon
(Chair)



Councillor G Hopkins
(Vice Chair)



Councillor J Rosser



Councillor R Yeo



Councillor E Griffiths



Councillor S Rees-Owen



Councillor J James

“As Councillors, you have a major role to play in ensuring that those children who are cared for by your council have the best care that they can possibly receive...the duty on you is to do all you can to ensure these children can be the best they can be.”

Keith Towler, Children’s Commissioner for Wales, 2009.

➤ **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

- To take the lead in ensuring that the Council fulfils its responsibilities as corporate parent to children who are looked after and formulate Council policy in respect of children who are looked after and children in need.
- To ensure that all Groups and divisions within the Council work together in order to promote best outcomes for children who are looked after and children in need.
- To promote effective relationships with key partner agencies in the best interests of children who are looked after and children in need.

- To monitor the implementation of the Action Plan arising from the Best Value Review of Services to children looked after, in addition to monitoring outcomes for children looked after and children in need.
- To consider the outcomes and promote positive learning practices following consideration of Child Practice Reviews
- In accordance with HMIP to routinely review the offending rates of CLA by gender to ensure that the Corporate Parenting Board understand patterns of offending by girls and are able to take actions to address where necessary.
- To consider the impact of relevant other systems/agencies (e.g. health, courts, schools) and see how these could be improved.
- To seek the views of children looked after - the advocacy service will be asked to facilitate.
- To invite representatives from other agencies to attend as appropriate.
- To report directly to Cabinet through an Annual report of the Board.

CHILDREN LOOKED AFTER IN RHONDDA CYNON TAF

Children Looked After remains a key priority and the Council continues to strive for a safe reduction in Children Looked After numbers and to deliver the best possible outcomes for the children and young people.

As at the 31st March 2021, there were a total of 694 children and young people within the Local Authority's care. The demographic has been broken down and compared to that of the previous year in the tables below.

Children Looked After by Age Group

Age Band	Total as at 31/03/2021	Total as at 31/03/2020
0-3	124	129
4-7	121	128
8-11	170	164
12-14	144	137
15	41	49
16	47	44
17	47	66
Total	<u>694</u>	<u>717</u>

Figures show that the highest age band remains at 8-11 years.

Children Looked After by Gender

Gender	Total as at 31/03/21	Total as at 31/03/2020
Female	297	303
Male	397	414
Total	<u>694</u>	<u>717</u>

The Gender figures show that as at 31st March 2021, 100 more males than females remain within the Local Authority's care, which is consistent with the figures from March 2020, where there were 111 more males than females.

Children Looked After by Placement Type

CLA Placement Type	Total as at 31/03/2021	Total as at 31/03/2020
Independent Sector Foster Placement	139	161
RCT Foster Carers	167	161
RCT Relative Foster Carers	234	233
Placed for Adoption	16	22
Placed with Parents	73	70
Education Placement	2	1
Other Lodgings	1	6
Independent Sector Residential Sector	50	53
RCT Residential Care	11	10
Secure	1	0
Total	<u>694</u>	<u>717</u>

It is recognised that each young person has a plethora of needs and that the most suitable placement type is unique to the individual.

The data shows that most children and young people within Rhondda Cynon Taf are placed in foster placements, and in particular, with Relative Foster Carers.

Where safe and possible to do so, children and young people are placed with their parents.

It is noted that a key priority of the Regional Adoption Collaboration is to increase its supply of adopters.

UPDATES TO THE CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD

➤ **REGULATION 73 REPORTS**

Regular updates are presented to the Corporate Parenting Board in respect of the current position of the residential Children's Homes and respite service. The reports are exempt to ensure that the Board receive a detailed picture of the goings on at each home, and are inclusive of case studies, which inform us of the everyday challenges faced by our hardworking staff, any areas of concern and, of course, the wellbeing of the children who occupy the homes.

