

# Corporate Parenting Panel Agenda

**Date:** Tuesday 2 February 2021

**Time:** 6.00 pm

**Venue:** Virtual Meeting - Online

## Membership (Quorum 3)

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**Chair:** Councillor Angella Murphy-Strachan

**Labour Councillors:** Sue Anderson  
Christine Robson  
Chloe Smith

**Conservative Councillors:** Janet Mote (VC)  
Lynda Seymour

**Non-Voting Advisory Member:** Valerie Griffin

## Reserve Members:

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**Labour Reserve Members:**

1. Simon Brown
2. Dean Gilligan
3. Rekha Shah
4. Maxine Henson

**Conservative Reserve Members:**

1. Dr Lesline Lewinson
2. Chetna Halai

## Officers:

**Contact:** Mwim Chellah, Senior Democratic and Electoral Services Officer  
Tel: 020 8420 9262 E-mail: [mwimanji.chellah@harrow.gov.uk](mailto:mwimanji.chellah@harrow.gov.uk)

Scan this code for the electronic agenda:



# **Useful Information**

## **Meeting details**

This meeting is open to the press and public and can be viewed on [www.harrow.gov.uk/virtualmeeting](http://www.harrow.gov.uk/virtualmeeting)

## **Filming / recording of meetings**

Please note that proceedings at this meeting may be recorded or filmed. If you choose to attend, you will be deemed to have consented to being recorded and/or filmed.

The recording will be made available on the Council website following the meeting.

**Agenda publication date: Monday 25 January 2021**

# Agenda - Part I

## 13. Attendance by Reserve Members

To note the attendance at this meeting of any duly appointed Reserve Members.

Reserve Members may attend meetings:-

- (i) to take the place of an ordinary Member for whom they are a reserve;
- (ii) where the ordinary Member will be absent for the whole of the meeting; and
- (iii) the meeting notes at the start of the meeting at the item 'Reserves' that the Reserve Member is or will be attending as a reserve;
- (iv) if a Reserve Member whose intention to attend has been noted arrives after the commencement of the meeting, then that Reserve Member can only act as a Member from the start of the next item of business on the agenda after his/her arrival.

## 2. Declarations of Interest

To receive declarations of disclosable pecuniary or non pecuniary interests, arising from business to be transacted at this meeting, from:

- (a) all Members of the Panel;
- (b) all other Members present.

## 3. Minutes (Pages 5 - 12)

That the minutes of the meeting held on 7 October 2020 be taken as read and signed as a correct record.

## 4. Public Questions \*

To receive any public questions received in accordance with paragraph 16 of the Executive Procedure Rules.

Questions will be asked in the order in which they were received. There will be a time limit of 15 minutes for the asking and answering of public questions.

**[The deadline for receipt of public questions is 3.00 pm, 29 January 2021. Questions should be sent to [publicquestions@harrow.gov.uk](mailto:publicquestions@harrow.gov.uk)**

**No person may submit more than one question].**

## 5. Petitions

To receive petitions (if any) submitted by members of the public/Councillors under the provisions of Executive Procedure Rule 47 (Part 4D of the Constitution).

## 6. Deputations

To receive deputations (if any) under the provisions of Executive Procedure Rule 48 (Part 4D of the Constitution).

## 14. Feedback from care experienced young people and Virtual School Update (Pages 13 - 14)

## 8. Update and performance for Corporate Parenting Service (To Follow)

## 9. Tackling Disproportionality and the Youth Justice Team (To Follow)

10. **Independent Reviewing Officer (IRO) Annual Update** (To Follow)
11. **Coram Ambitious for Adoption Regional Adoption Agency - Annual Update** (To Follow)
12. **Update and Performance on Health for Children Looked After** (Pages 15 - 20)
15. **Any Other Urgent Business**  
Which cannot otherwise be dealt with.

## **Agenda - Part II - NIL**

### **\* Data Protection Act Notice**

The Council will audio record item 4 (Public Questions) and will place the audio recording on the Council's website, which will be accessible to all.

