

# Report of the Deputy Director (Children's Social Care) to the meeting of the Corporate Parenting Panel to be held on 26<sup>th</sup> April 2017

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**Subject: Exit Interviews**

## **Summary statement:**

To inform Members of the exit interviews collated by Through Care and After Care Service (previously Leaving Care Service).

Exit interviews are used to collate the views of looked after children who are due to leave care. The exit interview is carried out before the young person turns 21. It is used to obtain their views about their time in care and the experience they had, particularly within through care and after care service. These views are used to improve our services.

Previously they were a paper exercise, however, this year we have moved to an electronic version which is much easier to obtain information and monitor trends and views of young people. It also gives young people the ability to complete the survey online.

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**Portfolio:**

**Children's Services**

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**Overview & Scrutiny Area:**

**Children's Services**



## **1. SUMMARY**

- 1.1 To inform Members of the exit interviews collated by Through Care and After Care Service (previously Leaving Care Service).
- 1.2 Exit interviews are used to collate the views of looked after children who are due to leave care. The exit interview is carried out before the young person turns 21. It is used to obtain their views about their time in care and the experience they had, particularly within through care and after care service. These views are used to improve our services.
- 1.3 Previously, they were a paper exercise, however, this year we have moved to an electronic version which is much easier to obtain information and monitor trends and views of young people. It also gives young people the ability to complete the survey online.
- 1.4 Exit interviews are collated yearly, usually in January for all young people who turned 21 the previous year. This information is collated and all compliments are passed onto the correct department. The information is reviewed and we will look where we can improve the service. More recently, the form was considered at Children in Care Council, who asked for improvements to be made, which were.

## **2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 Exit interview information is provided to Members every year in February.
- 2.2 This year the information will be in a new format as the procedure has moved onto to be electronic.

## **3. REPORT ISSUES**

None.

## **4. OPTIONS**

- 4.1 To continue to collate this information on a yearly basis.
- 4.2 For the service to look at and consider other ways to gather the information based on the interviews now being electronic.
- 4.3 To consider whether mentors need to be appointed to carry out the interviews with the young people. The pros of this are that the views are obtained by an independent person. The cons is that the young person may not wish to engage, therefore their views may be missed, so consideration needs to be given to the young person who they feel is best to seek these views, whether that be, a mentor, the worker or themselves.

## **5. CONTRIBUTION TO STRATEGIC PRIORITIES**

- 5.1 Obtaining this information on a yearly basis, allows the service to review the views of young people and improve where needed.
- 5.2 It also gives the “council” a voice for looked after children, and that their views have been sought.

## **6. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 6.1 For information purposes only.

## **7. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

- 7.1 See Appendices which includes the document

## **8. NOT FOR PUBLICATION DOCUMENTS**

None.

## **9. APPENDICES**

- A - Exit Interview Analysis
- B - Exit Interview Questionnaire