

Report of: Executive Member for Children, Young People and Families

| Meeting of: | Date: | Ward(s): |
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| Children's Services Scrutiny Committee | 20 July 2021 | All |

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| Delete as appropriate | | Non-exempt |
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1. Synopsis

- 1.1 The purpose of the Corporate Parenting Board Annual Report is to provide an overview of the achievements, progress, challenges in meeting the needs of Islington's children looked after, and care experienced young people from 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020.
- 1.2 Corporate Parenting Board (CPB) has a responsibility to monitor and review the quality and effectiveness of services for children looked after and care experienced young people delivered by the council, partner agencies and commissioned services to ensure that every child and young person looked after is supported to be safe, happy, healthy and to achieve their full potential. In addition, it has a key role in listening to the voice of children and young people looked after and leaving care.
- 1.3 The Board is co-chaired by the chair of our Children's Active Involvement Service (CAIS) and the Lead Member for Children, Young People and Families. There is a high level of participation from Members of the Board and young people have a real voice and opportunity to improve services.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 To consider the Annual Report of the Corporate Parenting Board 2019-2020.

3. Background

- 3.1 Islington Council's children looked after (CLA) service was responsible for 366 looked after children, including 67 Unaccompanied and Separated Children (UASC) and 426 Care Leavers as

of 31 March 2020. The majority of our looked after children are over the age of 15 and are males (61%). There continues to be an over representation of children in care from Black and Black British heritage which is being further scrutinised. Islington continues to have a higher number of children looked after than other Inner London Local Authorities and transformation work is underway to understand why this is and what other types of intervention other than care would improve their outcomes.

- 3.2 The CLA service also works with children in need, in need of protection and with children and families in adoptive and special guardianship placements. Children and young adults benefit from a stable and committed staff team including 148 Foster Carers (122 mainstream fostering households) and a robust Independent Reviewing Service.

4. Implications:

4.1 Financial Implications:

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

4.2 Legal Implications:

It is recommended that the Children's Services Scrutiny Committee follows the procedure set out in Part 4 Scrutiny Procedure Rules when making decisions.

4.3 Environmental Implication and contribution to achieving a net zero carbon Islington by 2030:

The council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation, and to advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations, between those who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it (section 149 Equality Act 2010). The council has a duty to have due regard to the need to remove or minimise disadvantages, take steps to meet needs, in particular steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities, and encourage people to participate in public life. The council must have due regard to the need to tackle prejudice and promote understanding.

A resident impact assessment is not required for the Corporate Parenting Board annual Report.

5. Conclusion

- 5.1 In Islington our commitment is to provide an excellent trauma informed service that is proactive and responsive to changing needs and works to support our children and young people to achieve their full potential.
- 5.2 This annual report of the Corporate Parenting Board has summarised practice across the service, which has been scrutinised by the Board during 2019/20. It also highlights areas of development for 2021. Our Plan for Children looked after and Care Leavers 2018-2020 sets out what we have achieved in the last two years. We will ensure that changes are sustained and built on. Our plan for 2020-22 will be presented for scrutiny at CPB in September 2021

Appendices

- (a) Corporate Parenting Annual Report
- (b) Corporate Parenting Resource Pack

Signed by:

**Report of: Executive Member for
Children, Young People and**

Date 5.7.21

Report Author: Karen Gibbings
Tel: 0207 527 7236
Email: Karen.gibbings@islington.gov.uk

Financial Implications Author: Tim Partington
[Tel:0207](tel:02075271851) 527 1851
Email:tim.partington@islington.gov
uk

Legal Implications
Author:Clive Sheldon
[Tel:0207](tel:02075272965) 527 2965
Email:clive.sheldon@islingto
n.gov.uk

[THE BELOW IS FOR INFORMATION AND SHOULD BE DELETED FROM THE BOTTOM OF THE REPORT BEFORE SUBMISSION].

Heading for the exempt appendix (which must be a separate document)

THIS APPENDIX IS EXEMPT AND IS NOT FOR PUBLICATION

This Appendix is not for publication as it contains the following category of exempt information as specified in Paragraph [insert relevant paragraph number from Appendix 5 to the Constitution], Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, namely: "[Please insert heading for relevant category from Appendix 5 of the Constitution]"

If you require any assistance or information about exemptions and exempt appendices please contact Democratic Services.

Resident Impact Assessments (RIAs)/Equality Impact Assessments (EIAs)

If an RIA has been completed it must accompany the report as an appendix.

Resident Impact Assessments (RIAs) have replaced Equality Impact Assessments (EIAs) in Islington. Although there is no longer a legal requirement to carry out EIAs, public bodies still have to demonstrate that they are taking the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) into account when making decisions. Local authorities also have obligations in relation to safeguarding and human rights. The main focus of RIAs is on drawing out the equality impacts of proposals with additional sections for highlighting safeguarding risks and potential human rights breaches.

Process

The following wording must be included in the RIA section in Committee Reports:

" The council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation, and to advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations, between those who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it (section 149 Equality Act 2010). The council has a duty to have due regard to the need to remove or minimise disadvantages, take steps to meet needs, in particular steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities, and encourage people to participate in public life. The council must have due regard to the need to tackle prejudice and promote understanding."

This should then be followed by:

A Resident Impact Assessment was completed on..... (date) and the summary is included below. The complete Resident Impact Assessment is appended.

or

A Resident Impact Assessment has not been completed because.....

For further assistance with RIAs please see:

<http://izzi/me/staff-essentials/project-management/eia/Pages/Resident-Impact-Assessments.aspx>