[**Note:** The questions and answers will not be reproduced in the minutes.]



# Corporate Parenting Panel

## Minutes

### 7 October 2020

<b>Chair:</b>	* Councillor Angella Murphy-Strachan	
<b>Councillors:</b>	* Sue Anderson	* Lynda Seymour
	* Janet Mote	* Chloe Smith
	* Christine Robson	
<b>In attendance: (Officers)</b>	Paul Hewitt	Corporate Director People
	Peter Tolley	Divisional Director Children and Young People Service
	Jacinta Kane	Head of Corporate Parenting
	Mellina Williamson-Taylor	Head Teacher – Harrow Virtual School
	Sarah Moriarty	Assistant Head Teacher – Harrow Virtual School
	Kat Robinson	Post 16 Advisory Teacher – Harrow Virtual School
	Sara Dawson	Clinical Psychologist – Harrow Virtual School
	Deborah Price – Williams	Consultant CLA, CNWL
	Christine Nichols	Named Nurse CLA, CNWL
	Alison Braithwaite	Head of Children’s Services (Outer London)

David Harrington

Head of Business  
Intelligence

\* Denotes Member present

**81. Attendance by Reserve Members**

**RESOLVED:** To note that there were no Reserve Members in attendance.

**82. Appointment of Vice-Chair**

**RESOLVED:** To appoint Councillor Janet Mote as Vice-Chair of the Corporate Parenting Panel for the 2020/2021 Municipal Year.

**83. Declarations of Interest**

**RESOLVED:** To note that the Declarations of Interests published in advance of the meeting on the Council's website were taken as read.

**84. Minutes**

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the meeting held on 14 January 2020 be taken as read and signed as a correct record.

**85. Public Questions**

**RESOLVED:** To note that no public questions were received.

**86. Petitions**

**RESOLVED:** To note that no petitions were received.

**87. Deputations**

**RESOLVED:** To note that deputations were received.

**Resolved Items**

During consideration of the item on the Harrow Virtual School (minute item 90), the Chair lost connection due to technical issues. The Vice-Chair assumed the role of chair, until the Chair re-joined the meeting.

**88. Corporate Parenting Update Report**

The Panel received the Corporate Parenting Update Report, which provided an overview of the key developments within the Corporate Parenting Service during March to September 2020. In particular the report addressed: the

response to Covid-19; Black Lives Matter; and EU Settled Status and Nationality issues.

The report highlighted the following future challenges:

- meeting the Council's statutory responsibilities while minimising risk of the Covid-19 epidemic;
- having a much-reduced office space and increased use of virtual working while ensuring workers were supported, and were part of a team with the opportunity to learn and support each other;
- potential for further increases of children becoming looked after by Harrow, including a return to usual numbers of unaccompanied asylum seeking children (UASC);
- additional costs and capacity pressures for the Local Authority if there was a significant increase in the number of children requiring care; and
- understanding and addressing inequality and disproportionality in relation to outcomes and opportunities for young people.

The Panel was joined by four young people and their Support Worker from Gayton House. They shared their experiences as beneficiaries of the Council's Corporate Parenting Services.

The Panel welcomed the young people's views, particularly noting their concerns during the Covid-19 lockdown between March and August 2020. One young person felt lockdown had a positive impact on his life, as he was able to rest and exercise more than before. Other young people felt anxious and isolated during the lockdown period, but were pleased to be able to attend college in person once more.

The young people were able to continue with their education online during lockdown as a result of laptops that were given to them by the Harrow Virtual School.

The Panel encouraged the young people to stay safe during the Covid-19 period, and to observe Government guidelines.

The Panel inquired whether there were any young people who had to self isolate.

It was advised that none of the students in attendance had to self-isolate. However, a couple of unaccompanied asylum seeking children (UASC), who had become looked-after by Harrow were placed in self-isolation on arrival. The Panel commended the Support Worker for helping the young people with their college enrolments and setting up their new laptops.

