

# Public Document Pack



**Service Director – Legal, Governance and  
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Monday 26 June 2023

## Notice of Meeting

Dear Member

### Corporate Parenting Board

The **Corporate Parenting Board** will meet in the **Meeting Room 3 - Town Hall, Huddersfield** at **10.15 am** on **Tuesday 4 July 2023**.

The items which will be discussed are described in the agenda and there are reports attached which give more details.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Julie Muscroft", on a light-colored background.

**Julie Muscroft**

**Service Director – Legal, Governance and Commissioning**

Kirklees Council advocates openness and transparency as part of its democratic processes. Anyone wishing to record (film or audio) the public parts of the meeting should inform the Chair/Clerk of their intentions prior to the meeting.

## The Corporate Parenting Board members are:-

### Member

Councillor Viv Kendrick (Chair)

Councillor Elizabeth Reynolds

Councillor Richard Smith

Councillor John Lawson

Councillor Karen Allison

CLLr Andrew Cooper (ex-officio)

Gill Addy

Kieran Lord

Keith Fielding

Stewart Horn

Colleen Kenworthy

Barry Lockwood

Louise Hallas

Vicky Metheringham

Tom Brailsford

Sara Miles

Jo-Anne Sanders

Ophelia Rix

Christine Carmichael

Keely Lucas

Farrah Munir

Designated Nurse for Looked after Children/Care Leavers

Service Director (Resources, Improvement and Partnerships)

Kirklees Fostering Network

Head of Joint Commissioning, Children & Families

Kirklees Fostering Network

Kirklees Fostering Network

Virtual School Headteacher

Service Director - Child Protection & Family Support

Director for Children's Services

Interim Head of Service (Child Protection & Review Unit)

Service Director for Learning and Early Support

Head of Service for Children in Care, Care Leavers & Looked after Children

Kirklees Fostering Network

Care Leavers

Care Leavers

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# Agenda

## Reports or Explanatory Notes Attached

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**Pages**

**1: Membership of the Board/Apologies**

To receive apologies for absence from those Members who are unable to attend the meeting.

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**2: Minutes of previous meeting**

1 - 6

To approve the Minutes of the meeting of the Board held on the 28<sup>th</sup> March 2023.

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**3: Interests**

7 - 8

The Board Members will be asked to say if there are any items on the Agenda in which they have disclosable pecuniary interests, which would prevent them from participating in any discussion of the items or participating in any vote upon the items, or any other interest.

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**4: Admission of the Public**

Most debates take place in public. This only changes when there is a need to consider certain issues, for instance, commercially sensitive information or details concerning an individual. You will be told at this point whether there are any items on the Agenda which are to be discussed in private.

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**5: Deputations/Petitions**

The Board will receive any petitions and/or deputations from members of the public. A deputation is where up to five people can attend the meeting and make a presentation on some particular issue of concern. A member of the public can also submit a petition at the meeting relating to a matter on which the body has powers and responsibilities.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 10, Members of the Public must submit a deputation in writing, at least three clear working days in advance of the meeting and shall subsequently be notified if the deputation shall be heard. A maximum of four deputations shall be heard at any one meeting.

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## **6: Public Question Time**

To receive any public questions.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 11, the period for the asking and answering of public questions shall not exceed 15 minutes.

Any questions must be submitted in writing at least three clear working days in advance of the meeting

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## **7: Children's Performance Highlight Report**

9 - 20

The Board will consider a report giving key highlights from the latest Performance Monitoring data for the Children's Service.

Contacts:

Ophelia Rix, Head of Service for Children in Care, Care Leavers and Looked After Children

Louise Hallas, Virtual School Headteacher

Gill Addy, Designated Nurse for Looked After Children

Ian Mottershaw, Head of Service –Contextual Safeguarding and Y.E.S, Family Support and Child Protection

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## **8: Corporate Parenting Strategy**

21 - 32

The Board will consider the Corporate Parenting Strategy.

Contact:

Vicky Metheringham, Service Director (Family Support and Child Protection)

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## **9: Virtual School Governing Body Update**

The Board will receive a verbal update from the Chair of the Virtual School Governing Body.

Contacts:

Councillor Carole Pattison, Chair of the Virtual School Governing Body  
Louise Hallas, Virtual School Head Teacher

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**10: Updates from Board Members on Interaction with Services**

The Board will consider verbal updates from Board Members in relation to progress and key issues following interaction with Services and partners to challenge the role of the Corporate Parent.

Contact:

Jodie Harris, Principal Governance and Democratic Engagement Officer

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**11: Corporate Parenting Board Agenda Plan 2023/24**

33 - 42

The Board will consider the agenda plan for the 2023/24 municipal year.

Contact:

Jodie Harris, Principal Governance and Democratic Engagement Officer

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Contact Officer: Jodie Harris

## KIRKLEES COUNCIL

### CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD

**Tuesday 28th March 2023**

Present: Councillor Viv Kendrick (Chair)  
Councillor John Lawson  
Councillor Carole Pattison  
Councillor Elizabeth Reynolds  
Councillor Andrew Marchington (ex-officio)  
Gill Addy, Designated Nurse for Looked After Children and Care Leavers  
Tom Brailsford, Service Director (Resources, Improvement and Partnerships)  
Louise Hallas, Virtual School Head Teacher  
Colleen Kenworthy, Kirklees Fostering Network  
Mel Meggs, Strategic Director for Children's Services  
Sara Miles, Head of Service - Resources, Improvement and Partnerships  
Ophelia Rix, Head of Service for Children in Care, Care Leavers and Looked After Children

In attendance: Anna Gledhill, Head of Children's Improvement, Partnerships and Voice  
Vicky Metherington, Service Director – Family Support and Child Protection  
Krissy Podgorski, Team Manager – Children Looked after Independent Service  
Zoe Prince, Service Manager - Resources, Improvement and Partnerships

Apologies: Councillor Richard Smith

#### **1 Membership of the Board/Apologies**

Apologies were received from Councillor Richard Smith.

#### **2 Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Gill Addy provided an update in respect to the Flexible Commissioning Project; each dental practice in the Yorkshire and the Humber region had now been contacted about this initiative, which was proving to be of real benefit in assisting with access to dental services for a number of vulnerable groups. The numbers of practices involved had increased overall and an updated list had been requested.

#### **RESOLVED –**

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Board held on 24 January 2023 be approved as a correct record.

#### **3 Interests**

No interests were declared.

**4 Admission of the Public**

All items took place in public session.

**5 Deputations/Petitions**

No deputations or petitions were received.

**6 Children's Performance Highlight Report**

The Board considered the latest Children's Performance Highlights Report in respect of the performance monitoring data for Children's Services.

Ophelia Rix, Head of Service for Children in Care, Care Leavers and Looked After Children highlighted the following points:

- The data indicated an improving picture.
- Collaborative and creative work across the services was continuing. This included working alongside the Virtual School to ensure that these children and young people had access to education and were supported to remain in education.
- It was considered essential that feedback from young people was used to help shape services and strategy for the future and an engagement session had been scheduled for May. Further reports would be submitted to the Board in due course.
- The number of Special Guardianship Orders (SGOs) had increased, and the service was working to ensure appropriate support was provided to all SGO carers.

In response to questions and comments, it was explained that:

- An item would be scheduled on the Board's forward plan to provide comparative data in respect of accommodation and outcomes, including education outcomes, for those children being cared for under SGOs and those who were adopted or fostered.
- In terms of the improvement of timelines for transitional payments to foster carers adopting the child in their care; agreed transitional arrangements were in place across West Yorkshire. It was considered that these payments did assist with stability and transition and the process was therefore being reviewed to ensure the right outcomes.

Louise Hallas, the Virtual School Head Teacher explained that no new national benchmarking data was available in respect of education outcomes at this point in time. Personal Education Plans (PEP) continued to run at 100% up-to-date with a 99% figure for initial PEP completion within the relevant timescale. This figure had been impacted by issues with just one PEP.

Gill Addy, the Designated Nurse for Looked After Children and Care Leavers updated the Board in relation to the health data, which provided both twelve- month rolling and monthly figures:

- The rates for initial health assessments completed on time had improved to 85.9% since January.



## Corporate Parenting Board - 28 March 2023

- A hybrid telephone/face-to-face model was still in use and this was proving to be successful.
- Those aged 16+ and Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children were seen face to face for initial assessments to aid engagement and understanding.
- Team capacity was a continuing challenge. A temporary part-time bank nurse was supporting the team. This had helped to ease some of the pressure and the data in respect of the review of health assessments indicated significant improvement.
- Background was given in respect of the breaches that had occurred in January and February, which were associated with capacity issues or flexibility to accommodate carer's arrangements amongst other things.
- The data on dental checks was skewed due to one of the systems automatically identifying a child as being 'out of date' upon reaching the age of one year but some dental practices not registering children until they were one, there had also been a number of large sibling groups.
- The monthly data was indicating positive figures for review of health assessments and registration with a dentist.
- Substance misuse that had a significant impact on daily life stood at 0.87%. If issues were identified, then a referral was made to the outreach service. Monthly review meetings took place to ensure that all young people had access to, or had been offered, appropriate support.

**The report was noted.**

### **7 Sufficiency Needs Assessment and Strategy**

The Board considered the Sufficiency Needs Assessment and Strategy, January 2023 to March 2025, which aimed to establish a framework to assess, understand and forecast placement demand to ensure the provision of high-quality homes and care environments for those children and young people cared for by Kirklees.

Tom Brailsford, Service Director (Resources, Improvement and Partnerships) introduced the report with the following points being highlighted:

- The numbers of children looked after had reduced since 2020.
- Long-term placement stability (in current home for two and a half years or longer) was above the regional and national average.
- Placement stability for children with three or more moves in twelve months had increased since the last report, associated with capacity challenges, but was in line with regional and national averages.
- The majority of the children looked after by Kirklees were in family-based care settings, which was positive.
- The Authority needed to recruit further foster carers and increase its residential provision over the next three years to meet demand.

In response to questions, it was explained that the 'satellite' model would involve a maximum of six places, within a reasonable distance, being overseen by one manager of a registered children's home; this would facilitate increased capacity and would allow a flexible response if young people were in crisis or needed assessment.

The importance of for planning for the future was acknowledged and the report was welcomed.

**8 Annual Fostering Report**

The Annual Fostering Report, covering the period October 2021 to September 2022 was submitted to the Board.

Anna Gledhill, Head of Children's Improvement, Partnerships and Voice introduced the report and commented that:

- The next report would cover the six-month period between October 2022 and March 2023 to re-align the reporting period with financial reporting periods and to enable the service to provide comparative data from national and regional service reporting in future reports.
- There had been a significant reduction in the number of children looked after under the age of 1 year and a significant rise in the numbers over the age of 16 years, which impacted on sufficiency in terms of the foster carer profile.
- Between April 2021 and March 2022, 33 new fostering families had been approved and 26 had resigned or de-registered.
- Exit interviews were undertaken where possible, to establish if there was any learning to take on board from those resigning or being de-registered.
- The aim was to increase the number of initial enquiries and the conversion rate.
- An increase in the levels of allowance payable had been agreed for 2022/23 and consideration was being given to the figures for 2023/24.
- There had been an increase in the number of Special Guardianship Orders which was welcomed.
- 132 cases had been considered by the Fostering Panel.

