

CORPORATE PARENTING REPORT – 11 September 2019

In May this year, the Corporate Parenting Pledge was published and disseminated to all County Councillors for subscription and ongoing action. As part of The Pledge the Council committed to support Members in fulfilling their role by:

- Ensuring they are equipped with the knowledge and information about the corporate parenting work of the Council.
- Providing them with training opportunities to assist in the development of their role.
- Hosting events, facilitated by Ambassadors with care experience and the Children in Care Council (CiCC), to provide contextual information and share the work of the CiCC.
- Publishing a schedule of events concerning children in care and care leavers in order that Members can become involved and celebrate their achievements.

This briefing provides a summary of events which have taken place recently involving some County Councillors, and lists future events, some of which will target invitations to specific County Councillors and others which will be open to Full Council. It therefore prioritises the commitment made by the County to assist Members in the development of their role as Corporate Parents by publishing information accordingly.

Additional mechanisms will be established which will ensure all future events scheduled, which relate to children in care and care leavers, are published via Democratic Services in order that Members can plan attendance where possible and appropriate.

Recent Events Held:

- 15th May:** Engagement event at Trevone House (attended by Cllr Boyles and Cllr Hilton and Ambassadors)
- 17th July:** Care Leaver's Master Class - co-facilitated by Ambassadors (attended by representatives of The Corporate Parenting Group)
- 2nd August:** Trevone House Provider Event (attended by Cllr Hilton)

Upcoming events:

- 16th September:** Scrutiny Youth Strategy Seminar for all Members on Scrutiny Panel

- 3rd October:** Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES) ambassador awareness event. Councillors are welcome to attend if they would like to become ACES ambassadors. Please nominate via the link: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/aces-ambassador-awareness-event-tickets-69887301801>
- 23rd October:** Full Council Session. Children in Care in Gloucestershire event facilitated by Ambassadors with care experience and supported by officers. Open to all County Councillors. Please notify janet.boyland@gloucestershire.gov.uk if you able to attend
- W/C 28th October:** Children in Care Council Meet Corporate Parenting Group (open to members of The Corporate Parenting Group). Date to be confirmed
- W/C 28th October:** National Care Leaver's Week. Gloucestershire will be hosting celebration events for our care leavers, dates of which will be circulated via Democratic Services. These will be open to all County Councillors. The contact officer is mark.bone@gloucestershire.gov.uk

In addition to the above forthcoming events, regular Fostering Support Groups are held across Gloucestershire in order that foster carers can attend local groups in their area. These are detailed at Appendix 1 and are open to all County Councillors who would like to find out more about the role of foster carers and their day-to-day work with children in care in Gloucestershire. For any Members who wish to attend a local group within their constituency, or a listed specialist group, the contact officers who can provide further details are tammy.wheatley@gloucestershire.gov.uk or lisa.long@gloucestershire.gov.uk .

Ambassadors with Care Experience and Achievements of care leavers:

Finally, I'd like to convey my best wishes to Aiden and Callie who are off to university this month. Aiden was successful in gaining a place at Manchester Metropolitan University to study Social Work and Callie is off to study Paramedic Science at The University of Worcester. Both Aiden and Callie were active members of the ambassador group and I'm sure everyone will join me in offering our congratulations to their success in gaining university places, along with the other 5 care leaver's who are off to university this year. The Participation Team welcomes three new ambassador recruits, all of whom have care experience, who we hope you'll meet at the Full Council Children in Care session scheduled to take place on the 23rd October.

Cllr Richard Boyles

Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member – Children's Safeguarding & Early Years

Appendix 1

Foster Carer Support Groups

Area	When
Cheltenham	2 nd Tuesday of the month 10am – 12pm
Forest of Dean (daytime)	1 st Tuesday of the month 10am – 12pm
Forest of Dean (evening)	1 st Wed of the month 7.30pm – 9.30pm
Stonehouse, Stroud and Dursley	3 rd Thurs of the month 10am – 12pm
Tewkesbury	Last Monday of the month 7pm – 9pm
Newent	Third Friday of the month 10am – 12pm
Gloucester (daytime)	First Friday of the month – no meeting in August 10am – 12pm
Gloucester (evening)	Monthly on Thursdays 7pm – 9pm
*NEW for 2019 Working carers' support group Barnwood, Gloucester	Saturday mornings; 10am – 12pm Second Saturday of the month 2019: 12 Jan; 9 Feb; 9 March; 13 April; 11 th May; 15 June; 27 July; 14 Sept; 12 Oct; 16 Nov; 14 Dec

Specialist Support Groups

Subject and Area	When
Parent and Child Various venues	2 nd Tuesday of the month 2019: 8th Jan, 12th Feb, 12th March, 2nd April, 14th May, 11th June, 9th July bi-monthly 1pm - 2.30pm
Band 3 carers Gloucester	2 nd Tuesday of the month 10am to 12pm
IRIS Gloucester	1 st Weds of the month
Emergency Duty Team (EDT) Gloucester	Bi-monthly on Fridays 2019/20: 17 May 2019; 12 July 2019; 13 Sept 2019; 8 Nov 2019; 17 January 2020; 13 March

	2020 10am - 12.30pm
Male Carers Gloucester	2019: 16 January, 27 February, 28 March, 17 April, 23 May, 19 June, 18 July, 18 September, 24 October, 27 November 7pm - 9.30pm
UASC Carers	2019: 30 April (9:30am – 12:30pm) 28 May (6:30pm – 9:30pm) 25 June (9:30am – 12:30pm) 30 July (6:30pm – 9:30pm) 27 August 9:30am – 12:30pm
Friends and Family carers Gloucester	2019: 25 Jan, 22 Feb, 22 March, 26 April, 24 May, 28 June, 27 Sept, 25 Oct, 22 Nov 9.30 - 11.30am
Friends and Family carers Cinderford	2019: 14 Jan, 11 Feb, 11 March, 15 April, 13 May, 10 June, 16 July, 16 Sept, 14 Oct, 11 Nov 10am - 12pm
Friends and Family carers Gloucester	2019: 8 Jan, 12 Feb, 12 March, 9 April, 14 May, 11 June, 9 July, 10 Sept, 8 Oct, 12 Nov 9.30 - 11.30am
Friends and Family carers Cheltenham	2019: 14 Jan, 11 Feb, 11 March, 15 April, 13 May, 10 June, 16 July, 16 Sept, 14 Oct, 11 Nov 9.30-11.30am