

Name of meeting: Corporate Parenting Board
Date: 04/7/2017
Title of report: Fostering Service

Key Decision - Is it likely to result in spending or saving £250k or more, or to have a significant effect on two or more electoral wards?	No
Key Decision - Is it in the Council's Forward Plan (key decisions and private reports?)	No
The Decision - Is it eligible for call in by Scrutiny?	No
Date signed off by <u>Director</u> & name Is it also signed off by the Director of Resources? Is it also signed off by the Assistant Director (Legal Governance and Monitoring)?	
Cabinet member portfolio	Cllr Erin Hill

Electoral wards affected: ALL
Ward councillors consulted: NIL
Public or private: PUBLIC

1. Purpose of report

The purpose of this report is to brief the Corporate Parenting Panel on the current developments in the Fostering Service.

2. Summary

The service has just reported to Ofsted the Fostering data set for 2017. Following this Rob Finney has met with the performance team and the Liquid logic teams to ensure that the systems that we build for the future enable us to report in the necessary fields in an efficient way as this data gathering was labour intensive.

What the data set tells us is that of 31st march 2017 we had:

198 fostering households and

262 fostered children.

The report demonstrates that we have looked after some very complex young people in the service. Whilst the vast majority of young people enjoyed very settled placements a number of young people were considered to be at risk of CSE or had multiple missing episodes. **However, no young people**

in our placements were considered to have actually experienced CSE whilst in placement. For example, one young person was missing 24 times.

This gives us an opportunity to analyse what our response was at the time and what learning was done from these placements and how we increased our assessments of the young people's needs. This work will be done over the coming weeks.

We are working on implementing a quality assurance framework within fostering including good quality data analysis around compliance; file audits, direct observations of practice and analysis of systems and processes. These plans have been discussed fully at QPRM and will be implemented over the coming weeks. The management team have embraced thi

3. Information required to take a decision

That the Board read the report and take into consideration the content of the summary.

4. Implications for the Council

Increasing the sufficiency of accommodation will have very substantial cost savings for the authority. This will also enable us to provide the best quality of care to our children that we will manage and control.

5. Consultees and their opinions

6. Next steps

7. Officer recommendations and reasons

- That the board take note of the information contained within the report.

8. Cabinet portfolio holder's recommendations

9. Contact officer: Rob Finney Rob.Finney@kirklees.gov.uk

10. Background Papers and History of Decisions

11. Assistant Director responsible: Anne Coyle