Questions and comments were invited from Committee Members, with the following issues being covered:

- The refreshed Recruitment Plan included weekly performance meetings to review the figures, including the source of enquiries, and to achieve an understanding of the reasons why they had not progressed to the next stage including tracking the timescales and ensuring timely responses. Consideration was also being given to a targeted marketing plan, as achieving the right kind of enquiry would improve the conversion rate.
- The detail in each case was important, for example if it was just not the right time for one person, perhaps they could be contacted at a later stage. The panel was assured that enquiries were tracked and followed-up as appropriate.
- The Panel should maintain scrutiny in terms of the diversity of the Authority's foster carer profile.
- The work undertaken by the Authority's foster carers was invaluable and the significant level of work being undertaken by the Fostering Panel was recognised and appreciated.
- The Fostering Network had not been involved in the discussion around the allowances for 2022/23 but had been assured that this would happen for future years.

**9 Voice of the Child Report**

The Board considered a report which aimed to represent the voice and key messages, themes and feedback from the Authority's children and young people, with a specific focus on those living in Kirklees children's homes.

Zoe Prince, Service Manager Safeguarding, Quality Assurance and Homes for Children introduced the report explaining that scoping work was being undertaken to establish how best children and young people might be facilitated to present their views to the Board. This would include consultation with the Children in Care Council and the wider looked after population, including those who were subject to Special Guardianship Orders.

**10 Virtual School Governing Body Update**

The Board received an update from Councillor Carole Pattison, the Chair of the Virtual School Governing Body, and Louise Hallas, the Virtual School Head Teacher. They explained that:

- The Governing Body met every half term, with the last meeting having taken place on 28<sup>th</sup> February when a comprehensive and positive update had been provided by the Virtual School Head Teacher.
- Each meeting now included a focus on a particular issue in detail. At the February meeting this had been suspensions and exclusions. The Governing Body had been assured that the Virtual School was providing the necessary support. The Virtual School continued to have nil permanent exclusions; this was a key focus with the aim being to do everything possible to ensure the right thing for that child at that time.
- In response to a question about sharing learning from the Virtual School's approach, it was explained that this was a very complex area involving a significant amount of work in each individual case and dealing with a wide range of children and schools. It therefore might be difficult to identify any particular best practice but this would of course be done wherever possible.

**11 Children's Ambition Board Update**

Tom Brailsford, Service Director (Resources, Improvement and Partnerships) updated the Board in relation to the work of the Children's Ambition Board including:

- A continued focus on the data associated with the improvement of the three key areas: family support and child protection, learning and early support and resources, improvement and partnership.
- Updating the three key strategies.
- A report on the quality and timeliness of Education Health and Care Plans.

**12 Updates from Board Members on Interaction with Services**

The Board noted updates from Board Members in relation to progress and key issues following interaction with services and partners to provide challenge in the role of the Corporate Parent.

Councillor Reynolds reported that she had attended a Mockingbird meeting which had involved a wide range of carers and a number of interesting discussions.

## Corporate Parenting Board - 28 March 2023

Councillor Marchington reported that the Children's Scrutiny Panel had undertaken a number of visits including to the Child Protection Team clusters which had identified issues in respect of increasing caseloads, recruitment and retention. He had also attended a referral and review meeting which involved partners in the scrutiny of data and 'deep-dives' on particular cases.

The Panel thanked the members of the Children's Scrutiny Panel for the feedback provided as a result of this work.

The Chair reported that she had:

- Received a briefing in respect of unregistered/unregulated homes.
- Met with colleagues in the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Team, which had included a discussion about the approach to some very challenging situations.
- Attended the Children Looked After Council where she had been made very welcome and discussed how they might share their views with this Board. She noted that the timeliness of response to any issues they raised was very important to them and had undertaken to provide them with an overview of the role of the Corporate Parenting Board,

and that she would attend a future meeting of the Care Leavers Forum.

### 13 Corporate Parenting Board Agenda Plan 2022/23

The Board considered the agenda plan for 2022/23.

#### **Resolved –**

That items in respect of:

- The multi-agency local authority partnership,
- Comparative data for outcomes of those cared for under Special Guardianship Orders,

be added to the work programme.

**KIRKLEES COUNCIL**

**COUNCIL/CABINET/COMMITTEE MEETINGS ETC**

**DECLARATION**

**CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD**

Name of Councillor

Item in which you have an interest	Type of interest (eg a disclosable pecuniary interest or an "Other Interest")	Does the nature of the interest require you to withdraw from the meeting while the item in which you have an interest is under consideration? [Y/N]	Brief description of your interest

Signed: .....

Dated: .....

## NOTES

### Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

If you have any of the following pecuniary interests, they are your disclosable pecuniary interests under the new national rules. Any reference to spouse or civil partner includes any person with whom you are living as husband or wife, or as if they were your civil partner.

Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain, which you, or your spouse or civil partner, undertakes.

Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from your council or authority) made or provided within the relevant period in respect of any expenses incurred by you in carrying out duties as a member, or towards your election expenses.

Any contract which is made between you, or your spouse or your civil partner (or a body in which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, has a beneficial interest) and your council or authority -

- under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and
- which has not been fully discharged.

Any beneficial interest in land which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, have and which is within the area of your council or authority.

Any licence (alone or jointly with others) which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, holds to occupy land in the area of your council or authority for a month or longer.

Any tenancy where (to your knowledge) - the landlord is your council or authority; and the tenant is a body in which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, has a beneficial interest.

Any beneficial interest which you, or your spouse or your civil partner has in securities of a body where -

(a) that body (to your knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of your council or authority; and

(b) either -

the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or

if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, has a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.

## Date of Board: 04 July 2023

Data is as at 31<sup>st</sup> May 2023, unless stated otherwise.

\*Benchmarking Source: Children's Social Care Benchmarking Tool (BMT) V3.29. Benchmarking data is from March 2022 unless stated otherwise. SN = Statistical Neighbours average, Eng. = England average. Where no equivalent published data is available, "N/A" is shown.

## Children Entering Care, Children in Care and Placement Stability

Key Indicator	Type of measure	Month End				*Benchmarking	
		May 22	Mar 22	Apr 23	May 23	SN	Eng.
4.02.01 Children in care - numbers in care per 10,000 of age 0-17 population.	Per 10,000 population aged 0-17	62.0 (608)	60.8 (596)	61.0 (598)	61.3 (601)	92.0	70.0
	Direction of Travel		↓	↑	↑		
4.02.04 Children in care by placement within and outside the LA boundary: Total placed outside Kirklees and more than 20 miles from home address	% (number)	13.2% (80/608)	11.7% (70/596)	10.5% (63/598)	11.3% (68/601)	12.0%	16.0%
	Direction of Travel		↓	↓	↑		
4.05.01 Placement Stability Within Year - LAC with three or more placements	% (number)	9.5% (58)	7.6% (45)	7.2% (43)	7.8% (47)	9.0%	10.0%
	Direction of Travel		↓	↓	↑		
4.05.04 Social Worker change of LAC in care 12+ Months: Number of Social Worker changes	Number	270	200	204	250	N/A	N/A
	Direction of Travel		↓	↑	↑		
Average number of SW changes	Average	0.55	0.45	0.47	0.58	N/A	N/A
	Direction of Travel		↑	↑	↑		

## Service Narrative

## What difference did we make?

- During the 12-month period from Jun 22 to May 23, the number of children looked after peaked at 64.3 (630 children) in Oct 22 and has since decreased to 61.3 (601 children) in May 23. The current 12-month average for Kirklees is 62.4 (612 children), marginally above our 31 March 2022 published rate of 62.0, but below the England 2022 rate of 70.0 and significantly below our Statistical Neighbours 2022 rate of 92.0.
- Of the 68 children placed outside of Kirklees and more than 20 miles from their home address, the large majority are placed in fostering. The full breakdown is as follows:

Placement Type	Number	%
Fostering	50	73.5%
Residential	6	8.8%
Placed for Adoption	4	5.9%
YOI or Prison	3	4.4%
S1 - Residential School	1	1.5%
Hostel/Supported Accommodation (not subject Children's Home regs)	1	1.5%
R3 - Family centre or mother and baby unit	1	1.5%
Secure Unit	1	1.5%
Other / unknown	1	1.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>68</b>	

- The Heads of Service continue to have oversight of permanency planning through Legal Gateway and Permanence Panel. The panels are held weekly to ensure consistency regarding decision making and care planning for children and young people. The panels also provide a quality assurance framework and opportunity to evidence good practice and areas for development.
- Senior Leadership Team (SLT) maintains oversight of children and young people placed in external placement through review panel held monthly and chaired by the Service Director. The purpose of the panel is to ensure better oversight of children who are not placed in Local Authority provision and provides a quality assurance function in that it provides high support and challenge as required to avoid drift and delay in care planning for children and young people.
- The number of social work changes remains a focus for us to ensure we are minimising the impact on children and young people children as it is important that we maintain and continue to strengthen relationships. This will remain a challenge due to the recruitment of Social Work Practitioners, of which is not just specific to Kirklees Council. We are mindful of the impact this has on our children and young people and to address this we recruited youth engagement and family support practitioners who continue to develop relationships and provide additional support and stability for the children and young people they are working with. In addition, all young people aged 17 now have an allocated personal advisor, to ensure earlier planning to adulthood and independent living. We will also continue to focus on staff retention and consistency in case allocation.
- There is a slight increase in relation to the number of children who have had 3 or more home moves. This remains a focus to ensure we provide stability to our children and young people. Work across service is taking place to address this.

### What do we want to improve?

- The service will continue to work with the Placement Support team and the Multi-Systemic Therapy (MST) team to collaboratively support improving placement stability for our children and young people with a focus on integrating strength-based approaches and tools into practice.
- Further worker needs to be undertaken to improve allocated social worker stability.
- Reduce number of children placed more than 20 miles from their home address. We aim to recruit more local foster carers to provide more local placement options.
- Ongoing work regarding placement stability is being undertaken jointly with practitioners and partners to address the challenges and ensure good homes are available for our children and young people.

