

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF CABINETCOMMITTEE- CORPORATE PARENTING
HELD IN COMMITTEE ROOM 1 CIVIC OFFICES, ANGEL STREET, BRIDGEND, ON
THURSDAY, 27 NOVEMBER 2008 AT 12:30PM

Present: -

Councillors

M E J Nott	- Leader
D Sage	- Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member Cross Cutting Issues
H J David	- Cabinet Member - Resources
A E Davies	- Cabinet Member - Children and Young People
L C Morgan	- Cabinet Member - Wellbeing
J C Spanswick	Cabinet Member – Communities

Officers

L Harper	- Head of Safeguarding & Family Support
J McKirdle	- Group Manager Housing
R Landy	- Head of Learning
G P Jones	- Principal Cabinet and Committee Officer

1 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRPERSON

Councillor A E Davies was nominated and seconded to become Chairperson therefore it was:-

RESOLVED: That Councillor AE Davies be appointed as Chairperson of the Cabinet Committee – Corporate Parenting.

2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from A Harris - Corporate Director – Wellbeing, L Fradd, Corporate Director-Communities and M Shephard – Head of Healthy Living.

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

4 ESTABLISHMENT OF THE WORKING ARRANGEMENTS OF THE CORPORATE PARENTING CABINET COMMITTEE

The Head of Safeguarding & Family Support presented a report which requested the establishment of the working arrangements of the Cabinet Committee – Corporate Parenting and in particular:

- The Terms of Reference.
- Invitees.
- Forward Work Programme.
- Review.

Terms of Reference

The Chairperson reminded the meeting that this was not a scrutiny committee and that the role was to raise awareness of, and monitor and evaluate the issues relating to Corporate Parenting. It was noted that the Terms of Reference had been agreed by Cabinet and that the Committee would monitor and review their remit over the next few months. If it was found necessary to amend the Terms of Reference then a report would be presented to Cabinet recommending appropriate changes.

Dates of Meetings

It was proposed that the Cabinet Committee – Corporate Parenting be held bi-monthly and that meetings should be held on dates which were midway between the scheduled meetings of the Children & Young People’s Overview and Scrutiny Committee. It was suggested that meetings be held at 4.00pm or at the conclusion of suitable Cabinet meetings whichever was the later. Holding the meeting at that time would enable the Youth Council & the Looked After Children representatives to attend the meetings. Subsequent meeting dates would be linked with the annual calendar of meetings and presented to Cabinet for approval.

Invitees

The Committee discussed which Officers and representatives should become permanent invitees to attend the Committee. It was requested that the Scrutiny Manager co-ordinate the nomination of a Corporate Parenting “Champion” from each of the Scrutiny Committees. These 5 Corporate Parenting Champions would become permanent invitees to the Committee. It was agreed that if nominations could not be provided in time for the next meeting then the Scrutiny Chairpersons would be invited for the next meeting to represent their Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

The Head of Safeguarding & Family Support was requested to contact the Youth Council in order to invite a representative to become a permanent invitee of the Committee. She was also requested to investigate the possibility of having a looked after young person to attend meetings to provide a client perspective for the Committee. The Head of Safeguarding & Family Support advised that that Care Leavers would be more suitable to attend meetings rather than young people that were still receiving care services. She added that if there were 2 representatives, then they would be able to provide moral support to each other during meetings and this was agreed by the Committee.

It was agreed that the Head of Safeguarding & Family Support, Head of Healthy Living and the Head of Regeneration & Development and the Assistant Chief Executive – Corporate Development & Partnerships become permanent invitees with additional invitees being agreed for specific items.

Forward Work Programme

The outline of the forward work programme was discussed and it was agreed that the next meeting would consider the production of a Corporate Parenting Statement to continue the work undertaken by members of the Social Services & Housing Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The Committee also requested that the Head of Human Resources be invited to discuss the opportunities for work experience and trainee employment within BCBC. It was suggested that these

topics would be initial discussions and that no detailed outcome was expected. A detailed forward work programme would also be considered at the next meeting.

The Head of Safeguarding & Family Support agreed to arrange for introductory information to be presented at the next meeting which would assist in the development of the Corporate Parenting role and responsibilities within BCBC. This would include copies of other Authorities Corporate Parenting documents as well as the Corporate Parenting Policy drafted by the Social Services & Housing Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

The Deputy Leader requested that the hard work of the Cabinet Member for Children & Young People and other officers, in establishing this committee, be noted. He added that this was a vital first step in highlighting the responsibilities of all Members and Officers regarding their Corporate Parenting role.

- RESOLVED:**
- (1) That the following dates be approved for meetings of the Cabinet Committee – Corporate Parenting Committee:
 - a. 13 January 2009
 - b. 03 March 2009
 - c. 26 May 2009
 - (2) That the Scrutiny Manager co-ordinate the appropriate representation from the Overview & Scrutiny Committees;
 - (3) That the Head of Safeguarding & Family Support would:
 - (a) arrange for two Looked After Children or care leavers to assist the Committee;
 - (b) seek a representative from the Youth Council to assist the Committee;
 - (4) That a detailed Forward Work Programme be presented to the next meeting of the Committee for consideration.
 - (5) That a review of the Committee be undertaken in 6 months time.

The meeting closed at 1.15pm