The Panel thanked officers for the report.

**RESOLVED:** That the report be noted.

## **89. Harrow Ofsted Inspection Outcome and Report**

The Panel received the Harrow Ofsted Inspection Outcome Report, which provided results in Harrow Children's Services. The inspection took place from 10 to 14 February 2020. Ofsted judged Harrow as "Good" across all the inspection domains.

The following were highlighted in the report:

- the impact of leaders on social work practice with children and families;
- the experiences and progress of children who needed help and protection;
- the experiences and progress of children in care and care leavers; and
- overall effectiveness.

The Panel was informed that the inspection outcome was an improvement from the 2017 Ofsted inspection. Ofsted found that: "when children come into care, they receive a very good service."

There were four identified areas for improvement which were set out by Ofsted. These would be addressed by an improvement plan across Children's Services. The four areas that needed to improve were:

- 1) the quality and impact of supervision so that children's needs and protection plans addressed the specific needs of individual children;
- 2) care leavers needed to have access to their health histories (emotional and physical) and pathway plans, which should be of consistently good quality;
- 3) quality assurance practice evaluation audits across all teams; and
- 4) meeting the needs of pupils with complex needs who were not in mainstream school and remained on reduced timetables for a long time.

The Panel challenged officers regarding 4) above.

Officers confirmed that new terms of reference had been developed for a panel to consider and monitor the needs of children on reduced school timescales and there were individual action plans in place for each child. In



addition the Virtual School and the SEN team had met to ensure there was a robust strategy in place for this cohort of children.

The Panel was informed about ways of addressing the four areas needed for improvement. Due to the impact of Covid-19 on all aspects of Council business, some actions were delayed. Pathway plans were reviewed on a monthly basis via performance meetings. In addition, work was currently in progress to combine the Children Looked After (CLA) Team and the Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children / Leaving Care Team (UASC/LCT) into a single service. The vision for the service was to: build and strengthen capacity within Corporate Parenting; minimise changes of workers for children and young people; develop consistent decision-making; and improve pathway planning for young people leaving care.

The work on developing “health passports” or health histories for care leavers was underway and a task and finish group involving Health and Children’s Services Team Managers would be developed into a model to be shared with Care Leavers in the Autumn/Winter. Further progress would be shared with the Corporate Parenting Panel in 2021.

The Panel observed that the Ofsted report reflected positive, and good outcomes for children across the whole of the child's journey. Maintaining standards would be challenging throughout the next year due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Panel thanked officers for the report.

**RESOLVED:** That the report be noted.

#### **90. Harrow Virtual School Reports - Headteacher End of Year and Clinical Psychology Service Summary**

The Panel received the Harrow Virtual School Reports, comprising the Headteacher’s End of Year Report (2019-2020), and the Clinical Psychologist’s Report.

The Headteacher’s report set an overview of the performance and standards of Children Looked After (CLA) at the end of Key Stages 1, 2 and 4, as well as the development priorities for the Virtual School for 2020-2021.

The Headteacher showed a video that had been created by students of the Harrow Virtual School. A link to the video was shared with the Panel: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ITqOGyL2jpk> .

The Panel were impressed with the video and with the creativity of the students.

The Virtual School had appointed a Clinical Psychologist, who worked two days in a week. The role had proved rewarding to young people, who appreciated the services of the Clinical Psychologist.

The Clinical Psychology Service commenced in November 2018, aiming to provide further targeted mental health support for children looked after. Between November 2018 and February 2019, 50 young people were formally brought to the attention of the Clinical Psychology Service, and received either direct or indirect clinical psychology support.

Foster carers were also able to attend online training opportunities and communicate through “foster carer zoom groups”, which were found to be very beneficial.

The Panel commended the great partnership between the Harrow Virtual School and social care.

The Panel thanked officers for the reports.