## Children Looked After Reviews, Visits and Missing

Key Indicator	Type of measure	Month End				*Benchmarking	
		May 22	Mar 22	Apr 23	May 23	SN	Eng.
4.06.01: CLA Reviews Within Statutory Timescale	%	98.2%	98.1%	98.3%	98.2%	N/A	N/A
	Direction of Travel		↑	↑	↓		
4.07.01: CLA visits within statutory timescale: % of CLA visited in line with Kirklees Practice Standards	%	96.4% (582)	92.4% (557)	89.0% (520)	87.9% (524)	N/A	N/A
	Direction of Travel		↑	↓	↓		
4.09.02: Missing children: a. No. of CLA having at least one Missing episode per month	% (number)	2.1% (13)	3.7% (22)	1.7% (10)	2.3% (14)	8.7%	10%
	Direction of Travel		↑	↓	↑		
b. No. of LAC that have more than one missing episode in the month (repeat Mispers)	% (number)	53.8% (7)	54.5% (12)	60.0% (6)	100.0% (14)	N/A	N/A
	Direction of Travel		↑	↑	↑		
4.09.03: Independent Return Interviews for CLA offered within 72 hours of the child being located	% (number)	56.3% (9/16)	58.1% (18/31)	11.1% (1/9)	75.0% (6/8)	N/A	N/A
	Direction of Travel		↑	↓	↑		

### Service Narrative

### What difference did we make?



- 17 requests for Initial Review forms were received by the Child Protection and Review unit for Children to become Looked After in May 2023, relating to 30 children in total - an increase on the previous month. 9 of the requests were for sibling groups of 2 or more, which is also higher than usual. For all the referrals received, children and young people were allocated an Independent Reviewing Officer (IRO) within 24 hours and Initial Child Looked After Reviews were arranged within 4 weeks of the children and young people becoming Looked After. One child ceased to be Looked After within one week as their parents ended their agreement to Section 20, and the Local Authority agreed with this decision.
- In May 2023 the Child Protection and Review Unit held 136 Looked After Review Meetings for children, and all but three of these were held within timescales. Independent Reviewing Officers closely monitor Child Looked After Review timescales to ensure that this high percentage is maintained whilst a clear rationale is recorded on a child's file if there are circumstances which result in a child's Review meeting not being held within statutory timescales.
- Independent Reviewing Officers robustly review children's care plans. They provide time-bound actions, which are followed up in between Review meetings to ensure that plans for children progress, and where drift and delay is identified this is raised via informal and formal resolution processes.
- Children's Review meetings are well attended by a range of partner agencies, who commit to taking actions to improve children's experiences and outcomes.
- The children's rights team continue to undertake an advocacy role along with supporting young people in Child Looked After review meetings.
- Children in Care Council and Care Leavers Forum continue to take place on a regular basis with managers at all levels attending.
- Our children and young people along with care leavers views are also obtained during our Time to Talk sessions which are scheduled until the end of year and are attended by senior managers.
- Independent Visitors continue to be matched with young people.
- Work is underway to explore how care experienced young people can be actively involved in the tendering process for supported living accommodation.
- There has been a slight decrease in the percentage of Children in Care who have a recorded statutory visit in line with practice standards. We continue to have weekly oversight and monitoring of the visits as part of our service performance meetings. The meetings focus on timeliness and quality of visits to young people as well as providing evidence of practice in relation key strengths and areas for further development.
- *Missing CLA:*
  - The number of Children having at least one missing episode has seen slight increase, however the 12 month average of 2.3%, remains considerably below the national average and statistical neighbours (11.0% and 10.5% respectively). The numbers used to calculate percentages are relatively low making shifts in percentage scales potentially volatile.
  - The principles of 'Right Support, Right Person, at the Right Time' are consistently adopted when approaching an Independent Return Interview. Utilising familiarity and identifying the right person for the circumstances and placing the Young Person at the centre of the decision is the consistent approach undertaken. With very specific exceptions all Children and Young people are offered an independent return home interview (100%).
  - The percentage of Children receiving an IRI within 72 hours was higher than recent previous months and in line with the wider cohort of missing children. The principal of right person meant that although not always within 72 hours the best possible person undertook the task and ensured 100% of all accepted interviews were completed.
  - 99% of all Independent Return Home interviews offered and accepted were completed.
  - The number of children having multiple missing episodes has remained stable, fluctuating between 8 and 10 in the three-month period which is lower than the 12-month average. The percentage rate of these children is determined from a very low overall number in the cohort of missing children. The slight fluctuation in the overall number of Children therefore creates a significant shift in the percentage and as such presents a volatile range.
  - As per previous reports, all children's homes are being encouraged to review missing reporting strategies with the placing Local Authorities to ensure they are fit for purpose and have a clear expectation on the home to try all avenues to locate the child before reporting them missing.
  - Daily Risk Exploitation and Missing Meetings (DREAMM) occur with partners to discuss, intelligence, missing episodes, and individual circumstances to ensure actions, and allocations are in keeping with the core principles placing the child at the centre.

- The Philomena Protocol is a Police initiative to help locate and safely return a young person as quickly as possible when they are missing. The basis of the scheme is for vital information about the young person to be recorded on a form so that this can be used to help locate them safely and quickly. The Philomena Protocol documents continue to be used by all children's homes and semi-independent providers in Kirklees (introduced in July 2020). A number of meetings have been held with providers recently to consider the protocol, the information within it and expectations that all providers use it. Feedback showed that children's homes and semi-independent providers like the protocol and that the information held means that children are located more quickly and that it aids the Police to do this. It was recognised by the police that more work needs to take place with the police call operators who receive the information as they are not all familiar with the protocol.
- Provider meetings are run 3 to 4 times per year. These have focussed on the Philomena Protocol and support through Covid-19. Meetings have continued to take place and attendance has been good, but more work is required, to increase understanding and fully implement the protocol across the partnership.

### What do we want to improve?

- The report identifies the number of independent Return Home Interviews offered and accepted. Securing more IRI's remains a priority and together with securing those IRI's comes the requirement to ensure quality and value is maximised.
- The Service Managers to continue to provide oversight of statutory visit compliance through the weekly performance meetings that are held within the service.
- The Youth Engagement Service has developed a recording system to enable a more nuanced understanding of IRI outcomes. This recording is intended to inform discussion about how more productive and informative data might be able to be created regarding both the allocation of and outcomes of IRI's.
- The Youth Engagement has seen an increase in conversation from offer of IRI to Acceptance. This remains an ambition to constantly improve and harvest information that supports the young person and develops knowledge to reduce future missing episodes
- Independent Reviewing Officers to continue to liaise closely with Social Workers and the Children's Rights team to ensure that children are enabled to participate in their Reviews, and that their voice is heard. The IRO Service is working towards giving every child the opportunity for in person Review Meeting and visit if this what they indicate they would want.
- Introduce improved quality assurance mechanisms to support the development of the Children's Rights Service and the team, and benchmark the service against the new Advocacy Standards.

## Children Looked After Education Outcomes

Key Indicator	Type of measure	Summer Term 21/22	Autumn Term 22/23	Spring Term 22/23	Benchmarking	
					SN	Eng.
4.10.02 Personal Education Plans (PEP) up to date (current school age CLA with PEP in the last term)	%	100%	100%	100%		
	Direction of Travel	-	-	-		

Key Indicator	Type of measure	Month End				Benchmarking	
		Mar 23	Apr 23	May 23	Cumulative	SN	Eng.
Initial PEP completed within 10 school days of Virtual School being notified child came into care	%	100% (8/8)	88% (7/8)	100% (24/24)	98% (127/129)	N/A	N/A

Key Indicator	Type of measure	Month End				Benchmarking	
		May 22	Mar 22	Apr 23	May 23	SN	Eng.
CLA Persistent Absentees	%	22.8%	23.5%	23.9%	23.2%	28.4% (2020/21)	30.4% (2020/21)
	Direction of Travel		↑	↑	↓		
CLA with a mid-year school move	%	1	8	7	3	N/A	N/A
	Direction of Travel		↑	↓	↓		

## Service Narrative

### What difference did we make?

- Good performance at Key Stage 4 and low Exclusion rate in comparison to national data.
- 100% of PEPs have been completed within the Spring Term with 98% initial PEPs completed within 10 school days.
- The Virtual School is currently leading on all PEPs which are virtually held meetings.
- We continue to work closely with social care to improve young people's educational experiences.

### What do we want to improve?

- Improving attainment and progress at Key Stage 2
- Reducing the number of unauthorised absences in both frequency and duration
- Reduction in the number of young people who are classed as PA (Persistent Absenteeism 90%)
- Increase in overall attendance percentage
- Reducing the time young people are not in full time provision.
- Stabilising school placements for young people

## Children Looked After Health

Key Indicator	Type of measure	Month End				Benchmarking	
		May 22	Mar 22	Apr 23	May 23	SN	Eng.
4.11.11 Dental Checks within last 12 months - timeliness	%	60.7%	60.6%	60.0%	56.2%	73.0%	70.0%
	Direction of Travel		↑	↓	↓		
4.11.12 Initial health Assessments completed on time - within 20 days	%	79.3%	76.1%	79.5%	75.8%	N/A	N/A
	Direction of Travel		↓	↑	↓		
4.11.13 Annual health assessments: a: Under 5's 6 month Developmental Assessments -percentage up to date	%	91.5%	84.8%	85.5%	89.2%	82.6%	89.0%
	Direction of Travel		↓	↑	↑		
b: Over 5s Annual Health Assessments – percentage up to date	%	94.0%	91.9%	90.5%	89.0%	92.2%	91.0%
	Direction of Travel		↓	↓	↓		
4.11.16 No. of LAC in care more than 12 month and identified as having a substance misuse problem during the last year	% (number)	1.23% (6)	0.90% (4)	0.92% (4)	0.70% (3)	3.0%	3.0%
	Direction of Travel		↑	↑	↓		

## Service Narrative

### What difference did we make?

#### Initial health assessments (IHA):

- LA rolling 12-month data shows that **75.8%** were completed in the statutory timescale.
- Locala monthly data for May shows that **92%** were completed in the 20-day timescale. 2 breaches of timescales due to placement of children in another LA delaying arrangements.

#### Review health assessments (RHA):

- Kirklees rolling 12-month data shows that **89.2% & 89%** of the 'Developmental' assessments (under 5yrs old) and 'Annual' assessments (over 5 yrs. old) respectively, were completed in statutory timescales.

- Locala monthly data for May shows that **50% & 68%** for under and over 5 years olds respectively, were completed in timescales. 16 breaches (7x staff sickness in Locala, 4x difficulty arranging, 1x referred back to specialist team, 2x capacity, 1x unable to engage, 1 unknown)
- The Business Case to consider additional nurse resources remains under commissioner consideration.

**Dental Checks (attended) within last 12 months:** at the point of their RHA.

- Kirklees rolling 12-month data shows that **56.2%** of children aged 1+, had attended the dentist. Several factors affecting the recording have been found and are being followed up.
- Locala monthly data for May shows that **100%** of children age 18months to under 5 yrs., and **94%** 5 years+, had attended the dentist at the point of their RHA.

**Registered at dentist:**

- Locala data shows **88% & 96%** of children age 18m to 4 years and 5 years+ respectively at the point of their RHA, were registered with a dentist.
- The use of the 'Flexible Commissioning Project' has supported CLA and care leavers to register.

**Substance misuse:**

- **3** young people (**0.7%**) have admitted or are known to use substances that have a significant impact on their daily life when asked at their last RHA. All have been discussed with the local Substance Misuse Outreach worker, to ensure support has been offered. Those reaching 18 years old are removed from the data.
- If a young person declines their RHA, a check is made with the social worker to ascertain if substance use is an issue.
- Any young person misusing substances at any level is offered support.