Each of the reports received during the Municipal Year, provided the Corporate Parenting Board with honest and reliable feedback from the young people who occupy the homes and further insight into the particular challenges associated with looking after and trying to develop young people who have been disadvantaged.

➤ **SOCIAL SERVICES COMPLAINTS AND COMPLIMENTS**

The Corporate Parenting Board receives quarterly updates in respect of the operation and effectiveness of the statutory Social Services complaints and compliments procedure. At each meeting, Members monitor the number of complaints received, the nature of the complaints and any lessons learnt, along with noting those enquiries received from Elected Members, A.M's and M.P's.

The importance of feedback from those who use the services is invaluable to the Corporate Parenting Board. During the year, Members were provided with detailed and honest feedback in response to questions around the updates. It was pleasing to note that the service had been used by Elected Members and A.M and M.P colleagues, which builds upon the already strong relationship with officers.

➤ **ADVOCACY**

Following the appointment of Tros Gynnal Plant (TGP) Cymru as the Local Authority’s advocacy service, the Corporate Parenting Board have received regular and informative updates at its meetings. The Board are provided with a detailed breakdown of issues by age, gender, referral source and type, along with information on the take up of the active offer. This information enables both TGP Cymru and Children Services to discuss issues that affect service delivery in the community on a strategic level and to work in partnership to provide improved and better outcomes.

It was particularly pleased to note that during the January 2021 update, there had been a 55% increase in young people referred for advocacy support, a 41% increase on Active Offer referrals and a 65% increase on advocacy issues.

The Board had previously raised questions regarding the ethnicity of those using the service and were pleased to note that the service was moving in the right direction with an increase in mixed race and Asian users.

[More information on the services provided by Tros Gynnal Plant \(TGP\) Cymru can be found here.](#)

➤ **Employment, Education and Training Programmes for CLA**

Although not a statutory requirement, it has been customary in recent years, for the Corporate Parenting Board to receive an annual update in respect of the Council’s dedicated programmes to support Children Looked After, Care Leavers and those with care and support needs into employment, education and training and support the transition into independent living.

The Corporate Parenting Board were provided with the following breakdown of outcomes from April 2019 – March 2020 in respect of the Step in the Right Direction, Care2Work and Cater2Work programmes:

Step in the Right Direction	Care2Work	Cater2Work
Trainees Recruited – 11	Referrals Received – 58	Number of Cohorts – 6 (each cohort is for 10 weeks)
Trainee Placements Secured - 19	Enrolments – 39	Number of participants – 15
Trainees securing employment in RCT Council - 9	Training/Further Learning/Education – 26	Training/Further Learning/Education – 8
Trainees securing employment externally - 2	Employment Outcomes - 5	Employment - 1

➤ **INDEPENDENT REVIEWING OFFICER UPDATES**

The Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 (referred to as the SSWB Act) and the Care Planning, Placement and Case Review (Wales) Regulations 2015 and 16 (referred to as the CPPCR Regulations) provide legislation and guidance pertaining to the role and functions of an Independent Reviewing Officer (IRO). The Adoption and Children Act 2002 requires the Local Authority to appoint Independent Reviewing Officers to conduct reviews for Children who are Looked After and monitor the Local Authority's performance in relation to implementing the care plans for individual children. As such, regular reports are presented to the Board to monitor the activities of the IRO service.

➤ **RCT FORUM**

The RCT Forum provides looked after young people and care leavers in RCT with opportunities to have their voice heard and to enable their life experiences to contribute at a strategic, policy and legislative level both locally and nationally.

During the Municipal Year, the RCT Forum attended a meeting of the Corporate Parenting Board to provide a summary of activity during April 2019 – March 2020. The Forum engaged with 32 care experienced children and young people in RCT, through monthly sessions focused on three main areas:

- a) Developing information resources from care experienced young people;
- b) Undertaking a training to become peer mentors who deliver wellbeing and self-care training to their peers; and
- c) A creative writing project focusing on mental health.

