

## Lancashire County Council

### Corporate Parenting Board

**Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday, 6th September, 2012 at 6.00 pm in Oak Room, Woodlands Conferencing Centre, Southport Road, Chorley, PR7 1QR**

**Present:       Members**

County Councillor Tony Winder	- Lancashire County Council
County Councillor Margaret Brindle	- Lancashire County Council
County Councillor Mrs Pat Case	- Lancashire County Council
County Councillor Carolyn Evans	- Lancashire County Council
County Councillor Stan Leadbetter	- Lancashire County Council
County Councillor Jennifer Mein	- Lancashire County Council
Lin Fisher	- representing Foster Carers
David Galt	- representing Adoptive Parents
Louise Taylor	- Director for Specialist Services, Directorate for Children and Young People, Lancashire County Council
Amy	- Representing LINX
Emma	- Representing LINX
Tasha	- Representing LINX

**Co-opted members**

Paul Armitage	- representing Children's Social Care, Lancashire County Council
Katherine Ashworth	- representing Young People's Service, Lancashire County Council
Marc Couzins	- Ambassador for Young People
Sue Parr	- representing The Virtual School, Lancashire County Council

**Other Attendees**

- Safeguarding Manager
- Children's Commissioner for England
- Integrated Services Manager
- Governance and Project Support Manager – Clerk to the Board

- Lancashire Children's Rights Service
- Governance Officer
- District Manager - Lancaster
- Senior Manager (Residential)
- Residential Unit Manager
- Temporary Unit Manager
- Head of Safeguarding, Inspection and Audit
- Adoption Services Manager
- ACERS Virtual School Education Consultant
- For the presentation on CoPE
- Observer
- Observer

#### **47. Introduction and Apologies**

Introductions around the room were made and apologies were noted from County Councillors Kay and Taylor and Nicola Bamford, Mark Hudson, Ismail Karolia and Cath Randall.

#### **48. Notes of the Meetings held on 12 June and 26 July 2012**

The notes of the meetings held on 12 June and 26 July 2012 were agreed as an accurate record.

#### **49. Matters Arising from the Notes of the Meeting held on 12 June and 26 July 2012**

There were no matters arising from the previous meetings.

#### **50. What our Elected Members Have Been Doing**

CC Winder updated the Board on the various meetings, visits and actions he had been involved in as the Chair of the Board.

CC Evans told the Board of the activities she carried out with a young person from The Willows over a week recently. The activities included a visit to a hospital as the young person was intending to pursue a career in the health service.

The Board was also told that the young person was to undertake a six month work placement at Darian House, Chorley.

#### **51. CoPE (Certificate of Personal Effectiveness)**

The Board received a great presentation from young people involved in the CoPE programme.

The Presentation is available on request from the Clerk.

The Young Person's Ambassador led the thanks to the young people for being such an inspiration in undertaking this work.

## **52. LINX (Lancashire's Children in Care Council)**

The young people from LINX presented to the Board details of the work they had been undertaking in the area groups, a copy of the presentation is available on request from the Clerk.

The young people asked the Board to agree to collate an information pack for Care Leavers.

The young people also raised at this point the changes they would wish to see in respect of the current way grant applications are considered. They would particularly like to move to a similar way to how the young people service consider grants, maybe even have a Dragons Den approach!

The Chair on behalf of the Board agreed to consider this at the de-briefing meeting on 1 October and to agree the new process with the young people.

## **53. Assisted Boarding Conference**

The Board received an update on this area from Sue Parr.

The Board noted that it is hoped that with Lancashire and Cumbria working together between two to four young people can be supported with being a boarder. It was hoped to identify two young people within the next month.

In response to questions it was noted that work was on-going as to the definition of children on the edge of care and that the likely age of the young people to be identified would be of secondary school age ie 11 and older.

## **54. Government's Adoption Plan**

Anne-Marie Ranson introduced the report circulated with the agenda on this important area of work.

In response to a number of queries Anne-Marie agreed to meet David Galt outside the meeting to discuss in more detail.

## **55. Inspection Framework**

Tony Morrissey led the Board through a number of questions which are part of the current consultation, a copy of the presentation is available on request from the Clerk.

The Board, in groups, looked at the various questions and produced responses on flipcharts.

It was agreed that the responses would form the basis of a response, which would be agreed by CC Winder and Louise Taylor on behalf of the Board.

#### **56. Performance Indicators**

The Board considered a set of figures relating to performance against agreed priorities areas.

There were a number of issues raised and the Board felt it would be helpful to have available a more detailed analysis behind the figures. Officers agreed to do this for future reports.

#### **57. Feedback from the Young People's Corporate Parenting Board held on 26 July 2012**

The Board was told by the young people that communication with young people is a key priority and that they would like the Board to look at various ways of communicating with young people.

It was agreed that this be discussed at the de-briefing on 1 October and a way of the Board communicating with young people be presented to the meeting in December.

#### **58. Action Plan**

The action plan would be brought to the December meeting taking into consideration the priorities identified at the conference held earlier today, and such initiatives as CoPE, Friends 4U, communication and boarding provision.

#### **59. What's Changed Tool**

It was agreed that the Board would look to use the What's Changed Tool together with the action plan from each future meeting.

#### **60. Grant Funding Applications Process**

It was noted that the Board had discussed this as part of the LINX item earlier in the agenda.

#### **61. Date and Time of Next Meeting**

The Board noted that the next meeting was scheduled to be held on Tuesday, 4 December 2012 at 6.00pm at County Hall, Preston.

The Board was informed that this date was subject to change.

#### **62. Grant Funding Applications**

The current position regarding applications was noted.

The Chair took the opportunity to thank Maggie Atkinson for coming to both the conference and the meeting of the Board.

Maggie Atkinson thanked Lancashire for the genius of having the confidence to host the conference and that a lot of "light bulb moments" were clearly seen during the conference.