## Children Looked After Convictions

Key Indicator	Type of measure	Quarter				*Benchmarking
		Apr-Jun 22/23 Q1	Jul-Sep 22/23 Q2	Oct-Dec 22/23 Q3	Jan-Mar 22/23 Q4	
4.12.01 Number of young people who have been looked after continually for 12 months or more aged between 10 and 17 who have offended and received a substantive outcome (Youth Caution/ Conditional Caution or a Court Order)	%	1.75% (6/343)	1.75% (6/343)	0.00% (0/363)	0.00% (0/363)	(2021/22) Eng.: 2.0% SN's: 4.0% Y&H: 2.0%
	Direction of Travel	↑	↔	↓	↔	

## Service Narrative

### What difference did we make?

- For the year April 18 to March 19, 65.8% of Children Looked After successfully completed their interventions but is however a much-improved picture from 2016 when less than 30% of Children Looked After successfully completed their interventions
- For the year April 19 to March 20, 90.9% of Children Looked After successfully completed their interventions which in comparison with last year, 65.8%, is an increase of over 25%.
- For the year April 20 to March 21, 87.7% of Children Looked After successfully completed their interventions. Whilst this performance is slightly worse than the same period of the previous year, it remains in line with that of the general population successfully completing their intervention.
- For the year April 21 to March 22, 64.3% of interventions completed by Children Looked After were completed successfully compared to 72.8% of the general population. This is a reduction in Children Looked After completion from the same period of last year which was 87.7%, whilst the general population remains broadly the same.
- For the year April 22 to March 23, 60.6% of interventions completed by Children Looked After were completed successfully compared to 76.7% of the general population. This is a small reduction in Children Looked After completion from the same period of last year which was 64.3%, whilst the general population remains broadly the same.

- Whilst the numbers of Children Looked After offending remain small in the cohort, we are seeing an increase in the numbers compared to the same period last year. In the year to date we have seen an increase in the percentage of CLA offending from 2.47% (21/22) to 3.50% (22/23). However in the Oct to March 2023 period no Children Looked After have received convictions.

### What do we want to improve?

- Continued reduction in the numbers of Children Looked After offending. The overall cohort for the 22/23 year is smaller than the 21/22 year (343 compared to 364), but through continued interventions by the YOT, restorative processes, liaison with Children's Homes and creative out of court disposals it is hoped the offending rate will remain low.
- There is a focus around Looked After Children in our subgroups – specifically Subgroup 2 – Reducing offending and reoffending.

## Care Leavers

Key Indicator	Type of measure	Month End				*Benchmarking	
		May 22	Mar 22	Apr 23	May 23	SN	Eng.
5.01.04 Children in care aged 17 years and 4 months with a Personal Advisor	%	97.4%	92.5%	92.3%	90.9%	N/A	N/A
	Direction of Travel		↓	↓	↓		
5.01.08 Local Authority In Touch with Care Leavers	%	92.6%	94.7%	93.9%	93.4%	95.0%	92.0%
	Direction of Travel		↓	↓	↓		
5.01.09 Care Leavers in suitable accommodation	%	87.9%	90.9%	90.9%	89.9%	91.0%	88.0%
	Direction of Travel		↓	↔	↓		
5.01.10 Care Leavers Employment, Education and Training (EET)	%	57.1%	56.6%	57.0%	57.6%	50.0%	55.0%
	Direction of Travel		↑	↑	↑		
5.01.11 Number of Care Leavers with a Pathway Plan that is up to date	%	81.6%	85.9%	83.8%	81.5%	N/A	N/A
	Direction of Travel		↓	↓	↓		

## Service Narrative

### What difference did we make?

- *Contact with care leavers* – There has been a decrease in relation to the number of Care Leavers we were in touch with during this month This also has, to be viewed in the context of this group being aged 18 plus and, in some situations, young people do not wish to keep in contact with their Personal Advisor. The team continue to work innovatively to keep in touch with all young people and we are confident that our post 18 young people all are aware of the support of offer if required.
- *Number of young people in suitable accommodation* – There has been a significant impact on the increasing demands for tenancies. However, we continue to work with our housing colleagues who have agreed to prioritise the properties for our young people, and this has helped to improve our performance. We will continue to work with our Housing providers to ensure that suitable accommodation is available, we have also maintained strong links with private housing providers. We have continued to provide virtual and face to face life skills and pre-tenancy training and continue to explore collectively how we can improve independence training for our young people.
- *Children in Care aged 17 years with an allocated Personal Advisors* – Although the performance on this indicator has shown a decrease this month, it includes Qualifying young people who would not have an allocated Personal Advisor, but it is important to note that all the young people under 18 have an allocated Social Worker. Currently all Relevant and Former Relevant young people aged 17 and over have an allocated Personal Advisor.
- *Education Employment Training* – Our performance in relation to Employment, Education and Training (EET) indicator is a focus for improvement. We have a C&K Careers Advisor in the Leaving Care Service. We have a pro-active multi-agency group to improve opportunities in partnership working and there is a real desire to ensure our young people are afforded the best of opportunities in relation to EET.

- *Pathway Plans* – We have seen a slight decrease in the numbers of young people who have an up-to-date pathway plan this month. We continue to work with the Social Workers and Personal Advisors to ensure pathway plans are completed in a timely manner to meet targets with a focus going forward on the improvement of the quality of plans, the involvement of young people and ensuring we capture their wishes and feelings. This is monitored at our performance meetings chaired by the service manager. Work is being undertaken to identify and address the issues that are impacting the timeliness of pathway plan reviews being undertaken.
- In order to provide further support and guidance for social workers throughout Children Services and personal advisors training is currently being delivered face to face and on a virtual basis to ensure everyone is captured.
- The commitment to care leavers has been reviewed with oversight from senior managers this will improve and enhance our offer to all young people.

### What do we want to improve?

- *Number of young people with a pathway plan* – The number of young people with a pathway plan to increase. Work is currently ongoing within the service, and it is expected that the measure will improve further. We continue to work with the Social Worker and Personal Advisors to ensure pathway plans are completed in a timely manner to meet targets with a focus going forward on the improvement of the quality of plans, the involvement of young people and ensuring we capture their wishes and feelings.
- To improve the allocation timeliness of Personal Advisors and the timeliness and quality of visits to young people.
- A key priority area for the service continues to be to address and increase the number of our young people who will have access to Education, Employment or Training.
- The embedding of the corporate parenting principles and our role of corporate parents.

## Adoption

Key Indicator	Type of measure	Month End				*Benchmarking	
		May 22	Mar 22	Apr 23	May 23	SN	Eng.
5.02.01 Number of children adopted as a percentage of children leaving care (12 month rolling period)	% (number)	14.2% (29)	8.7% (19)	8.1% (18)	6.9% (15)	13.0%	10.0%
	Direction of Travel		↑	↓	↓		
A10 Average timescale (days) between the child coming into care and being placed with the adopter adjusted for foster carer adoptions (12 month rolling period)	Number	461.6	455.0	453.5	489.1	396.7 (17-20)	367.0 (17-20)
	Direction of Travel		↑	↓	↑		
A2 Average timescale (days) between receiving court authority to place a child and the council deciding to match the child with an adoptive family (12 month rolling period)	Number	189.0	189.8	195.3	163.0	180.0 (17-20)	175.0 (17-20)
	Direction of Travel		↑	↑	↓		

### Service Narrative

#### What difference did we make?

- We have prioritised brothers and sisters growing up together.

- We have established closer working relationships between Kirklees and One Adoption West Yorkshire (OAWY), to address challenges at the earliest point.
- Monitoring of the adoption cases and outcomes takes place through monthly tracking of adoption cases by Kirklees and OAWY Service Delivery Managers.
- Training from OAWY has been and will continue to be provided to Kirklees staff, to ensure understanding of the complexities of the adoption process and awareness raising from research/practice.
- Support from OAWY to practitioners to Kirklees staff in relation to adoption practice.
- Timely identification of harder to place children and provision of appropriate resources to progress linking and matching outside of One Adoption where needed.
- OAWY attend Legal Gateway with a view to being able to provide support and assistance for any adoption cases including consideration of Early Permanence.
- Kirklees has reinstated the Early Permanence Meetings, which are held fortnightly to discuss all children and their plans for adoption, this is to further ensure permanence planning is considered as early as possible in a child's journey.
- OAWY and Kirklees have taken part in, and will continue to take part in, Practice Learning days, where a dip sample of adoption cases are more closely considered. This is for children with a plan for adoption, as well as children who have been adopted, but required adoption and social care support post order.
- Agreed escalation processes where drift is identified from tracking and monitoring processes.
- OAWY have secured national funding to support family finding for children who wait the longest for adoption and local provision of Early Permanence for older children/sibling groups. Kirklees children will be eligible for and benefit from these resources as the projects progress.

### What do we want to improve?

- To increase the numbers of children placed through Early Permanence through early identification of children and increasing the number of EP adopters.
- To improve timeliness in agreeing transitional payments for foster carers adopting the child in their care to reduce delay; Heads of Service are working on a pathway to avoid delay in these circumstances. Process has been implemented to achieve this.
- To ensure all children considered 'harder to place' are identified early for OAWY to commence family finding. For OAWY to continue taking an innovative approach to family finding for these children, ensuring that all avenues are proactively explored.
- To increase staff understanding of adoption, including Early Permanence, through training.
- Continue to jointly review cases where adoptions disrupt or breakdown to understand contributing factors to inform future practice.
- A VFM study has been commissioned which will be completed hopefully by end of July.
- Introduce some challenge to the budget for inter-agency placements and assess whether this should form part of the outcomes-based formula used to calculate partner contributions.
- Introduce some contract (agreement) management to review all outcomes to the objectives of the agreement.
- Finance staff and Service managers should review all available data at the time of formula reset to ensure all parties are clear what the apportionments are based on. This should commence swiftly to ensure it concludes in time for the 2024/25 refresh.

## Fostering

Key Indicator	Type of measure	Month End				Benchmarking	
		May 22	Mar 22	Apr 23	May 23	SN	Eng.
6.02.07 Total New Carer Approvals in Month:	Number	6	12	3	3	N/A	N/A
	Direction of Travel		↑	↓	↑		
In-house Fostering approvals in the month	Number	2	9	1	3	N/A	N/A
	Direction of Travel		↑	↓	↑		
In-house Fostering De-registrations in the month	Number	4	9	1	4	N/A	N/A
	Direction of Travel		↑	↓	↑		

Key Indicator	Type of measure	Month End				Benchmarking	
		May 22	Mar 22	Apr 23	May 23	SN	Eng.
6.02.09 Placements split: a. In-house foster placements	Number	171	161	151	149	N/A	N/A
	Direction of Travel		↓	↓	↓		
b. Family and friend placements	Number	110	125	114	117	N/A	N/A
	Direction of Travel		↑	↓	↑		
c. Independent Fostering Agency Placements	Number	182	164	165	170	N/A	N/A
	Direction of Travel		↓	↑	↑		

## Service Narrative

### What difference did we make?

- In May 2023 there was 3 foster carer approvals, this was a mainstream carer who was a partner of an existing foster carer
- There were 4 de-registrations in January 2023 - 3 of these were in relation to connected carers no longer requiring Foster Carer approval status (SGO and age of child) and one was in relation to a mainstream carer.
- The number of children placed with Kirklees foster carers stood at 170 in May 2023, just below the 12-month average of 179
- The number of Family and Friends Placements stood at 117 in May 2023, inclusive of Reg 24 Placements. The 12-month average is 125
- The May 2023 there were 170 Independent Fostering Agency (IFA) placements. The 12-month average is 169

### What do we want to improve?

- Recruitment and retention of foster carers continues to be a priority. We are focussed on recruiting internal foster carers who can help us to meet our sufficiency needs around placements for older children, children with complex needs, offering short and long-term placements, and short notice / emergency placements.
- We want to ensure that new foster carers receive the right level of support particularly in their first year of fostering; induction, training and support from a Supervising Social Worker are all essential aspects of supporting and retaining new foster carers.
- We are implementing our modernisation plan for the Fostering Service. This has included a number of policies and procedures to ensure consistency and transparency across the service and with our carers. This service improvement plan will include further integration with the Placement Support Service, this work will be overseen by the Homes For Children Board.



