Title: Recommendations arising from the Children’s Services Select Committee’s Workshop on Corporate Parenting

Report of the Corporate Director of Children’s Services

Open Report For Decision

Report Author: Masuma Ahmed, Democratic Services Officer, Scrutiny, Law & Governance

Contact Details:
Tel: 020 8227 2756
E-mail: masuma.ahmed@lbbd.gov.uk

Accountable Divisional Director: Ann Graham, Divisional Director, Complex Needs and Assessment

Accountable Director: Helen Jenner, Corporate Director of Children’s Services

Summary:

At the start of the 2015/16 municipal year members of the Children’s Services Select Committee (CSSC) stated that they wished to consider the issue of corporate parenting as part of the Committee’s annual work programme. They particularly wished to consider how the principles of corporate parenting could be embedded into the mindset of all members of the Council, as they felt this was an area for improvement.

On 18 January 2016 members of the CSSC took part in a workshop that involved members considering suggestions for raising further awareness and strengthening all Council members’ knowledge of the Council’s corporate parenting functions in small groups, which resulted in a number of suggestions being made. Councillor Turner, the Cabinet Member for Children’s Services and Social Care, also took part in the workshop.

At the end of the workshop the CSSC asked officers to consider each suggestion and report back to the next CSSC meeting as to which of the suggestions could be taken forward and how they could potentially be implemented.

The Corporate Director of Children’s Services discussed the suggestions arising from the workshop at a meeting of the Departmental Managers Team meeting. Appendix 1 lists a number of recommendations for the CSSC to discuss further and agree.

Recommendation(s)

The CSSC is recommended to discuss and agree the recommendations at Appendix 1.

Reason(s)

The recommendations at Appendix 1 all seek to raise further awareness and strengthen members’ knowledge of the Council’s Corporate Parenting functions. They relate to the objectives of narrowing the gap in attainment and realising high aspirations for every child (under the “Encouraging Civic Pride” priority), ensuring children and young people are well-educated and realise their potential and, protecting the most vulnerable, keeping adults and children healthy and safe (under the “Enabling Social Responsibility” priority).
Background Papers Used in the Preparation of the Report:

None.

List of appendices:

Appendix 1  Recommendations arising from the CSSC’s workshop on Corporate Parenting