**RESOLVED:** That the reports be noted.

#### **91. Activity and Performance Q1 2020-21**

The Panel received the Activity and Performance Report for First Quarter (Q1) 2020-2021. The report set out activity for children looked after and care leavers as well as provisional performance position at Q1 2020-21.

The Panel inquired about areas not performing well, and children going missing from care.

It was advised that dental and mental health check ups were challenging due to restrictions arising from the Covid-19 guidelines in the country. However, efforts were being made to prioritise CLA for those check ups.

Furthermore, only a handful of children went missing, usually for short periods of time. The Police helped to track and trace missing children, some of whom were used by gangs for criminal exploitation.

The Panel thanked officers for the report.

**RESOLVED:** That the report be noted.

#### **92. Harrow Children Looked After Placement Sufficiency Strategy 2019-2024**

The Panel received the 2019-2024 Sufficiency Strategy outlined the Council’s plan to meet the future needs of children on the edge of care, children who are looked after and young people who have recently left care.

For children looked after, the sufficiency strategy covers internal services such as foster care, and external services such as residential placements, independent fostering placements, adoption and other support services.

The Strategy was underpinned by legislation and statutory guidance.

The Panel asked officers about the resource levels needed to meet rising demand and complexity of need.

Officers acknowledged that this was very challenging. There were panels which oversaw placement costs. They also monitored and supervised budget forecasting and spend.

The Panel thanked officers for the Strategy.

**RESOLVED:** That the Strategy be noted.

**93. Harrow CLA Corporate Parenting Health Report September 2020**

The Panel received the Harrow Children Looked After (CLA) Health Report, which set out the delivery of health services to Harrow's Children Looked After (CLA) during April to August 2020 in line with the national guidance.

The report reviewed the service and included clinical work undertaken during the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Panel thanked officers for the report.

The Panel thanked Dr Price-Williams, as this would be her last Corporate Parenting Panel.

**RESOLVED:** That the report be noted.

(Note: The meeting, having commenced at 6.00 pm, closed at 8.26 pm).

(Signed) Councillor Angella Murphy-Strachan  
Chair

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# Virtual School Updates for CPP



- CLA Policy for Schools
- COVID-19- Our response to the disruption to schools
- Attendance
- Attainment and exam predictions
- SEN

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**REPORT FOR: Corporate Parenting Panel**

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**Date of Meeting:** 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2021

**Subject:** Information Report – Harrow Children Looked After (CLA) Health Report

**Key Decision:** No

**Responsible Officer:** Claire Eves, Associate Director of Outer London Services

**Portfolio Holder:** Councillor Christine Robson, Portfolio Holder for Children, Young People and Schools

**Exempt:** No

**Decision subject to Call-in:** No

**Wards affected:** None - This is an Information report

**Enclosures:** None

## **Section 1 – Summary and Recommendations**

**RECOMMENDATION:** Corporate Parenting is requested to note the report

**Reason for Recommendation:** This report sets out the delivery of health services to Harrow's Children Looked After (CLA) during April – August 2020 in line with the national guidance. The report reviews the service and includes clinical work undertaken during the Covid-19 pandemic.



## Section 2 – Report

### Report for Corporate Parenting Panel – Harrow Children Looked After (CLA) Health Service February 2021

#### Initial Health Assessment (IHA) and Review Health Assessment (RHA) Activity

Month	Target for IHA 100% CNWL*	Target for RHA 100% CNWL*	Number seen in timescales	
September	100%	100%	71% IHA	72 % RHA
October	100%	100%	100% IHA	100% RHA
November	100%	100%	75% IHA	94% RHA
December	100%	100%	100 % IHA	100 % RHA

\* excludes requests and consent not made available within 3 days for IHA's and within 3 months for RHA's, CLA who do not attend or refuse appointments given, CLA placed out of Harrow who depend upon another provider to offer an appointment.

#### Training

The Named Nurse attended the Child Trafficking, Modern Slavery and Exploitation training delivered by ECPAT.  
 The Named Nurse attended Sex Pressures and Social Media Training via Webinar.  
 The Specialist Nurse for CLA attended the Information Sharing Workshop.  
 The Harrow CLA health team delivered training to the Designated Teachers, Support Staff and Practitioners Group.