## Appendix – Glossary of Terms

Term	Description
A&I	Assessment & Intervention (part of Family Support & Child Protection)
ADCS	Association of Directors of Children's Services
ASYE	Assessed and Supported Year in Employment (for a newly qualified Social Worker)
BSM	Business Support Manager
BSO	Business Support Officer
CCE	Child Criminal Exploitation
CIC	Child(ren) in Care (see also CLA and LAC)
CIN	Child(ren) in Need
CLA	Child(ren) Looked After (also see CIC and LAC)
CPP	Child Protection Plan
CPRU	Child Protection & Review Unit
CSC	Children's Social Care
CSE	Child Sexual Exploitation
CWD	Children with a Disability
D&A	Duty & Advice (part of Family Support & Child Protection)
DCS	Disabled Children's Service / Director of Children's Services
EET	Education, Employment or Training
EHC	Education, Health and Care (Plan)
EITS	Early Intervention and Targeted Support
HMCI	Her Majesty's Chief Inspector
Form F	Assessment form for approval of Foster Carers
HMIP	Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Prisons
HOS	Head of Service
ICPC	Initial Child Protection Conference
IFA	Independent Fostering Agency
IHA	Initial Health Assessment (for a Looked After Child)
IRO	Independent Reviewing Officer
KNH	Kirklees Neighbourhood Housing
LA	Local Authority
LAC	Looked After Child(ren) (also see CIC and CLA)
LAIT	Local Authority Interactive Tool (DfE tool for access to nationally published data)
NEET	Not in Education, Employment or Training
NQSW	Newly Qualified Social Worker
PA	Personal Advisor (to Care Leavers)
PEP	Personal Education Plan (for a Looked After Child)
PLO	Public Law Outline
QSW	Qualified Social Worker
RCPC	Review Child Protection Conference
RHA	Review Health Assessment (for a Looked After Child)
S17	Section 17 of the Children Act – Relates to Children in Need
S20	Section 20 of the Children Act – Relates to a child accommodated by the LA
S47	Section 47 of the Children Act – Relates to Child Protection
SDQ	Strength and Difficulties Questionnaire
SEND	Special Educational Needs and Disability
SM	Service Manager
SN	Statistical Neighbours (closest match Local Authorities for benchmarking)
SW	Social Worker
TM	Team Manager
UASC	Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Child
Y&H	Yorkshire and the Humber
YOT	Youth Offending Team

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2022 - 2024

# CORPORATE PARENTING STRATEGY





Dear Corporate Parents,

We are children and young people who are looked after by you.

As our corporate parent, we want you to think about us when you are making decisions about our lives. We like to be treated with respect, we want our voices being heard and we do not want to feel judged.

Please don't make assumptions about us and treat us fairly. Sometimes we feel like we are the last to know about things that affect us so please talk to us when you are making decisions and tell us what is happening as soon as you can.

For us, building relationships is important. We want to have the same social worker where at all possible and live with the same family until we are grown up or until we can go back to live with our families. It is hard for us to trust people, so give us time to get to know you. If we trust you that means you're special and you have listened to us.

Treat us like we are your own child. Make sure you do the things you say you will do and don't make promises you can't keep. Please give us permission for things important to us quickly, otherwise we worry we may not be able to do the things we like, like go on holiday or take trips.

Sometimes it is hard for us to talk about and explain how we are feeling. Let us know you understand what we are really saying and feeling. By speaking to us and the people closest to us. Sometimes we feel that our lives are not private like other people's and we struggle with that, so think about our privacy.

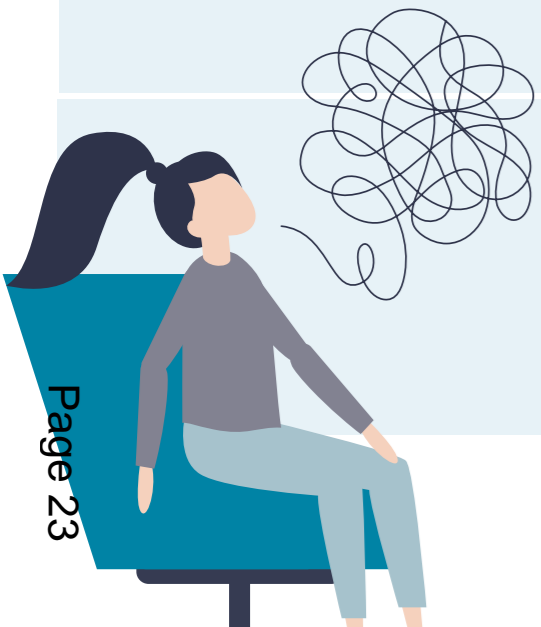
Finally, please never forget you are our corporate parent. You are responsible for us. Make sure our voice is at the heart of all you do and always try your best for us. No one can change our past, but you can help us shape our future.

Your Kirklees Child.

## IMPROVING THE LIVES OF ALL CHILDREN IN CARE.

To improve the lives of all Children in Care, the children told us our priorities should be:

“	Change the future	Make productive changes
	Show and give us as many opportunities as possible	Talk with us, listen, understand children's needs in care and be willing to support us
	Support and give us a voice	Support the Children in Care council to help get our ideas across
	Don't make decisions without discussing with us first	Respect our privacy
	Do what you say you will do	”



## WHAT CARE LEAVERS SAY OUR PRIORITIES SHOULD BE.

Care Leavers say our priorities should be:

“	Don't judge us by what is written in our file, judge me for who I am	Understand and respect us
	Be open and honest	Let's problem solve together
	Help young people still in care and those who are care experienced to shape services	Keep things confidential
	For PA's: do more by being pro-active	Help us achieve by assisting to get us bank accounts, passports, national insurance numbers, accommodation, education and finances
	Ensure our voices are being heard by working alongside Children's Advocacy	”



## FOREWORD FROM THE COUNCIL.



As corporate parents, we would want for our care experienced children and young people what every good parent would want: happy, healthy, and successful lives. Children and young people in our care and those post 18 are amongst the most vulnerable in our society. Provided with the right support, our care experienced children and young people can go on to aspire and achieve and live healthy, independent, and fulfilling lives.

To achieve the best outcomes, we need to listen to our children and young people and respond to their needs. We are continually seeking and finding new opportunities to ensure the voices of our children and young people influence and help shape the work we undertake across the Council.

Their experiences in early childhood through to their teenage years will shape their future happiness and set the foundations for what they can achieve throughout their adult lives.

We recognise that children and young people, who have care experience, can face additional challenges that others their age may not. As their Corporate Parents, and despite these obstacles, we want them to achieve good outcomes in all aspects of their lives.

The needs of our children and young people are central to everything we do at Kirklees Council; the way we work with partners and colleagues is central to how we deliver better outcomes for our care experienced children and young people.

We want every child and young person to be able to achieve their full potential. For this reason, our ambition to be good Corporate Parents goes far beyond any legal requirements. Instead, we have a moral, social, and economic responsibility to work together to equip and empower our care experienced children and young people to succeed and thrive.

**Clr Shabir Pandor**  
Leader of Kirklees Council

**Jacqui Gedman**  
Chief Executive of Kirklees Council

## OUR PLEDGE TO OUR CHILDREN IN CARE.

We want young people to be involved in the decisions that are made about them. We want to help young people to take control of their lives, to work to understand how much they can do and the impact they can have. We will want to pool all the ideas and talents of young people to improve services, so they meet what children and young people need and expect.

### We pledge to:

- Help and support you to stay safe and have a healthy and active lifestyle;
- Involve you in all decisions about your life; want you to do well and encourage you to do and be the best that you can;
- Support you throughout your education and to plan for the future;
- Listen and make sure you know what will happen next;
- Celebrate your achievements.
- Make sure you have enough different people to support you;
- Help you have new experiences and develop your own interests.
- View our Pledge to Our Children in Care in full at: [www.kirklees.gov.uk/ourpledge](http://www.kirklees.gov.uk/ourpledge)

## OUR COMMITMENT TO CARE LEAVERS.

As a care leaver, you are legally entitled to a range of support and services from the local authority. Our Commitment to Care Leavers sets out the detail of how we can support you to plan for your future and the support you need in reaching your goals. We will provide this support from the age of 16 onwards, up to the age of 25 if needed.

We produced our Commitment to Care Leavers with the help of the Care Leavers Forum and the Children in Care Council. We will keep asking them their views about our services they receive along with other care leavers we are in contact with, to make sure that what we offer matches what you need. Based on this feedback, we will annually review and develop our 'Commitment to Care Leavers' offer to make sure that these are the things that are important to you.

View our Commitment to Care Leavers in full at: [www.kirklees.gov.uk/leavingcare](http://www.kirklees.gov.uk/leavingcare)

## OUR CORPORATE PARENTING VISION.

The Council's vision for corporate parenting is that all of our elected members and officers and everyone else in the Council champion our children in care and care leavers in everything they do and that our children in care and care leavers aspire and achieve, are safe and well, and are prepared for successful independent lives.



## OUR CORPORATE PARENTING PLEDGES.

# 1.

We will be a good corporate parent to children in care and care leavers. We will...

- a. **Listen** to the needs of children in care and care leavers and to our health and education partners;
- b. Encourage elected members and officers from across the Council to **advocate and champion** children in care and care leavers;
- c. **Design services** that work with children in care and care leavers to meet their needs, not doing to them.

# 2.

We will create the conditions for our children in care to thrive in stable placements. We will...

- a. Create the conditions for **placements of the right kind**, including attracting and retaining more foster carers;
- b. Support all our children to **aspire and achieve** in education and training and to be as **healthy and well as possible**;
- c. Work with partners to **assess future placement, education, and health**.

# 3.

We will support our care leavers into independence at a pace that suits them. We will...

- a. **Work with our children in care.**
- b. **We will work with families** so they are ready to support them on leaving care, when appropriate;
- c. Create the conditions for **positive, lasting relationships**.



## WHAT IS CORPORATE PARENTING?

Corporate Parenting is the term used to describe the responsibility of Local Authorities towards children and young people in care.

Corporate Parenting is our responsibility to be loving, caring and aspirational for all children and young people in our care or who have recently left our care now adults.

Corporate Parenting is about all services of the Council working together with health, education, and other partners to ensure that services are appropriate and meet the needs of and improve the outcomes for our children in care and care leavers across a range of services including

housing, health and leisure as well as those specific for children and young people.

Above all else, this means protecting children and young people from harm and keeping them safe but, equally important, it is about always striving for their best interests, nurturing their ambitions, and helping our children and young people get the most out of life. Ultimately, it means they become independent and thriving young adults.

At its heart, Corporate Parenting means always asking ourselves 'would this be good enough for my child?'

## CORPORATE PARENTING PRINCIPLES AND OVERSIGHT.

In 2017 the Children and Social Work Act introduced a set of Corporate Parenting Principles for children in care and care leavers up to the age of 25 years. Kirklees Council and our partners believe adherence to these principles is the key to ensuring we deliver good outcomes for our children and young people in care and care leavers.

