

Record of Decisions

Children Looked After and Corporate Parenting Strategy

Decision Taker

Elected Mayor on 01 October 2018

Decision

That the draft Looked After Children and Corporate Parenting strategy attached at Appendix 1 be approved and that Director of Children's Services be given delegated authority to make any final changes in consultation with key stakeholders, the Elected Mayor and the Executive Lead for Children's Services.

Reason for the Decision

The Children Looked After and Corporate Parenting Strategy has been developed alongside a number of other strategies and plans to ensure that we deliver the objectives within the Torbay Children and Young People's Plan for all those that are in care.

Implementation

This decision will come into force and may be implemented on 15 October 2018 unless the call-in procedure is triggered (as set out in Standing Orders in relation to Overview and Scrutiny).

Information

Torbay council believes that one of the most important responsibilities it has is to ensure the effective care and protection of those children that are looked after by the local authority.

The strategy builds on Torbay's commitment to multi-agency working knowing that the best outcomes for children looked after and carer leavers will be achieved through effective partnership working across the system. The Council, officers, foster carers, independent providers, our NHS and Education partners, the Police and voluntary sector organisations all contribute to improving the lives of our children and young people in care.

In relation to Corporate parenting the Ofsted inspection in July 2018 recognised some improvements in the services provided for Children in care and Care Leavers and particularly for those children where the permanency plan was for Adoption. The improvement in the Council's delivery of its Corporate parenting duty was also recognised but there continue to be areas that were not considered adequate in meeting the needs of the children and young people in care. The Corporate parenting strategy has included in the action plan the areas for improvement which have been identified by Ofsted relating to Children and Young people in care and Care leavers.

Alternative Options considered and rejected at the time of the decision

None

Is this a Key Decision?

No

Does the call-in procedure apply?

Yes

Declarations of interest (including details of any relevant dispensations issued by the Standards Committee)

None

Published

5 October 2018

Signed: _____
Deputy Mayor, Councillor Mills

Date: _____