



CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD
23rd September 2004

**MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL/FIVE RIVERS PARTNERSHIP
BOARD - SUMMARY REPORT**

**BRENDA THOMPSON - EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR
SOCIAL CARE AND HEALTH**

JAN DOUGLAS - EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. The purpose of the report is to provide members of the Corporate Parenting Board with a summary of issues considered by Middlesbrough Council and Five Rivers Partnership Board between January and August 2004.

BACKGROUND AND EXTERNAL CONSULTATION

2. Five Rivers Project Limited has been working in partnership with Middlesbrough Council since December 2001 to provide residential care for children in Middlesbrough.
3. The Partnership Board was established in January 2002. Details of the role, function and remit of the Partnership Board are attached at **Appendix 1**.
4. The Partnership Board has met on 3 occasions in 2004 - 13 January, 20 April and 20 July.
5. Carol Perkins (Five Rivers Regional Manager) produces a quarterly report for the meetings, which is fully discussed.
6. There have been no significant quality assurance issues and the standard of care provided is consistently high. This is evidenced by

the Regulation 33 reports (monthly independent reports) and rota visitor reporting.

7. There have been no community issues and only three minor 'neighbour' complaints, which have been resolved immediately by staff.
8. An additional place has been provided at Rosecroft as part of the wider review and agreement regarding the contract and financial arrangements. There are no vacancies within the three Houses.
9. Rota visitors have been agreed for the Houses :

Councillor Frances McIntyre	-	Fir Tree
Councillor Tom Mawston	-	Rosecroft
Councillor Eddie Dryden	-	Holly Lodge

CONCLUSION

10. The Partnership Board has continued to receive detailed reports on activity within the Houses and Five Rivers. The revision of the contract and reviewed financial arrangements will serve to consolidate the Partnership and the high quality care provided to the young people.

RECOMMENDATIONS

11. The Corporate Parenting Board note the summary of Partnership Board activity.

REASONS

12. The Partnership Board oversees key provision within the Children Looked After scheme.
13. The Corporate Parenting Board has a key role in ensuring the quality of care for young people in residential accommodation.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

No background papers were used in the preparation of this report.

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MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL AND FIVE RIVERS PARTNERSHIP BOARD

1) **Aim of the Partnership Board**

- 1.1) The aim of the Partnership between Middlesbrough Council and Five Rivers is to establish and work together to continuously improve residential child care services within Middlesbrough, which facilitate the best possible outcomes of children and young people receiving those services.

2) **Principles of the Partnership**

- 2.1) The following principles underpin the partnership :

- consulting with and listening to and understanding the needs of children and young people and their families in the development of services
- delivering services in a way which values diversity
- promoting self esteem, dignity, good citizenship, responsibility and a sense of belonging
- valuing and developing the workforce
- ensuring the safety and wellbeing of children and young people in residential care.

3) **Composition of Partnership Board**

- 3.1) Representation on the Board will need to be at a sufficiently senior level to commit resources and engage in policy development.

- 3.2) Membership of the Partnership Board is as follows :

- Head of Children's Services, Middlesbrough Council
- Senior Operational Manager, Children's Services, Middlesbrough Council
- Quality & Performance Manager, Middlesbrough Council
- Chair of Middlesbrough Council Corporate Parenting Board
- Commissioner for Social Care

The representatives from Five Rivers will be :

Deputy Director (Five Rivers)
Operational Manager (Five Rivers)
Representative of CareNet UK

4) **Remit of the Partnership Board**

4.1) To monitor compliance of the contract between Middlesbrough Council and Five Rivers.

4.2) To receive :

- rota visitor reports and Regulation 22 visit reports;
- Registration & Inspection reports;
- information on complaints and compliments;
- reports of untoward incidents;
- activity data;
- financial monitoring.

4.3) To contribute to strategic planning of residential child care provision within Middlesbrough.

4.4) To monitor achievements against performance indicators and/or quality standards.

4.5) To determine any review or revision to the service delivery model.

4.6) To produce an Annual Report for submission to Middlesbrough Council Corporate Parenting Board

5) **Frequency of Board Meetings**

5.1) Board meetings will be held at a minimum of quarterly intervals.

5.2) Any Board Member, Officer of Five Rivers or Officer of Middlesbrough may request that an extraordinary Board Meeting be convened in the event of an untoward incident, or in the event of an incident occurring which requires a collective and strategic response.

5.3) Young people resident in Middlesbrough Five Rivers accommodation, or their nominated representative, will be invited to a minimum of 2 Board Meetings per year.

June 2001