Receiving such feedback on the services provided by the Council for Children who are Looked After and care leavers to the Board is fundamental in helping the Board ensure that the provisions and support provided by the Council are adding benefit to the people that require them, and to ensure that the young people within the service are treated as equal to those young people outside of the service.

➤ **OVERVIEW OF THE COMMUNITY WELLBEING AND RESILLIENCE SERVICE**

In November 2017, the Cwm Taf Public Services Board (PSB) agreed to work with the Welsh Government to undertake a joint collaborative approach to redesigning Early

Years arrangements across Cwm Taf. The aim of the work was to reconstruct the Early Years and Flying Start service, to create an integrated delivery model.

Receiving updates allows the Corporate Parenting Board to compare the annual data and to monitor the progress and impact of the service.

[More information on the Resilient Families Service can be accessed here.](#)

➤ **INDEPENDENT SECTOR PLACEMENTS MONITORING**

Our priority is to place children in the most suitable placement to meet their needs. However, to offer a range of suitable placement accommodation for Children looked after and to meet the increase in demand, it is necessary for RCT to commission placements with external fostering and residential providers, in addition to the in-house placement capacity.

External placement provision is provided by agencies which are either voluntary organisations, not for profit companies or private for profit companies. The Children's Commissioning Consortium Cymru provides support to all local authorities across Wales to manage the process of commissioning and monitoring providers on the All Wales Frameworks.

An annual update of RCT external placement activity is received by the Corporate Parenting Board, which highlights gaps in information available to 4c's, for Members to compile a full analysis of external placement provision.

➤ **CWM TAF REGIONAL FOSTERING FRONT DOOR**

The recruitment of mainstream foster carers remains a national challenge. As such, the Regional front door for Fostering recruitment was established in April 2019 as a joint collaboration between RCT CBC and Merthyr Tydfil CBC to address some of the concerns about the numbers of foster carers recruited, the speediness of responses to enquires and the quality of recruitment work being undertaken. The primary objective of the team is to achieve a net gain in approved mainstream foster carers.

In order to monitor the progress of the service, the Corporate Parenting Board receive an analysis of key performance data and details on the future developments of the service.

[More information on the Cwm Taf Regional Fostering Front Door service can be accessed here.](#)

➤ CHILDREN LOOKED AFTER 2019-2020 DATA AND EDUCATIONAL IMPROVEMENT STRATEGY

It is noted that RCT has many Children Looked After, in comparison to other Local Authorities and that there are various risk factors which can adversely impact the educational outcomes of Children Looked After. Notwithstanding that, improving the educational attainment of Children Looked After remains a key focus of the Corporate Parenting Board and each year, Members receive performance data for the previous academic year.

Summary of Data for the academic year 2019-2020*

1. Incidents of Fixed Term (FT) Exclusions in Autumn and Spring term 2019/2020 involving RCT Children who are Looked After:

Cohort	Number of FT exclusions	Number of students with a FT exclusion	Cohort of pupils of statutory school age	% of statutory school aged pupils excluded
CLA	81	47	522	9%
Non CLA	1428	889	33,186	2.7%

Source: Plasc Jan 20 (33,708)

2. Attendance Levels of Children who are Looked between 02/09/2019 and 20/03/2020 compared with Non CLA:

Overall attendance in RCT schools	
CLA pupils	Non CLA pupils
93%	92%
Primary school attendance	
95.9%	93.3%
Secondary school attendance	

91%	91.4%
Through school attendance	
90.9%	90.8%
Special school attendance	
95%	88.1%

- 3. In response to the disrupted educational experience due to COVID -19, PDG LAC money provided an offer of online tuition in Maths or English for all Key Stage 4 pupils taking exams. Pupils who engaged with tuition in Years 10 and 11:**

Year group	No of pupils participating
11	16 out of 25 eligible pupils
10	23 out of 31 eligible pupils

**Note: Any overall data for the academic year 2019 – 2020 needs to be viewed with caution due to the impact of school closures in Summer Term 2020 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic which means that direct comparisons with previous academic years are not possible.*

Further to the performance data update, the Corporate Parenting Board received information on a recent paper commissioned by Welsh Government: [An Integrated approach to improving educational outcomes for Children Looked After](#), which had been long requested by Members.

