

CYNGOR SIR CEREDIGION COUNTY COUNCIL

Report to: Council

Date of meeting: 12 December 2024

Title: Corporate Parenting Charter

Purpose of the report: To provide feedback following the meeting of the Healthier Communities O&S Committee on the 6th of November 2024.

Background:

Corporate parenting describes the collective responsibility of all local authority officers, commissioners and Elected Members to safeguard and promote the rights and life chances of children and young people looked after.

However, supporting children looked after, sometimes referred to as care-experienced children and young people, through their childhoods and as they leave care should be the responsibility of all public sector bodies.

The Local Authority is always the lead corporate parent and is expected to wholeheartedly promote and champion the rights of these children and young people.

The Ceredigion Corporate Parenting Group agreed to formally adopt the Corporate Parenting Charter on the 15 October 2024.

The Charter has eleven key principles that set out the principles.

Following a discussion, Committee Members were asked to consider the following recommendation:

Recommendation(s):

I respectfully request that the Healthier Scrutiny Committee agree to support the progression of the Corporate Parenting Charter through the governance journey for full adoption by Ceredigion County Council.

Reasons for decision:

To ensure that all officers, commissioners, Elected Members and partners of the local authority understand their corporate parenting responsibilities. We want to deliver sensitive, high-quality services that promote fairness and equity for looked after children and care leavers. We want these children to have all the life opportunities we would have for our own children. This group of people need to grow up without stigma.

Committee Members agreed to recommend that Cabinet:

1. agree to support the progression of the Corporate Parenting Charter through the governance journey for full adoption by Ceredigion County Council.

Councillor Amanda Edwards
Vice-Chair of the Healthier Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee