

CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD

9th June 2005

**CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD
WORK PROGRAMME 2005 - 2006**

**JAN BRUNTON - EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S
SERVICES**

**PAUL THOMPSON – EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR EDUCATION &
SKILLS**

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CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND LEARNING**

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to present to Members a discussion paper relating to various approaches to a work programme for the Corporate Parenting Board during the year 2005 - 2006 (see Appendix 1).

BACKGROUND AND EXTERNAL CONSULTATION

2. The Corporate Parenting Board has been operating for five years and has achieved a great deal during that time. It is important to review and refresh the work of the board on a regular basis. This ensures that the work is clearly focussed on achieving the best possible outcomes for children looked after.

OPTION APPRAISAL/RISK ASSESSMENT

3. Members are asked to consider the options outlined in the attached discussion paper.

FINANCIAL, LEGAL AND WARD IMPLICATIONS

4. There are no immediate financial or legal implications arising from this report. This report is of interest to all Members.

RECOMMENDATION

5. It is recommended that the Corporate Parenting Board:
 - a) Consider the proposed options.

REASON

6. The recommendation is supported by the following reason:
 - a) To enable the Corporate Parenting Board to continue to make good progress in ensuring that the authority fulfils its corporate parenting responsibilities.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR, CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND LEARNING – JENNI COOKE

BACKGROUND PAPERS

There were no background papers used in the preparation of this report:

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Corporate Parenting Board (CPB) Work Programme Discussion Paper

Background

The government guidance, “If this were my child...” (previously issued to all elected Members) sets out requirements for information to be reported to Members and suggestions for how the Executive and Scrutiny Panels can promote and protect services for children looked after. The CPB receives regular reports on a range of issues, some of which address the requirements set out in the guidance.

Issues

- How to make the CPB more child-focussed and more interesting?
- How to encourage more active advocacy of children’s needs by all elected Members?
- Members wish to consider the needs and progress of individual children with a view to identifying issues of concern to all children.

Options

- Allocate responsibility for particular aspects of a child’s life to Members of the CPB. These would include where they live; family and friends; school and education; health and spare time activity (cf. looked after review consultation papers). Members would then be responsible for finding out:
 - ❖ How well those needs are addressed by the Council and its partner agencies.
 - ❖ What young people think of the services they receive.
 - ❖ What could be done to improve services.
 - ❖ Who should be responsible for implementing improvements.
- Have ‘themed’ meetings based on the Every Child Matters outcomes:
 - ❖ Enjoy and Achieve
 - ❖ Stay Safe
 - ❖ Be Healthy
 - ❖ Make a Positive Contribution
 - ❖ Achieve Economic Well-Being
- Identify issues that the young people would like the CPB to address and/or identify issues that the CPB would like to discuss with young people. Arrange structured meetings between young people and elected Members based on those issues. NB young people would need to be identified and supported to participate.
- Others???