

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD

Minutes of the meeting of the Corporate Parenting Board held at the County Borough Council Offices, The Pavilions, Clydach Vale on Tuesday, 13 May 2014 at 10 a.m.

PRESENT

County Borough Councillor (Mrs) A.Davies – in the Chair

County Borough Councillors

(Mrs) C.Leyshon, R.K.Turner and L.G.Walker

Officers in Attendance

Mr.P.J.Lucas – Director, Legal & Democratic Services

Mr.A.Gwynn – Service Director, Children’s Services

Mrs.G.Davies, Acting Service Director, Access, Engagement & Inclusion

Ms.E.Pearce – Head of Safeguarding & Standards

Mrs.A.Batley, Head of Prevention Services

Ms.S.Edwards, Reviewing Team Manager

46 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from County Borough Councillors (Mrs) M.E.Davies, (Mrs) E.Hanagan and S.Rees-Owen.

47 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of personal interests in matters pertaining to the agenda.

48 MINUTES

RESOLVED to approve as an accurate record, the minutes of the meeting of the Corporate Parenting Board held on 18 March 2014.

REPORTS OF THE GROUP DIRECTOR, COMMUNITY & CHILDREN’S SERVICES

49 CARE AND SOCIAL SERVICES INSPECTORATE WALES INSPECTION OF RCT FOSTERING SERVICE- 19-21 FEBURARY 2014

The Board was advised of the outcome of the annual regulatory inspection by the Care and Social Services Inspectorate of the Fostering Service.

Members noted that although the inspection highlighted a number of areas where practice had improved there were still areas where further improvements were needed. There were no areas that needed immediate urgent improvement and no non-compliance notices were issued on the service.

Members also noted that a plan would now be developed specifically to deal with the areas that need improvement and will focus on improving the support to Foster Carers, in particular, the support to Kinship Foster Carers, taking into account the increase in numbers in this area of work.

Following consideration of the report, it was **RESOLVED** to note the contents of the Fostering Service Inspection Report.

50 INDEPENDENT REVIEWING OFFICER (IRO) REPORT

In his report, the Group Director, Community & Children's Services provided the Board Members with information regarding the discharge of the Independent Reviewing Officer functions for the period 1 October 2013 – 31 March 2014.

The key themes highlighted in the report related to:

- Maintaining good performance in relation to reviews being held within timescale;
- Continued developmental work undertaken by the Reviewing Team relating to personal education plans for looked after children and "When I'm Ready" arrangements;
- Outcomes from the approach developed for the resolution of problems or issues identified by the Independent Reviewing Officer in relation to care plans for individual children; and
- Outcome focused review reports.

Following consideration of the report, it was **RESOLVED** to note the information and commend the Team for all their hard work and efforts.

51 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED that the press and public be excluded from the meeting under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972 (as amended) for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 13 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A of the Act, namely, information relating to a particular individual. Transparency in the conduct and capabilities of individuals will be discussed and considered. Consequently, it is considered, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing information by virtue of which the meeting is likely not to be open to the public during its consideration.

**REPORT OF THE GROUP DIRECTOR, COMMUNITY & CHILDREN'S SERVICES
CONTAINING EXEMPT INFORMATION**

52 REGULATION 32 REPORTS – RESIDENTIAL CHILDREN'S HOMES

In his report, the Group Director, Community & Children's Services updated the Board on the Regulation 32 Visits undertaken at the four Children's Homes – Bryndar, Nantgwyn, Beddau and Treherbert during February 2014 and following consideration thereof, it was **RESOLVED** to note the positive reports received in respect of the four Children's Homes within Rhondda Cynon Taf.

**A.DAVIES
CHAIRMAN**

The meeting terminated at 10.35 a.m.