

Report of the Chair of the Corporate Parenting Forum

Council – 4 November 2014

CORPORATE PARENTING FORUM ANNUAL REPORT 2013-2014

Purpose:	To update all Council Members on the activities of the Corporate Parenting Forum during the financial year 2013/14.
Policy Framework:	Swansea Single Plan.
Reason for Decision:	Providing information to raise awareness on the responsibilities of Councillors as Corporate Parents for Looked after children and young people in Swansea.
Consultation:	Child and Family Services, Legal, Finance & Access to Services.
Recommendation(s):	It is recommended that: 1) The Council debate and accept the report.
Report Author:	Deborah Checkland
Legal Officer:	Lucy Moore
Finance Officer:	Paul Cridland
Access to Services Officer:	Catherine Window
Chair of Corporate Parenting Forum	Councillor Jane Harris

1. Introduction

- 1.1. The Corporate Parenting Forum was originally established on 26 February 2009, following a report of the Cabinet Member for Community Leadership and Democracy. The Terms of Reference were subsequently amended following a review of the role of Councillors as Corporate Parents, which reported in November 2010. This report was called 'Care to Help?'
- 1.2. In March 2013, the Chair of the Scrutiny Programme committee wrote to the Chair of the Corporate Parenting Forum informing him that the Scrutiny Committee had agreed to conclude the monitoring of this review and

requesting him to provide a progress report on its recommendations made to the Corporate Parenting Forum.

1.3. One of the recommendations was that the Forum reports annually to Council to raise awareness of its work.

1.4. This is the second Annual Report of the Forum.

2. Overview of the Annual Report

2.1. The second Annual Report provides information about the establishment and purpose of the Corporate Parenting Forum; its grounding in statute and national and local policy, and a review of the activity of the Forum between April 2013 and March 2014.

2.2. The report demonstrates a good deal of strengthening of the Forum since the 'Care to Help? – Review of the Role of Councillors as Corporate Parents by the Child and Family Services Overview and Scrutiny Board 2010.

2.3. 2014 also will see Looked After Children and Care Leavers presenting their views directly to a Specially convened Members Seminar prior to the presentation of this report.

3. Financial Implications

3.1. There are no financial implications associated with this report.

4. Legal Implications

4.1. There are no legal implications associated with this report.

Background Papers: EIA

Appendices: Appendix A - Corporate Parenting Forum Annual Report April 2013 – March 2014