

CORPORATE PARENTING PANEL

MINUTES

17 MARCH 2015

Chair: * Councillor Mitzi Green

Councillors: * Christine Bednell * Kairul Kareema Marikar
* Simon Brown * Janet Mote
* Jo Dooley (4)

* Denotes Member present
(4) Denote category of Reserve Members
† Denotes apologies received

RECOMMENDED ITEMS

38. Corporate Parenting Strategy

An officer presented the Corporate Parenting Strategy which had been updated to include the amendments suggested at the previous meeting. The officer added that the Action Plan was being reviewed and updated on a regular basis.

The Panel commented that a typographical error in paragraph 4.1 required correction. Members expressed the view that the partnership with Coram was positive due to the extensive support to children and the considerable training available to parents.

In response to questions from Members, the officers advised that foster care was provided on a short or long term basis, depending on the requirements of the child. Members were informed that an increase in potential adoptive parents had resulted from the Government promoting adoption. However

there had been fewer children placed for adoption, as the Courts had been placing more children within their extended family networks.

The Chair and the Portfolio Holder emphasised that it was important that all Members were aware of the importance of the Strategy and it was

Resolved to RECOMMEND (to Cabinet): That the Corporate Parenting Strategy be approved and be recommended to Council for noting.

Reasons for recommendation: To ensure that all Members were aware of their responsibilities as Corporate Parents and the Council's current strategy for caring for Looked After Children.

(Note: The meeting, having commenced at 7.30 pm, closed at 9.25 pm).

(Signed) COUNCILLOR MITZI GREEN
Chair