In order to thrive, children and young people have certain key needs that good parents generally meet. The Corporate Parenting principles set out seven principles that local authorities must have regard to when exercising their functions in relation to children and young people in care, as follows:

- Act in the best interests, and promote the physical and mental health and well-being, of children in care and care leavers;
- Encourage those children and young people to express their views, wishes and feelings;
- Take into account the views, wishes and feelings of those children and young people;
- Help those children and young people gain access to, and make best use of, services provided by the local authority and its relevant partners;
- Promote high aspirations, and seek to secure the best outcomes for those children and young people;
- Be safe, have stability in their home lives, relationships and education or work;
- Prepare those children and young people for adulthood and independent living.

Shaped by these principles and our approach, our mission is to give our children in care and care leavers the best start in life through effective safeguarding, high quality, health and wellbeing support, and support to aspire and achieve.

Corporate Parenting emphasises the collective responsibility of the Local Authority and its partners to achieve 'good parenting' for all children in care. It is not the sole responsibility of the children's Social Work Services. It is the responsibility of the whole Council, including Councillors, our health service and other partners.

In February 2018 the Department for Education published Statutory Guidance for Local Authorities for applying Corporate Parenting Principles for children in their care and care leavers. As corporate parents elected members and council officers have a statutory responsibility for the wellbeing of children in care. Elected members play a large part in holding officers and partners to account as well as being proactive in the corporate parenting role themselves.

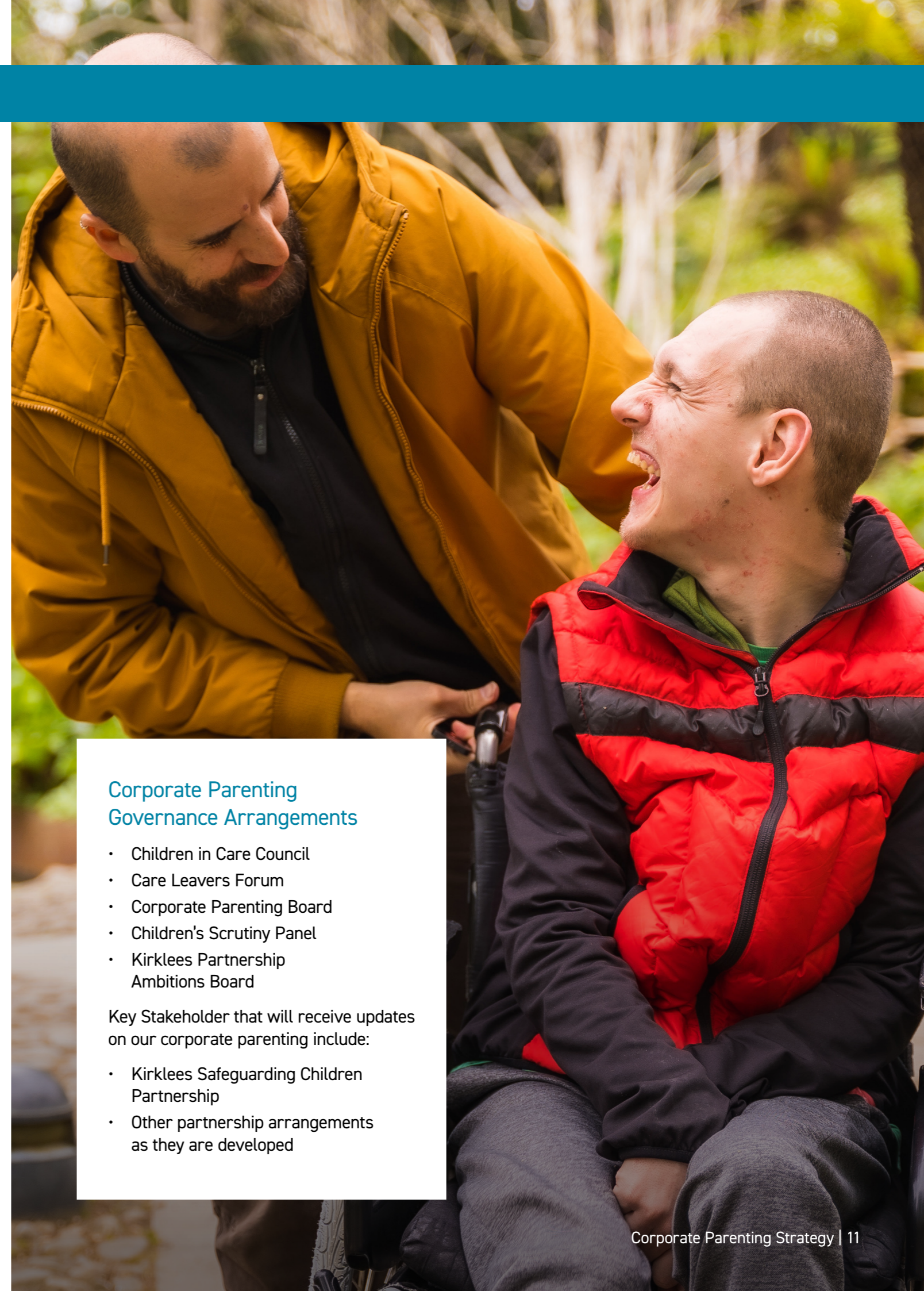
This Corporate Parenting strategy describes how the local authority and its partners, such as housing, health services, Police and schools, act as 'responsible parents' to children and young people living within their care. Effective corporate parenting requires everyone involved including elected members, officers, teachers, GP's etc. to recognise their role as corporate parents and understand what they can contribute to enable us to be the best corporate parents we can be to all children and young people in our care.

When providing a service for our children and young people in care we should always challenge ourselves by asking, 'would this be good enough for my child?'

The Corporate Parenting Board will have oversight of progress on this framework.

Through regular updates, they will ensure that the right progress is being made towards the vision set out in this document and the underlying objectives.

The Children's Scrutiny Panel will be regularly updated on progress relating to this strategy.



### Corporate Parenting Governance Arrangements

- Children in Care Council
- Care Leavers Forum
- Corporate Parenting Board
- Children's Scrutiny Panel
- Kirklees Partnership Ambitions Board

Key Stakeholder that will receive updates on our corporate parenting include:

- Kirklees Safeguarding Children Partnership
- Other partnership arrangements as they are developed



## KIRKLEES

Kirklees Council is the democratically elected body governing local services for the 440,000 citizens living in the area.

There are 69 councillors and a Leader with a Cabinet that works with officers to ensure everything we do is delivering for local citizens. Our mission is to make Kirklees an even better place to live, work, visit and invest.

'We're Kirklees' is the way we describe the next phase of our journey to change the way we work to make Kirklees an even better place to live, work, visit and invest:

- Working with people, not doing to them: organisations working together with people and communities to enable them to solve problems and make the most of their strengths and opportunities.
- Working with partners: organisations sharing knowledge, skills and resources to work smarter together.
- Place-based working: recognising that each town, village and community has its own unique stakeholders, strengths and opportunities that can help them solve their problems locally and working to support and enable this.

The council has a shared vision, developed with partners in the private, public and third sector, that Kirklees has both a strong sustainable economy and a great quality of life – leading to thriving communities, growing businesses, high prosperity, and low inequality, where people enjoy better health through their lives.

Underpinning this shared vision are our shared outcomes, plus one internal one for us (that we work more efficiently and effectively).

## OUR VISION

Our vision for Kirklees is to be a district which combines a strong, sustainable economy with a great quality of life – leading to thriving communities, growing businesses, high prosperity and low inequality where people enjoy better health throughout their lives.

## OUR SHARED OUTCOMES



**Best Start**  
Children have the best start in life.



**Well**  
People in Kirklees are as well as possible for as long as possible.



**Independent**  
People in Kirklees live independently and have control over their lives.



## KEY STRATEGIES

Alongside our [council plan 2021/23](#), the [kirklees economic strategy 2019-25](#) and the [kirklees health and wellbeing plan 2018 - 2023](#) set out the council's overarching plans for delivering a strong sustainable economy and a great quality of life.

The Economic Strategy's aim is to enable an inclusive and productive economy, with every person aspiring and achieving their ambitions, and recognising the positive difference that work and the economy bring to people's health and wellbeing. The Joint Health & Wellbeing Strategy's vision is that by 2025 no matter where they live, people in Kirklees live their lives confidently, in better health, for longer, and experience less inequality. It recognises children in care and care leavers as particularly vulnerable groups.

**By way of summary, the other key strategic documents that support good corporate parenting:**

- [Inclusion and Diversity Strategy 2021 - 2023](#)
- [Kirklees Pledge to Children in Care](#)
- [Kirklees Commitment to Care Leavers](#)
- [Kirklees SEND Local Offer](#)
- [Kirklees Safeguarding Board Early Support Strategy](#)
- [Our Kirklees Future Approach to Learning 2021 - 2030](#)
- [Kirklees Health & Wellbeing Plan 2018 - 2023](#)
- [Kirklees Children and Young People's Plan 2020 - 2023](#)
- [Joint area child protection inspection - June 22](#)
- [Local area SEND inspection - Feb 22](#)
- [Children's Services focused visit - Oct 21](#)
- [Children's Services inspection - June 2019](#)

## THE COUNCIL'S JOURNEY TO OUTSTANDING.

In October 2021 Ofsted inspectors carried out a 'focused visit' to Children's Services and looked at the experiences of children in care, how the best living arrangements are made for them and the quality of social work and management.

Ofsted praised the council's work with children who are in care, recognising many strengths which improve outcomes for young people and help them to enjoy the best start in life.

The Strategic Director of Children's Services, said: *"The outcome is hugely positive and is a tribute to the commitment, talent and dedication of the Children's Services workforce. It also highlights how seriously the council takes its responsibility in being excellent corporate parents."*

A joint statement has been issued by Cllr Viv Kendrick, Cabinet member for Children, along with the council's political group leaders – Cllr Shabir Pandor (Labour and Leader of the Council), Cllr David Hall (Conservative), Cllr John Lawson (Liberal Democrat), Cllr Andrew Cooper (Green) and Cllr Charles Greaves (Independents).

### They said:

*"Supporting children is an absolute priority for all of us and we are delighted with this outcome, which shows our unwavering commitment to helping children and young people to thrive."*

*"Children who come into care have often faced difficult upbringings which can impact on their long-term life chances. It's incredibly important to us that they receive all the help we can give."*

*"Ofsted's visit looked at a specific part of children's social care, but we believe their findings reflect the improvements we have been making across the board over a number of years."*

*"Whilst there is still work to do – and our aim is to be outstanding in every single aspect of the support we provide – we are clearly heading in the right direction."*

*"We would like to thank all the staff teams for their hard work and passion, which we know improves the lives of children and families across Kirklees."*

Working together, we want to make a profound difference and put children's voices at the heart of everything we do. We want every child to be protected, to fulfil their potential and - no matter how many problems they have faced - to have the same opportunities as those who are more fortunate."

