

CORPORATE PARENTING REPORT

One-Page Profiles

The term 'Corporate Parenting' is used to describe the responsibility of the local authority in fulfilling its role of caring for children in care and care leavers. It is the responsibility of the Corporate Parenting Group, amongst other things, to maximise opportunities for children and young people through improved educational outcomes, training and career opportunities. As such, The Corporate Parenting Group has identified key areas to focus upon in order to improve outcomes for these vulnerable groups. This includes improving engagement and identifying greater opportunities from which to support young people into work and independent living and to support them to lead fulfilling lives as adults.

Highlighted within the Annual Report of The Corporate Parenting Group 2019/20, presented to the Full Council Meeting earlier this year, were examples of commitments from The Corporate Parenting Group to strengthen VOICE Gloucestershire (our Children in Care Council) and this included the completion of One-Page Profiles and encouraging all Elected Members to do the same during 2020/21.

Over the summer Ambassadors have been developing the template for the profiles and have shared their views about the style and content with members of The Corporate Parenting Group. Various templates have been trialled alongside discussions about their purpose and how they may support young people, alongside simplicity in completing them. The feedback received has clearly indicated how important it is for young people to seek support from those who have work experiences they can share, contacts and influence within communities in Gloucestershire and ultimately act as a port of call and/or conduit to provide opportunities to our young people.

As can be seen from the attached example, it has been developed into a professional poster which now has a focus on how children and young people can be supported in terms of work/career opportunities and that is what will make it much more meaningful.

The County Councillors who are members of The Corporate Parenting Group are completing their profiles and the aim of this briefing is to request that all Elected Members now do the same, using the template that will be provided via Democratic Services. The plan is to upload the profiles onto The Democratic Services part of Staffnet.

Alongside completion of the profiles, colleagues in Children's Services are establishing a procedure around how children in care and care leavers will be alerted

to these and how they will need to be supported by their social worker or other professional to access them, should they wish to contact a County Councillor for support.

Cllr Richard Boyles

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

November 2020



**Richard
Boyles**

**Deputy Leader
of the Council
and cabinet
member for
safeguarding
and early years**

What can I offer to support young people as they look for advice and opportunities?

I have had a career in Gloucestershire constabulary and have a broad experience of policing services in Gloucestershire and Nationally. I am happy to speak to any young person about a career in Law enforcement and can put young people in contact with police officers to further their knowledge and understanding of what policing is like as a career. The real 24/7 policing is not what is portrayed on TV.

Through being a County and local councillor I have met local business people and would be able to work with Gloucestershire County Council Social Workers and young people to link Children in Care to opportunities in the local area that would enable them to understand local business and work opportunities in the county.