The report considers integrated Local Authority approaches to supporting CLA, with a particular focus upon how the Virtual School model in England and Scotland could be used as a basis for local authorities in Wales to promote the educational achievement of CLA.

Following a recommendation put forward to Welsh Government to establish Virtual Schools, all Local Authorities had been part of a discussion to consider its area's needs. In the context of RCT, it was the view that the introduction of a virtual school head would not only increase capacity within the local authority in relation to supporting educational outcomes but would provide an enhanced voice to advocate for CLA pupils at a senior management level in education – strengthening the corporate parenting role.

[More information on the Improvement Strategy in relation to RCT can be accessed here.](#)

➤ **MISKIN**

Miskin delivers intensive family focused evidence-based interventions, which aim to improve parenting capacity to enable families to care for their children with the minimum statutory intervention. Services are delivered through individual, family, group work and holiday programmes.

The focus of the Service includes:

- High level of need, and if intensive supports are not provided the child/children are at risk of being accommodated;
- Family need an intensive period of support for child/children to return to their care;
- High level of assessed need for a child looked after, risk of placement breakdown without intensive support; and
- Child looked after requires support to return from an out of county placement to either home or a more local placement.

The Corporate Parenting Board receive annual updates in respect of the Miskin service, to monitor the effectiveness of the service, particularly at a time when demand exceeds capacity.

➤ **THERAPEUTIC FAMILIES TEAM**

The Therapeutic Families Team (TFT) is a multidisciplinary team, created to offer consultation, therapeutic assessments and interventions to children and families in Rhondda Cynon Taf.

Recently established, the Team works with:

- Families assessed as high need where support from the Families Therapeutic Team would add value to the Resilient Families Service intervention;
- Family receiving a service from statutory Children's Services and child/ren assessed as being at risk of becoming Children Looked After (CLA); Children Looked After whose placement has been assessed as being at risk of breakdown where therapeutic support could promote placement stability;

- Children Looked After who require therapeutic support to assist in a return home to live with parents/family/friends or live independently;
- Children Looked After placed out of county who require therapeutic support to assist in moving to local placements; and
- Families assessed as high need where support from the Families Therapeutic Team would add value to the statutory Children's Services intervention.

The Corporate Parenting Board received the first annual report of the Therapeutic Families Team and will continue to monitor the positive outcomes achieved following its first year of operation.

➤ **VALE, VALLEYS & CARDIFF REGIONAL ADOPTION ANNUAL REPORT 2019-20**

Vale, Valleys and Cardiff Adoption Collaborative (VVC) provides a regional adoption service to the Vale of Glamorgan Council, Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council, Cardiff Council and Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council. VVC is one of the five regional Collaboratives which form part of the National Adoption Service in Wales (NAS). All adoption services are required to provide an annual review of their service as set out in Regulation 22 of the Local Authority Adoption Service (Wales) Regulations 2007.

The supply of adopters remains a challenge for Local Authorities and as such, receiving the annual data and strategies for improvement of the Regional Adoption Service is vital to the Corporate Parenting Board.

The report was also considered in depth by the Council's [Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee](#).

➤ **FOSTERING SERVICE QUALITY OF CARE ANNUAL REPORT 2019-20**

The Fostering Service Quality of Care Annual Report is compiled as required under the Regulation and Inspection of Social Care (Wales) Act 2016. Regulation 52 of the Local Authority Fostering Services (Wales) Regulations 2018 also requires the Local Authority Manager to put suitable arrangements in place to establish and maintain a system for monitoring, reviewing and improving the quality of service.

The Corporate Parenting Board monitored the progress in relation to carer support and consultation, education, establishing the Regional Front Door Service and the priorities for the year ahead.

