

PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL

9 March 2022

CORPORATE PARENTING UPDATE AND PLAN

**Report by Executive Director (Education and Children's Services)
(Report No. 22/48)**

PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report gives an update of the progress made in relation to the Corporate Parenting Plan 2017-2020 and set outs the Perth and Kinross Corporate Parenting Plan 2021-2024.

1. BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES

- 1.1 The Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 introduced the statutory duties and responsibilities for the Council in their role as corporate parents. The Act defines corporate parenting as "the formal and local partnerships between all services responsible for working together to meet the needs of looked after children, young people and care leavers".
- 1.2 Part of those responsibilities is that each corporate parenting body produce a plan which indicates their contribution to meeting the needs of their population of care experienced children and young people.
- 1.3 Progress on the Corporate Parenting Plan 2017–2020 is detailed within the plan for 2021-2024 but some of the highlights are:
 - Increased support to, and recruitment of, carers and supported lodgings providers.
 - Introduced intensive support to young people on the edge of care by the development of REACH, aimed at supporting young people to remain at home.
 - Development of lifelong links which allows for children and young people to reconnect with those who were important to them but with whom they have lost contact.
 - Developed the PRAISE team which provides intensive support to children in primary school who are struggling with mainstream education.
 - Increased the availability of independent advocacy to ensure children and young people's voice is being heard.
- 1.4 The Independent Care Review was established in 2017 with the purpose of having an in-depth look at the care system and identify improvements. The Independent Care Review listened to over 5,500 voices of care experienced children and young people and those who worked in the care system.
- 1.5 The Independent Care Review concluded in 2020 and a series of recommendations was published in the format of The Promise.

The Scottish Government's intention is that Scotland becomes a place where children and young people grow up loved and respected so that they realise their full potential.

- 1.6 The Perth and Kinross Corporate Parenting Plan 2021-2024 reflects this ambition and the priorities within The Promise and indicates the actions which will be taken locally to meet these priorities.

2. PROPOSALS

- 2.1 The Perth and Kinross Corporate Parenting Plan 2021-2024 – “Our Promise to You” is available as Appendix 1.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 It is recommended that Council:
- (i) Notes the progress made in the delivery of corporate parenting actions;
 - (ii) Agree the Perth and Kinross Corporate Parenting Plan for 2021-2024; and
 - (iii) Agree that training on the role of a corporate parent be part of the elected members induction.

Author

Name	Designation	Contact Details
Linda Richards	Service Manager (Services for Children, Young People and Families)	ECSCCommittee@pkc.gov.uk 01738 475000

Approved

Name	Designation	Date
Sheena Devlin	Executive Director (Education and Children's Services)	23 February 2022

If you or someone you know would like a copy of this document in another language or format, (on occasion, only a summary of the document will be provided in translation), this can be arranged by contacting the Customer Service Centre on 01738 475000.

You can also send us a text message on 07824 498145.

All Council Services can offer a telephone translation facility.

1. IMPLICATIONS, ASSESSMENTS, CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

Strategic Implications	Yes/None
Community Plan / Single Outcome Agreement	No
Corporate Plan	Yes
Resource Implications	
Financial	No
Workforce	No
Asset Management (land, property, IST)	No
Assessments	
Equality Impact Assessment	No
Strategic Environmental Assessment	No
Sustainability (community, economic, environmental)	No
Legal and Governance	No
Risk	No
Consultation	
Internal	Yes
External	Yes
Communication	
Communications Plan	No

1. Strategic ImplicationsCommunity Plan/Single Outcome Agreement

- 1.1 This section sets out how the proposals relate to the delivery of the Perth and Kinross Community Plan/Single Outcome Agreement in terms of the following priorities:

- (i) Giving every child the best start in life;
- (ii) Developing educated, responsible and informed citizens;
- (iii) Promoting a prosperous, inclusive and sustainable economy;
- (iv) Supporting people to lead independent, healthy and active lives; and
- (v) Creating a safe and sustainable place for future generations.

This report relates to Objective No. (i) and (ii).

Corporate Plan

- 1.2 This section sets out how the proposals relate to the achievement of the Council's Corporate Plan Objectives:

- (i) Giving every child the best start in life;
- (ii) Developing educated, responsible and informed citizens;
- (iii) Promoting a prosperous, inclusive and sustainable economy;
- (iv) Supporting people to lead independent, healthy and active lives; and
- (v) Creating a safe and sustainable place for future generations.

This report relates to Objective No. (i) and (ii).

- 1.3 The report also links to the Education & Children's Services Vision, Values and Priorities in respect of the following key Priority area:

- Care and Equity

2. Resource Implications

Financial

- 2.1 There are no financial implications.

Workforce

- 2.2 There are no workforce implications.

Asset Management (land, property, IT)

- 2.3 N/A.

3. Assessments

Equality Impact Assessment

- 3.1 Under the Equality Act 2010, the Council is required to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations between equality groups. Carrying out Equality Impact Assessments for plans and policies allows the Council to demonstrate that it is meeting these duties.

The proposals have been considered under the Corporate Equalities Impact Assessment process (EqIA) with the following outcome:

- (i) Assessed as **relevant** and the following positive outcomes expected following implementation:

The Corporate Parenting Plan is seen as having a positive impact and ensuring that there is a focus on care experienced children and young people by health and education as well as promoting inclusion within their communities.

Strategic Environmental Assessment

- 3.2 The Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 places a duty on the Council to identify and assess the environmental consequences of its proposals.

The proposals have been considered under the Act, however, no action is required as the Act does not apply to the matters presented in this report. This is because the Committee are requested to note the contents of the report only and the Committee are not being requested to approve, adopt or agree to an action or to set the framework for future decisions.

Sustainability

3.3 N/A.

Legal and Governance

3.4 N/A.

3.5 Risk

There is a statutory duty to provide a Corporate Parenting Report and so not doing so would not meet our statutory obligations.

3.6 N/A.

4. Consultation

Internal

4.1 This Plan has been developed by services within the council who are part of the Corporate Parenting Strategy Group and the FYI (Fun Young Individuals) who are a group of care experienced young people.

External

4.2 Partners involved in the delivery of Corporate Parenting in Perth and Kinross have been consulted. Each and Every Child, an organisation who are promoting the voice of care experienced children and young people, were also consulted.

5. Communication

5.1 N/A.

2. BACKGROUND PAPERS

2.1 Independent Care Review - [The Independent Care Review - The Promise](#)

3. APPENDICES

3.1 Appendix 1 - Perth and Kinross Corporate Parenting Plan 2021-2024; Our Promise to You