

SLOUGH BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Panel

DATE: 17th July 2018

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WARD(S): All

PART I **FOR COMMENT & CONSIDERATION**

JOINT PARENTING PANEL QUARTERLY UPDATE

1. **Purpose of Report**

This report provides Members with an update on the work of the Joint Parenting Panel (JPP) since the last JPP meeting held on 19th April 2018.

2. **Recommendations**

That Members note and comment as appropriate on the report.

3a. **Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy Priorities applicable to this report**

Priority 1 – Protecting vulnerable children

3b. **Five Year Plan Outcomes applicable to this report**

Outcome 1 – Slough children will grow up to be happy, healthy and successful.

4. **Other Implications**

(a) **Financial**

There are no financial implications relating to this report.

(b) **Risk Management**

The role of the JPP is to scrutinise the work of partners in the discharge of their corporate parenting role. This work is already contained within the service planning and risk management framework of the relevant Council Directorates and other agencies and there are no direct risk management matters relating to this report.

(c) **Human Rights Act and Other Legal Implications**

There are no Human Rights Act Implications relating to this report.

(d) Equalities Impact Assessment

None required.

5. **Supporting Information**

Context for Corporate Parenting in Slough

5.1 The context for corporate parenting includes the Terms of Reference for the JPP, the joint Corporate Parenting Strategy (and related Action Plan); Joint Care Leavers Strategy 2017; and the Joint Pledge to our Children Looked After. The scope of these documents can be summarised as follows:

- The **Terms of Reference** state that the JPP is a private meeting of Slough Borough Council (SBC), and is the primary vehicle for councillors and Non – Executive Directors of Slough Children’s Services Trust (SCST) to demonstrate their commitment to deliver better outcomes for children and young people in care and care leavers. Corporate parenting and the JPP is about all officers and members / appointed officials across the council and partner agencies championing the cause of children looked after and care leavers in Slough *as if they are our own children*.
- Slough’s joint **Corporate Parenting Strategy 2016-18** outlines the values, principles with 6 key priorities (and a related Action Plan) to support children and young people who are looked after by Slough Borough Council / Slough Children’s Services Trust.
- The **Joint Care Leavers Strategy 2017** is about setting out what care leavers can expect whilst in our care and after, to ensure that they have the same life chances as their peers, whether living in Slough or outside the Borough. In relation to care leavers, the strategy therefore articulates Priorities (what Slough will do), How? (it will be done); and a detailed Delivery Plan so that there is an objective measure of progress.
- The joint **Pledge to our Children in Care** sets out 19 pledges to Slough’s children looked after.

2018/19 Cycle of JPP Meetings

5.2 The last JPP meeting held on 19 April 2018 related to the 2017/19 “cycle”. The 2018/19 JPP meeting dates are: 26 July, 4 October, 12 December 2018 and 18 April 2019.

JPP meetings are private and therefore agenda papers are not in the public domain.

JPP / Other Meeting	Thematic Discussion	Impact on Outcomes
19 April 2018	<p>Corporate Parenting Strategy Priority 1 – Our looked after children and young people will be supported by strong and effective corporate parenting</p>	<p>JPP received a presentation on Slough’s achievements related to corporate parenting (see Appendix 1), the main points of which are summarised below.</p> <p>Following the previous Ofsted Inspection of Slough’s Children’s Services (report published on 17 February 2016), there has been significant work by SBC / SCST and partners to strengthen our corporate parenting “offer”, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corporate Parenting Strategy revised in June 2016 with a clear vision and articulation of priorities (this strategy is due to be refreshed by September 2018) • Corporate Parenting Panel reimagined as the Joint Parenting Panel, with a focus on outcomes of children and ensuring that the voice of the child is paramount • JPP score card introduced – an agreed set of performance indicators are now produced to facilitate scrutiny of our corporate parenting role • Annual elected member training covering the role of corporate parenting,

JPP / Other Meeting	Thematic Discussion	Impact on Outcomes
		<p>including an opportunity to hear directly the experiences of our young people in care</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SCST commissioning and sufficiency strategy refreshed to help target priorities for the Children in Care cohort • SBC Housing Strategy 2016/21 to cater for the needs of care leavers • Council Tax exemption for care leavers up to the age of 25 years • Education, Employment and Training Strategy 2017/20 for our care leavers and children looked after – this includes providing internships / apprenticeships for some of our Children in Care • Life Skills (targeted support to help our care leavers transition into adulthood and independence) • Support from Slough schools for children looked after which complements the work of SCST's Virtual School • Transition support to adult social care for children in care where applicable
<p>Other: Ofsted conducted a Monitoring Visit (MV) of SCST on 1 May 2018. This sixth MV focussed on Children Looked After. Refer to paragraph 9, hyperlink to Ofsted report, published 25 May 2018).</p>		

6. **Comments of Other Committees**

6.1 None.

7. **Conclusion**

7.1 Members are invited to note and comment on this update of the JPP, covering the meeting held on 19 April 2018.

8. **Appendices**

1 – Presentation to JPP 19 April 2018: Themed Discussion, Corporate Parenting Strategy Priority 1 – Our looked after children and young people will be supported by strong and effective corporate parenting.

9. **Background Papers**

Note: meetings of the JPP are private and therefore agenda papers are not in the public domain.

Corporate Parenting Strategy 2016-18

<http://www.slough.gov.uk/downloads/Corporate-Parenting-Strategy-16-18.pdf>

Joint Care Leavers Strategy 2017

<http://www.slough.gov.uk/downloads/Joint-care-leavers-strategy.pdf>

Pledge to our Children in Care

<http://www.slough.gov.uk/downloads/Pledge-to-children-in-care.pdf>

Virtual School Annual Report 2016-17

<http://www.scstrust.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/SCST-Virtual-School-Annual-Report-2016-17.pdf>

6th Ofsted Monitoring Visit

<https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/local-authorities/slough> (look for 25 May 2018)