#### Meetings

The Harrow CLA health team continue to attend MASE.  
 The CLA health team have attended strategy meetings and a discharge CPA meeting for complex and vulnerable young people.  
 The Named Nurse initiated a meeting with Dr Schroeder from Expert Self Care and the Head of Harrow Children's Services to explore developing a digital Health passport.  
 The CLA health team attended individual Child Protection Supervision.  
 The CLA health team have met regularly with Harrow business support to carry out monitoring meetings.  
 The CLA health team have attended team meetings both in the CLA and CIN team to raise staff awareness of the CLA health team and address any challenges arising.  
 Quarterly meetings with Harrow CCG and Harrow Council continue.

### Team News

Dr Bina Chauhan has returned from maternity leave.

Laurie Ward has retired and returned to the CLA team part time. The CLA health team have successfully recruited to the post and Susan Pedzisai will be joining the team on the 28<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

### New Processes

Initial health assessments are being triaged in response to the Covid pandemic. Assessments are completed either face to face, virtual or telephone on a case by case basis. Review health assessment are being offered face to face appointments. However, if declined they are being completed either by telephone or virtual.

### Voice of the Child

1 YP is currently in a Mental Health Unit and 1 YP is currently in a specialist residential home for YP with ongoing complex mental health needs and associated behaviours.

### Case Study

**This case study shows the importance of the CLA health team in organising liaison between Multi agency professionals in ensuring continuity of health Care for a YP with a complex medical history who required an emergency Placement change in December 2020.**

12-year-old girl who is placed with a long-term Carer in Suffolk.

Complex medical history which includes:

Juvenile Arthritis: requiring weekly injections

Post-traumatic stress

Self-harm

Email received from Social Worker informing us that notice had been given by Carer due to YP behaviour and Carers ill health.

An emergency placement has been found in Harrow.

Action by CLA nurse

1. Contact made with the Harrow Paediatric Community Nurses by phone to inform them of the imminent move. (YP previously treated 2 years previously)
2. Contact was made with the Suffolk Paediatric Nurses by phone to give them our contact details and that of the Harrow team.
3. Emails sent to give our details and Social worker to both teams.
4. Contact was made by phone to Carer to advise her to register YP with GP as soon as she is arrived in placement.
5. The CLA health team copied into emails from Paediatrician which ensured that all health professionals were ready to provide continuity of treatment.
6. The Carer took the young person to the Rheumatology Clinic appointment in Suffolk
7. The RHA had been requested for completion in Suffolk, this was cancelled and brought forward to allow YP to have this in Harrow.
8. Continued contact with Carer.
9. RHA was completed. The young person remembered the Specialist CLA nurse as she had previously completed this prior to her move to Suffolk.

Liaison will need to continue as YP will be changing Placement again as soon when one is found.

Christine Nichols Named Nurse for Children Looked After 05<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

### Section 3 - Statutory Officer Clearance

**Not applicable – for information only**

Name:	<input type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the* Chief Financial Officer
Date: __/__/__		
Name:	<input type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the* Monitoring Officer
Date:		

\* Delete the words “on behalf of the” if the report is cleared directly by the Chief Financial Officer / Monitoring Officer.

Name:	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Date:		

<b>MANDATORY</b>	
<b>Ward Councillors notified:</b>	NO, this is an information report only
<b>EqIA carried out:</b>	NO
<b>EqIA cleared by:</b>	N/A information report only

## Section 4 - Contact Details and Background Papers

### Contact:

Christine Nichols  
Named Nurse for Children Looked  
After in Harrow

Mob : 07597007194

Email –

[Christine.nichols3@nhs.net](mailto:Christine.nichols3@nhs.net)

Background Papers: N/A

Christine Nichols

Named Nurse for Children Looked After in Harrow

05<sup>th</sup> January 2021