Background...

- Corporate Parenting Group met regularly but...
- ‘Town Hall’ focussed
- Young people did not wholly shape the agenda
- Lack of direct scrutiny and performance challenge
- Few partners around the table
- Lack of direction and clarity of purpose
April 2012…

- Undertook a ½ day workshop to review the MCPG
- Reviewed the national & local context for LAC
- Reminded ourselves of the legislative requirements
- Focused upon the corporate parenting role & in particular the responsibilities of officers and elected members
- Considered who is providing corporate parenting currently and who this should involve in future.
- Discussed…’our children’, improving outcomes & life chances, value for money, council wide responsibility, LAC voices shaping their services.
April 2012 cont., Strategy & Action Plan

- Reviewed the plan April 2011 – 14 & refreshed
- Action plan revised, measurables & responsibilities included.
- Emphasis on evidence within the action plan
- Provided evidence of key achievements for 2011/12
April 2012 cont., the MCPG

- Revised ToR
- Revised membership including elected member chair, health rep, CMT rep & children in care council members (Skittlz)
- Reviewed pragmatics, frequency, standing agenda items etc etc
- Re-emphasised the role of the group re: challenge and accountability
April 2012 cont., Governance

- Confirmed governance and accountability arrangements as follows:-

- Children’s Trust
  - Corporate Parenting Group
    - Children in Care Outcomes Group
    - Children in Care Council (SKITLZ)
    - Participations Champions Group
  - Complex Needs & Social Care
    - Allocated Social Workers, Fostering & Adoption Services & Leaving Care
  - Health & Education Specialists
    - Nurses, Emotional Wellbeing Coordinator, Virtual Headteacher & Advisory Teachers
  - Participation & Rights Service
    - Children’s Rights Officer & Participation Officer
April 2012 cont. performance
SLAC Inspection June 2012

• “Corporate Parenting arrangements are not well embedded and the Lead Member is not part of the Corporate parenting Board”

• “The lack of effective strategic planning and corporate parenting arrangements means that the response to the needs of children looked after population is not sufficiently coordinated”.
SLAC Inspection June 2012

• Area for improvement:-
• “Corporate Parenting arrangements and strategic planning are strengthened to ensure that they properly reflect the council’s responsibilities to children looked after.”
Post SLAC action and activity

- Lead member and DCS now attend Corporate Parenting Board & Children’s Trust
- Corporate Parenting Board members are held to account for performance through CiC outcomes group, corp. parent board & trust.
- Annual report drafted to be shared with cabinet February 2013
- Lead member meets with Divisional Director on a monthly basis re: CiC.
- Regularly shared SLAC action plan progress to group
Post SLAC action & activity cont.

- Agenda is increasing ‘shaped’ by young people.
- Board continues to be chaired by Cllr Letchford – clear member commitment to CiC
- Focus upon leisure options for CiC within and beyond B&D
- Consulted with young people re: exam support
- Young People requested the reintroduction of the ‘homework club’.
- Board meeting entirely focussed upon NEET performance
- Revision of the CiC pledge with Skittlez.
- Health performance now standing agenda item
Future action

• Review board membership and ToR

• Review and refresh:-
  a) Children’s Services Corporate Parenting Strategy and
  b) progress against current action plan