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| 25 January 2023 | | ITEM: 11 |
| Council | | |
| Corporate Parenting Committee Annual Report 2021/2022 | | |
| Wards and communities affected: All | Key Decision: Non-Key | |
| Report of: Corporate Parenting Committee | | |
| Accountable Assistant Director: Janet Simon, Assistant Director of Children's Social Care and Early Help | | |
| Accountable Director: Shelia Murphy, Corporate Director for Children's Services | | |
| This report is public | | |

Executive Summary

This report introduces the Corporate Parenting Annual Report which following being presented to the Corporate Parenting Committee, was recommended it should be presented to the Council.

1. Recommendation(s)

1.1 That the contents of the Corporate Parenting Annual Report 2021/2022 be noted.

2. Introduction and Background

2.1 Each year Members are invited to a variety of training sessions, to assist them with their roles sitting on Committees. Following the Corporate Parenting Training held Wednesday 17 July 2019, it was requested that an Annual Report be produced detailing the work of Committee and their main achievements for that municipal year. The report is designed to inform residents of this work in an accessible and engaging format.

2.2 The last municipal year has seen the Corporate Parenting Committee tackle a wide range of topics, with Members leading on issues that have come to the fore both through their own research but also by understanding the issues that have arisen in the community.

3. Issues, Options and Analysis of Options

- 3.1 It is hoped that the format of the Annual Report will highlight to residents and Members how the Corporate Parenting Committee have picked relevant community issues and how Members undertook work to form recommendations that positively affected these issues.
- 3.2 The report will be published on the Council's website and key community groups and participants from last year's work will be made aware of its publication directly.

4. Reasons for Recommendation

- 4.1 The report outlines the positive work that has been undertaken during 2021/2022 and will be referred to Council for review in order for Members to comment on the overall work of the Corporate Parenting Committee.

5. Consultation (including Overview and Scrutiny, if applicable)

- 5.1 The Chair of the Corporate Parenting Committee has been consulted on the contents of the report.

6. Impact on corporate policies, priorities, performance and community impact

- 6.1 The positive impact of the work of the Corporate Parenting committee for 2021/2022, in driving forward issues in relation to looked after children and care leavers to ensure Members are fully involved and engaged in their Corporate Parenting responsibilities.

7. Implications

7.1 Financial

Implications verified by: **David May**
Strategic Lead Finance

There are no direct financial implications arising out of this report.

7.2 Legal

Implications verified by: **Judith Knight**
Interim Deputy Head of Legal (Social Care and Education)

The Children and Social Work Act 2017 introduced the corporate parenting principles and this are subject to statutory guidance
<https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/>

attachment_data/file/683698/Applying_corporate_parenting_principles_to_looked-after_children_and_care_leavers.pdf

The report provides assurance that the Council is fulfilling its statutory duties.

7.3 **Diversity and Equality**

Implications verified by: **Roxanne Scanlon**
Community Engagement and Project
Monitoring Officer

The Corporate Parenting Committee recognises the role and importance of diversity and equality and adheres to the Equality Act 2010 and related requirements. All work in 2021/2022 sought to include looked after children and care leavers as appropriate.

7.4 **Other implications** (where significant) – i.e. Staff, Health Inequalities, Sustainability, Crime and Disorder, or Impact on Looked After Children

- None.

8. **Background papers used in preparing the report** (including their location on the Council's website or identification whether any are exempt or protected by copyright):

- Agenda, Reports and Minutes of meetings of the Corporate Parenting Committee are available from:

<http://democracy.thurrock.gov.uk/thurrock/>

9. **Appendices to the report**

- Appendix 1: Corporate Parenting Annual Report 2021/2022

Report Author:

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