➤ **CHILD PRACTICE REVIEW**

A Child Practice Review is conducted in line with the Cwm Taf Morgannwg Safeguarding Children Board's duties under Working Together to Safeguard People Volume 3) which is issued under the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014.

The process is focussed on positive outcomes for children and young people through learning lessons to improve multi agency safeguarding practice. It includes different types of reviews; concise and extended as well as multi agency practitioner forums. A panel established for the purpose conducts the review. The timeframe for such reviews is usually 12 months extending to 24 months in specific circumstances.

During the Municipal Year, the Corporate Parenting Board received the outcome of one Child Practice Review.

THE CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD – MOVING FORWARD

In the 2021/22 Municipal Year, key areas of focus of the Corporate Parenting Board will include:

➤ **REGULAR PERFORMANCE DATA**

It is essential that the Corporate Parenting Board regularly receive the qualitative data and statutory updates. The monitoring of regular performance data allows the Corporate Parenting Board to effectively analyse key areas and determine ways to further improve and enhance the services the Council provides provide. The updates will include:

- Regulation 73 Reports
- Complaints & Compliments
- Advocacy Updates
- CIW Inspections reports of the Children's Homes
- Child Practice Review

The Corporate Parenting Board will receive annual updates from the following services to continue to monitor the progress, achievements, and future aspirations:

- Miskin
- Therapeutic Families Team
- Resilient Families Service
- Youth Offending Service
- Vale, Valleys & Cardiff Regional Adoption Service
- Fostering Services Quality of Care
- Registered Childcare Provision
- Young Carers
- Youth Offending Service

➤ INTERACTION WITH YOUNG PEOPLE

The Corporate Parenting Board welcome the attendance of looked after young people and care leavers at its meetings and recognise that their voice must be at the centre of all discussions. Often, the Board receive reports containing data and statistics, but there is nothing more important than hearing the first-hand experiences from the young person. Encouraging their participation will be key moving forward as it can often provide Members with a different perspective and further insight into the areas where improvements need to be made.

In 2018, RCT Children Services supported children who were looked after to complete the Your Life, Your Care Survey. The survey had been developed through the Bright Spots Programme to measure the well-being of children looked after.

Following the survey, the following areas of improvement were identified:

‘Social workers need to:

- *Ensure that children and young people understand who they are.*
- *Work with children and young people to involve them in decisions.*
- *Explain to every child why they are in care and regularly review this with them to establish if they would like more information.*
- *Continue to communicate with schools to identify and help children who feel bullied at school and those who feel that they do not have a good friend.*
- *Give carers further training in therapeutic parenting.*
- *Consider not just organised activities but contact with nature when reviewing opportunities to have fun/hobbies*
- *Regularly review contact plans taking into account children and young people’s wishes and feelings*
- *Be aware of gender difference and give opportunities to young people (11-18 years) to build self-esteem and a positive self-image.’*

The Corporate Parenting Board will monitor the implementation of the areas identified to ensure that they have been incorporated into improvement plans; and welcome further updates from future surveys, which would be conducted on a two year basis.

➤ **EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES**

The Corporate Parenting Board recognise the educational disadvantages often experienced by young people who are looked after, which can have an adverse effect on opportunities moving into higher education and into adulthood.

The Corporate Parenting Board will focus on:

- Welsh Government's 'Virtual School' proposal and its benefits for the young people in RCT;
- Post-16 education, employment, and training opportunities for CLA; and
- Pupil Development Grant – An evaluation of the Cluster Based Model.

➤ **THE HEALTH AND WELLBEING OF YOUNG PEOPLE WHO ARE LOOKED AFTER AND CARE LEAVERS**

In the Cwm Taf Statement of Intent for Children and Young People: 'A Shared Regional Strategy for Supporting Children, Young People and Families', emotional wellbeing was identified as a priority for improvement to better meet the needs of children and young people with complex needs.