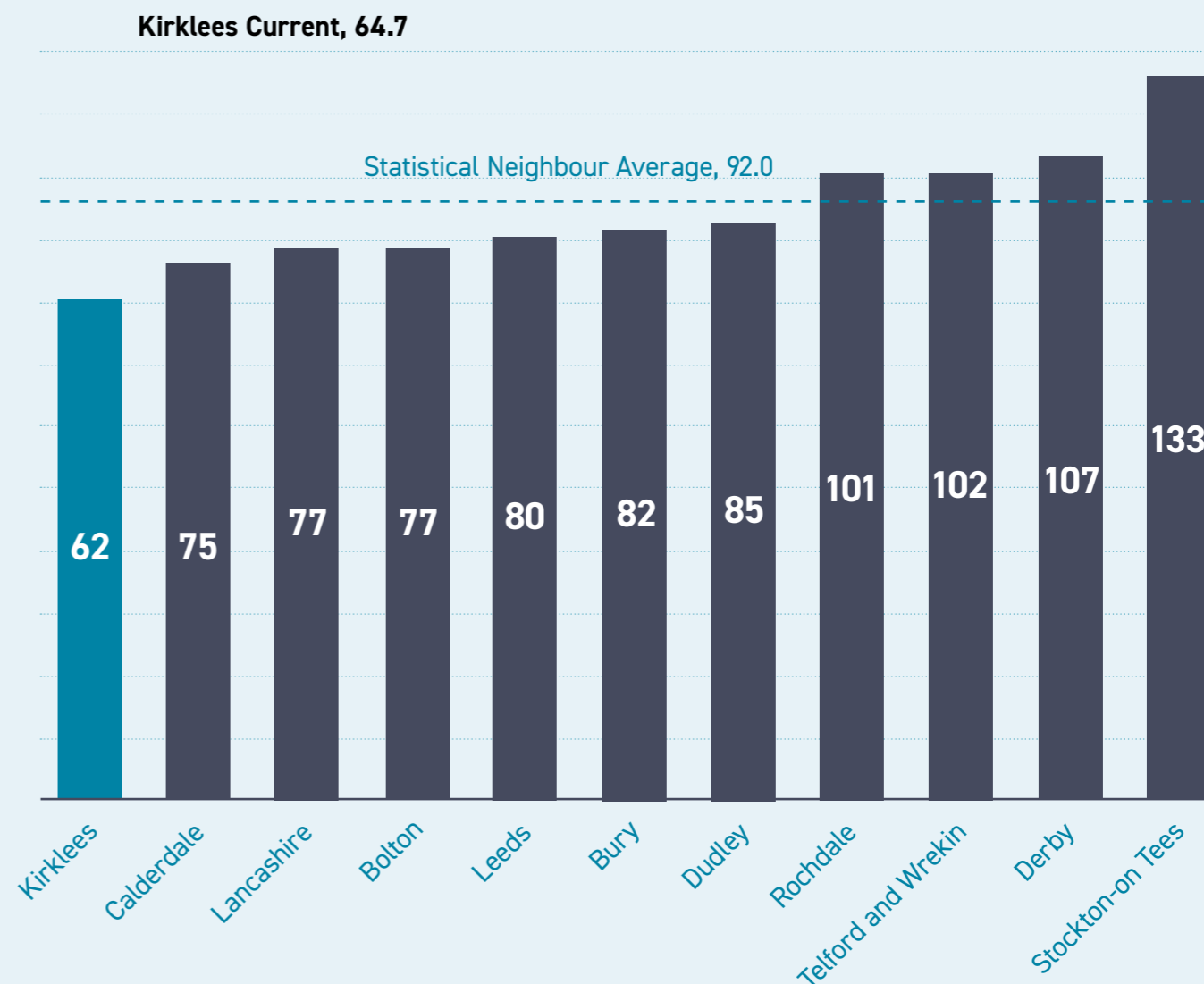
## THE KIRKLEES CONTEXT.

At present we have 634 children in care (November 2022). As the corporate strategy outlines there was a nearly doubling in the ten-year period 2007-2017, from 385 in March 2007 to 699 in March 2017, with a large increase between 2005 and 2013 (from 312 to 639). This is likely due to several factors, including national and local high-profile cases, which led to closer scrutiny of children in need.

Since 2017 Kirklees has stabilised this figure by increased efforts to keep children with their families either birth family or with carers who are connected to the children. This has led to a 10% decrease in children in care since March 2017.

There is currently an increasing trend in the number and rate of children in care from 63.8 (625 children) in December 2021 to 64.7 (634 children) in November 2022. The current 12-month average for Kirklees is 63.0 (618 children), above our 31 March 2022 published rate of 62.0, and significantly below our Statistical Neighbours 2022 rate of 92.0. The published rates for our Statistical Neighbours as at 31 March 2022 are shown in the graph for comparison.

## Rate of children looked after per 10,000 aged 0 - 17



## 1. Be a good corporate parent to children in care and care leavers.

To meet this pledge we will listen to the needs of children in care and care leavers and to our health and education partners. We will encourage elected members and officers from across the Council to advocate and champion children in care and care leavers. We'll design services that work with children in care and care leavers to meet their needs, not doing to them.

### Recently we have:

Undertaken engagement sessions with our councillors.

Arranged for corporate parenting to be included in inductions for new councillors.

Developed the critical friend relationship between Children's services and Corporate Parenting Board and Children's Scrutiny, with visits to services and other activities.

### By the summer 2023 we will have:

- Delivered more awareness-raising sessions with elected members and with services from across the Council that help elected members and officers develop empathy and an emotional connection to our children in care and care leavers as well as recognise their role in our parental responsibilities.
- Encouraged services to have mechanisms in place to monitor and review the contribution they make to the lives of our children in care and care leavers; and
- Reported to strategic partnerships, Children in Care Council, and Care Leavers Forum on how every Council directorate is contributing to the improvement in life chances of our children in care and care leavers.

### How we will know if we are a good corporate parent?

- Judging the emotional connection, knowledge, and awareness of elected members and officers through engagement sessions
- Through the oversight and scrutiny of Corporate Parenting Board and Children's Scrutiny Panel on this strategy and all of the strategies and performance and impact measures mentioned in this document.

### Key strategies for being a good corporate parent:

- [Kirklees Pledge to Children in Care](#)
- [Kirklees Commitment to Care Leavers](#)
- [Our Council Plan](#)

## 2. Create the conditions for our children in care to thrive in stable placements.

To meet this pledge we will create the conditions for the right kind of placements, including attracting and retaining more foster carers. We'll support all our children to aspire and achieve in education and training and to be as healthy and well as possible. We will work with partners to assess future placement, education, and health needs and plan ahead.

### Recently we have:

Reduced the size of our children's homes

Reduced the number of children living in residential care

Increased fostering family-setting placements

Reduced the number of children placed more than 20 miles outside Kirklees

### By the summer 2023 we will have:

- Set out our long-term ambitions and plan for local sufficiency of placements, education and training, and health and wellbeing support services for our children in care and care leavers.
- Developed closer partnerships at a district-wide and more local level to help provide the right wrap-around support.

### We recognise that particular vulnerabilities require specialist support, including:

- Involvement in the criminal justice system (supported through the Youth Offending Team)
- Children with complex health needs (supported through All Age Disability and our health partners)
- Children with learning disabilities (supported through schools and the Virtual School)
- Children with mental health needs (supported through CAMHS)

The placement support team is now focussing its efforts on the most vulnerable children and young people to help build their resilience so they can handle challenges that would otherwise disrupt their placements.

### Key strategies for children in care thriving in stable placements:

- [Kirklees Pledge to Children in Care](#)
- [Kirklees Health & Wellbeing Plan 2018-23](#)
- [Kirklees SEND Strategy 2017-20 add new date](#)

### How we will know that our children in care are thriving in stable placements:

- Net change in foster carers and net change in placements with foster carers, which we are working to see increase.
- Increase the number of children in care achieving five or more GCSE's from Level 4 to 9.

- Decrease the number of children in care with three or more placement in the last 12 months.
- Decrease the number of children in care residing outside the Kirklees district and more than 20 miles from home.
- Social worker and personal advisor turnover, which we would like to see decrease.
- Children's health outcomes, which we would like to see improve
- Audits to show improvements in recording the needs, views, and goals of children in care in case work recording, assessment, and planning.
- Inspection outcomes relating to children in care (including children's homes inspections, fostering, social work inspections, services full inspection, and monitoring visits), which we would like to see continue to improve.
- Timeliness of permanence planning for children in care, with timeframes driven by the needs of the child, which we would like to see improve.
- Increase the number of children in care achieving five or more GCSE's from Level 4 to 9.



The key context for all our corporate parenting principles is that only those who really need it come into care, and that, where possible, children and young people and their families are supported to stay together.

We will support families to stay and thrive together, so they are resilient enough to manage challenging circumstances. The Council as a whole provides universal services such as libraries and parks and targeted interventions such as public health programmes that are the foundation of a great quality of life for everyone. We will ensure that children at risk of being taken into care, children in our care, and care leavers are not inadvertently inhibited from benefitting from these opportunities because of their background, circumstance, and experiences. The Council also has special responsibilities to children identified as being in need, and the early support provided to these children in need by the Council and our partners can make the difference between a child thriving in a familiar home environment and facing the disruption of moving into care.

Keeping families together is a key part of ensuring we have a good local sustainable corporate parenting offer. Ultimately we are all working to ensure that children and young people in Kirklees have the best start in life. Moving into care is a disruptive experience and it is important that children only move into care when they really have to, so that we are not causing unnecessary disruption to their lives. That's why keeping families together is an important part of our overall corporate parenting strategy. With the right support, many families can stay together.

### Context:

- We have focused a lot on improving children's social care and now we are catching up with early support, helping to keep families together with earlier support. Our key principle is 'whole family working'

- Our community hubs work well.
- We have four designated children's centres.
- The number of children in our care and on child protection plans is reducing, but we now need to know why: whether it is because of our work (and, if so, to identify what worked and why) or external factors (and, if so, prepare for changes in these factors).

### Key early support activities:

- Family Mental Health & MST (now mainstreamed following initial DfE-funding).
- Develop the relationships between service areas and between the Council and its partners, to mitigate the silos we work in. The Early Support Partnership will help with the partnership side of this.
- Public Health initiatives through Thriving Kirklees and Nurturing Parents programmes.
- Family Support Offer
- Family Group Conferencing
- A review of our children's centres to identify their strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and challenges.
- Measuring the success of early support is hard. We will continue to develop our measures and data so we can improve this.
- Focus on a good 0-5 offer and a good offer for older children and young people, recognising that both groups require specialist skills, whilst taking a more holistic view of the child's life.

### Key strategies for early support:

- Kirklees Safeguarding Board Early Support Strategy
- Kirklees Health & Wellbeing Plan 2018 - 23
- Accessibility Strategy 2018 - 21
- Kirklees SEND Strategy 2017 - 20

## 3. Support / Create the conditions for our children in care to thrive in.

To meet this pledge we will work with our children in care's families so they are ready to support them on leaving care, when appropriate. We'll create the conditions for positive, lasting relationships between care leavers and their personal advisors and with partners, create opportunities for care leavers to aspire and achieve and improve their health and wellbeing.

### Recently we have:

Arranged free KAL leisure centre membership for our care leavers;

Arranged free travel for our care leavers;

Relaunched the No.11 drop-in support centre for care leavers in Huddersfield and launched our Commitment to care leavers.

