



## **CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD**

**5<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2009**

### **PLEDGE - UPDATE**

**COUNCILLOR MIKE CARR- EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR CHILDREN,  
FAMILIES & LEARNING**

**GILL ROLLINGS – EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF  
CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND LEARNING**

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#### **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1. The purpose of this report is to inform the Corporate Parenting Board of the progress made in relation to the development of Middlesbrough's Pledge to Children Looked After.

#### **BACKGROUND & CONSULTATION**

2. As previously reported (11/9/2008, 4/12/2008 & 22/1/2009) work is underway in Middlesbrough to develop a Pledge to Children Looked After.

#### **PLEDGE DEVELOPMENT SESSIONS**

3. As previously agreed (22/1/2009), further sessions have taken place to enable children, young people and adults to discuss the outcomes of the Pledge Development event in October 2008. A session was held on 3<sup>rd</sup> February for children, young people to discuss these outcomes and to have an initial attempt at identifying their priorities for inclusion in the Pledge. This session was attended by nine children and young people.
4. On 11<sup>th</sup> February a session was held for Members of the Corporate Parenting Board to consider the questions put forward by children and young people at the Pledge Development event. This session was attended by five Members of the Corporate Parenting Board.

5. On 18<sup>th</sup> February a further joint session for adults and children and young people was held to enable further discussion to take place on identifying common ground and develop a draft Pledge. This session was attended by nine children and young people (although one young person opted out), five Members of the Corporate Parenting Board and three senior and service managers.
6. The outcomes of these sessions will be written up and a draft Pledge will be developed for circulation and further discussion.

#### **OPTION APPRAISAL/RISK ASSESSMENT**

7. Not applicable to this report.

#### **FINANCIAL, LEGAL AND WARD IMPLICATIONS**

8. The finance required to support this process is being met from the Care Matters grant funding. There are no immediate legal implications arising from this report. Corporate parenting is a town-wide responsibility so this report will be of interest to all elected Members.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

9. It is recommended that the Corporate Parenting Board advises the Executive to note the progress made in developing the Middlesbrough Pledge.

#### **REASONS**

10. It is important that the Executive is aware of the progress made in the development of the Pledge.

#### **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

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

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