Over the years, the Corporate Parenting Board and colleagues from Scrutiny have raised concerns regarding the level of services available to our young people and it is recognised that mental health has never been so important as we exit the midst of the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Corporate Parenting Board will focus on the provision available and the progress made by the Children and Young Persons Group to action the priorities of the Regional Strategy.

➤ **ELECTED MEMBER TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES**

It is recognised that the role of the Corporate Parent is a collective duty of the Council as a whole and as such, refresher training is welcomed to Board Members and to all Elected Members of the Council to further enhance knowledge and to strengthen the Council's commitment to the children and young people within our care.

➤ **THE WORK OF WELSH GOVERNMENT TO STRENGTHEN AND EXTEND CORPORATE PARENTING**

The Programme for Government, [Taking Wales Forward](#), commits to “examine ways of ensuring looked after children enjoy the same life chances as other children and if necessary reform the way they are looked after”. As part of its focus, Welsh Government policy intent is to strengthen corporate parenting across all departments within the local authority, which will enable better partnership between services to enhance the outcomes for Children Looked After.

The Corporate Parenting Board welcome future updates in relation to the work and the opportunity to consider any amendments to its Terms of Reference.

CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD WORK PROGRAMME 2021-2022

A 2021-22 work programme for the Corporate Parenting Board is set out below. The work programme is a fluid document, which can be amended by Members at any given point to accommodate a change in priorities. The programme is based on factors highlighted within the Board's Annual Report and does not include the statutory updates presented to the Board.

REPORT	DATE
Corporate Parenting Board Work Programme	July, 2021
Corporate Parenting Board Annual Report 2020-21	July 2021
Youth Offending Service Annual Report 2020-21	July, 2021
Registered Childcare Provision – Annual Update 2020-21	July, 2021
Young Carers Annual Report 2020-21 <i>and attendance of a young carer</i>	July, 2021
Pupil Deprivation Grant – evaluation of cluster based model.	July, 2021
Housing Offer to Care Leavers	July, 2021
RCT Forum	September, 2021
Children Looked After Website Advancements Presentation	September, 2021
Resilient Families Service – Performance Data Update 2019-20	September, 2021
Bright Spots Survey Implementation Progress and Results	September 2021
Miskin Annual Report and Therapeutic Families Team Annual Report 2020-21	November, 2021
Mental Health Provision for CLA and the progress of the priorities identified within the Cwm Taf Statement of Intent for Children and Young People: 'A Shared Regional Strategy for Supporting Children, Young People and Families'	November, 2021
PDG LAC – Offer of Online Tuition Feedback	November, 2021

Employment, Education and Training Programmes <i>and attendance of young person who has accessed the service.</i>	November, 2021
Vale, Valleys & Cardiff Regional Adoption Annual Report	January, 2022
Cwm Taf Fostering Front Door - Update on developments and impact of marketing campaigns	January, 2022
Fostering Service Quality of Care Annual Report	January, 2022
Youth Offending Service Annual Report 2021-22	March, 2022
Registered Childcare Provision – Annual Update 2021-22	March, 2022
Young Carers Annual Report 2021-22	March, 2022

CONCLUSION

Thank you for taking the time to read the Corporate Parenting Board Annual Report for the 2020/21 Municipal Year. The report seeks to highlight the scope of work undertaken during the past year and the Council's ongoing commitment to improving the outcomes for the children and young people who are looked after in Rhondda Cynon Taf.

In the 2020/21 Municipal Year, the Corporate Parenting Board will ensure that a full and varied work programme is set, which will focus on the above-mentioned reports, as well as any other topical or urgent business which may arise.

We will continue to seek the best possible outcomes for the children and young people in our care. Despite uncertain times and the national rise in the number of children who are becoming looked after, the Corporate Parenting Board and the Council as a whole are committed to its safeguarding duties.



Councillor Christina Leyshon
Chair, Corporate Parenting Board;
Cabinet Member for Children & Young People