### By the summer 2023 we will have:

- Launched a further drop-in support centre for care leavers in Dewsbury (by Sept 2019);
- Worked with the PAs of our care leavers not in employment, education, or training to support them into employment, education, or training as appropriate; and
- Refreshed our Commitment to Care Leavers.

### Key strategies for supporting care leavers into independence:

- [Improvement Plan](#)
- [Kirklees Commitment to Care Leavers](#)

### How we will know if care leavers are being effectively supported into independence:

- Increase the number of care leavers in employment, education or training.
- Increase the number of care leavers to have their own personal advisor.



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**Corporate Parenting Board**

**Agenda Plan 2023/24**

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	<b>Issues for Consideration</b>	<b>Officer Contact</b>
<p align="center"><b>Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2023</b></p> <p align="center"><i>Report Deadline: Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2023</i></p> <p align="center"><i>Agenda Publish: Monday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2023</i></p>	<p align="center"><b><u>Pre-meeting (private)</u></b></p> <p>Performance Monitoring report (Children’s Services)</p> <p>Care leavers/ Children Looked After Overview Report</p> <p>Briefing note on Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children &amp; Post-16 Education</p> <p align="center"><b><u>Public Items:</u></b></p> <p>Membership of the Board</p> <p>Children’s Performance Highlight Report</p> <p>Corporate Parenting Strategy</p> <p>Virtual School Governing Body Update (verbal)</p> <p>Updates from Board Members on interaction with services</p> <p>Corporate Parenting Board Agenda Plan</p>	<p>O Rix/ L Hallas / V Metherringham /G Addy O Rix</p> <p>O Rix/ L Hallas / V Metherringham /G Addy</p> <p align="center">Board Members</p> <p>O Rix/ L Hallas / V Metherringham /G Addy V Metherringham/O Rix</p> <p align="center">Cllr Pattison /L Hallas</p> <p align="center">Board members</p> <p align="center">J Harris</p>

**Corporate Parenting Board**

**Agenda Plan 2023/24**

<p><b>Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2023</b></p> <p><i>Report Deadline: Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> August 2023</i></p> <p><i>Agenda Publish: Monday 14<sup>th</sup> August 2023</i></p>	<p align="center"><b>Pre-meeting (Informal)</b></p> <p>Performance Monitoring report (Children’s Services)</p> <p>Overview reports (Children Looked after and Care Leavers)</p> <p align="center"><b>Public Items:</b></p> <p>Children’s Performance Highlight Report</p> <p>Children’s Rights Team Annual report</p> <p>Virtual School Governing Body Update (verbal)</p> <p>Children’s Ambition Board Update (verbal)</p> <p>Updates from Board Members on interaction with services</p> <p>Corporate Parenting Board Agenda Plan</p>	<p>O Rix/ J Tolley/ E McShane</p> <p>O Rix</p> <p>O Rix/ L Hallas / V Metheringham /G Addy</p> <p>A Gledhill /S Miles</p> <p>Cllr Pattison/L Hallas</p> <p>K Lord / V Metheringham</p> <p>Board Members</p> <p>J Harris</p>
<p><b>Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2023</b></p> <p><i>Report Deadline: Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2023</i></p> <p><i>Agenda Publish: Monday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2023</i></p>	<p align="center"><b>Pre-meeting (Informal)</b></p> <p>Performance Monitoring report (Children’s Services)</p> <p>Overview Reports</p>	<p>O Rix/ L Hallas / V Metheringham /G Addy</p> <p>O Rix</p>



**Corporate Parenting Board**

**Agenda Plan 2023/24**

	<p align="center"><b>Public Items:</b></p> <p>Children’s Performance Highlight Report</p> <p>Annual Health Report</p> <p>Virtual School Annual report</p> <p>Virtual School Governing Body Update (verbal)</p> <p>Children’s Ambition Board Update (verbal)</p> <p>Updates from Board Members on interaction with services</p> <p>Corporate Parenting Board Agenda Plan</p>	<p>O Rix/ L Hallas / V Metheringham /G Addy</p> <p>G Addy</p> <p>L Hallas</p> <p>Cllr Pattison / L Hallas</p> <p>K Lord / V Metheringham</p> <p>Board Members</p> <p>J Harris</p>
<p><b>Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2023</b></p> <p><i>Report Deadline: Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2023</i></p> <p><i>Agenda Publish: Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2023</i></p>	<p align="center"><b>Pre-meeting (Informal)</b></p> <p>Performance Monitoring report (Children’s Services)</p> <p>Overview Reports</p> <p align="center"><b>Public Items:</b></p> <p>Children’s Performance Highlight Report</p>	<p>O Rix/ L Hallas / V Metheringham /G Addy O Rix</p> <p>O Rix/ L Hallas / V Metheringham /G Addy</p>

**Corporate Parenting Board**

**Agenda Plan 2023/24**

	<p>One Adoption West Yorkshire Annual Report</p> <p>Annual report on Complaints and Compliments for Children in Care</p> <p>Virtual School Governing Body Update (verbal)</p> <p>Children’s Ambition Board Update (verbal)</p> <p>Updates from Board Members on interaction with services</p> <p>Corporate Parenting Board Agenda Plan</p>	<p>M Rawlings</p> <p>Rachel Fairhurst</p> <p>CLlr Pattison / L Hallas</p> <p>T Brailsford /V Metherringham</p> <p>Board Members</p> <p>J Harris</p>
<p><b>Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2024</b></p> <p><i>Report Deadline: Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2024</i></p> <p><i>Agenda Publish: Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024</i></p>	<p align="center"><b>Pre-meeting (Informal)</b></p> <p>Performance Monitoring report (Children’s Services)</p> <p>Overview Reports</p> <p align="center"><b>Public Items:</b></p> <p>Children’s Performance Highlight Report</p> <p>Sufficiency Strategy (TBC)</p> <p>Fostering Annual Report (TBC)</p>	<p>O Rix/ L Hallas / V Metherringham /G Addy O Rix</p> <p>O Rix/ L Hallas / V Metherringham /G Addy</p> <p>V Metherringham</p> <p>J Hanna</p> <p>K Lord / V Metherringham</p>

**Corporate Parenting Board**

**Agenda Plan 2023/24**

	<p>Virtual School Governing Body Update (verbal)</p> <p>Children’s Ambition Board Update (verbal)</p> <p>Updates from Board Members on interaction with services</p> <p>Corporate Parenting Board Agenda Plan</p>	<p>CLlr Pattison/ L Hallas</p> <p>V Metherringham</p> <p>Board Members</p> <p>J Harris</p>
<p align="center"><b>Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2024</b></p> <p align="center"><i>Report Deadline: Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2024</i></p> <p align="center"><i>Agenda Publish: Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2024</i></p>	<p align="center"><b>Pre-meeting (Informal)</b></p> <p>Performance Monitoring report (Children’s Services)</p> <p>Overview Reports</p> <p align="center"><b>Public Items:</b></p> <p>Children’s Performance Highlight Report</p> <p>Statement of Purpose for Residential Care</p> <p>Virtual School Governing Body Update (verbal)</p> <p>Children’s Ambition Board Update (verbal)</p> <p>Updates from Board Members on interaction with services</p>	<p>O Rix/ L Hallas / V Metherringham /G Addy</p> <p>O Rix</p> <p>O Rix/ L Hallas / V Metherringham /G Addy</p> <p>K Lord</p> <p>CLlr Pattison/L Hallas</p> <p>V Metherringham/ K lord</p> <p>Board Members</p>

**Corporate Parenting Board**

**Agenda Plan 2023/24**

	Corporate Parenting Board Agenda	J Harris
<p><b>Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2023</b></p> <p><i>Report Deadline: Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2024</i></p> <p><i>Agenda Publish: Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2024</i></p>	<p align="center"><b>Pre-meeting (Informal)</b></p> <p>Performance Monitoring report (Children’s Services)</p> <p>Overview Reports</p> <p align="center"><b>Public Items:</b></p> <p>Children’s Performance Highlight Report</p> <p>Virtual School Governing Body Update (verbal)</p> <p>Children’s Ambition Board Update (verbal)</p> <p>Updates from Board Members on interaction with services</p> <p>Corporate Parenting Board Agenda</p>	<p>O Rix/ L Hallas / V Metherringham /G Addy</p> <p>O Rix</p> <p>O Rix/ L Hallas / V Metherringham /G Addy Cllr Pattison/L Hallas</p> <p>V Metherringham/ K lord</p> <p>Board Members</p> <p>J Harris</p>
<p><b>Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2023</b></p> <p><i>Report Deadline: Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2024</i></p>	<p align="center"><b>Pre-meeting (Informal)</b></p> <p>Performance Monitoring report (Children’s Services)</p>	<p>O Rix/ L Hallas / V Metherringham /G Addy</p>

**Corporate Parenting Board**

**Agenda Plan 2023/24**

<p><i>Agenda Publish: Monday 15th April 2024</i></p>	<p>Overview Reports</p> <p align="center"><b>Public Items:</b></p> <p>Children’s Performance Highlight Report</p> <p>Virtual School Governing Body Update (verbal)</p> <p>Children’s Ambition Board Update (verbal)</p> <p>Updates from Board Members on interaction with services</p> <p>Corporate Parenting Board Agenda</p>	<p align="center">O Rix</p> <p>O Rix/ L Hallas / V Metherringham /G Addy Cllr Pattison/L Hallas</p> <p>V Metherringham/ K lord</p> <p align="center">Board Members</p> <p align="center">J Harris</p>
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**Standing Items (as on Agenda Plan)**

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Attendance by Strategic Director Update on the Role of Corporate Parent

- (SD Growth and Regeneration) Last seen March 2022
- (SD Environment and Climate Change – Last seen March 2022
- (SD CCG’s Chief Officer – Last seen February 2022)
- (SD Children’s Services – September 2022
- (SD Adults and health – January TBC)
- (SD Corporate Strategy/Public Heath – tbc)
- (Police Colleague (TBC)

Children’s Performance Highlight Report CIC and Fostering/Children’s Homes

Virtual School Governing Body Update (verbal)

## Corporate Parenting Board

### Agenda Plan 2023/24

Childrens Ambition Board Update (verbal)  
Updates from Board Members on interaction with services  
Corporate Parenting Board Agenda Plan

#### **Items for consideration /to schedule :**

Statement of Purpose for Fostering  
Statement of Purpose for Residential Care (K Lord)  
Report on Accommodation  
Fostering Annual Report  
Pathway planning report  
Missing report  
The Sufficiency strategy  
Supported Lodgings Scheme  
Supported Lodgings / Post 18 Provision  
Report of Adoption – to consult with OAWY new municipal year  
A report from the virtual School re Post 16 attainment.  
Ethnicity of LAC and foster carers.

#### **Annual / 6 monthly reports:-**

- 6 monthly report on Children's Rights (Oct to March) A Gledhill (June)
- Annual Report on work of the Children's Rights) April onwards
- 6 monthly report on Independent Visitors Scheme (Oct to March)
- Annual report on Complaints and Compliments for Children in Care (January)
- Annual report on children who go missing from care
- Annual report on children and young people placed outside the Kirklees boundary
- Annual Health Report (report on health of looked after children)
- Annual Report on Kirklees Fostering Service

## **Corporate Parenting Board**

### **Agenda Plan 2023/24**

- OAWY – Annual (highlights report on Kirklees performance data)
- OAWY – 6 monthly report (June/July)

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