

**Corporate Parenting Panel update**

Key discussion points/issues from meeting of Corporate Parenting Panel – 25 June 2024.

- Annual Report of the Voice and Participation Team 2023/24  
*The Panel were reminded that the team is responsible for providing independent voice to our young people and families and alongside employed advocates and voice workers the Service supports volunteers, ambassadors and sessional workers. The Panel were shown an updated team structure, details of the service delivery and impact, what the service were proud of and the areas of focus moving forward.*
- Strategic Priority Highlight – “For my voice to be heard and for it to matter and influence decision making and drive change”  
*Cllr Sam Pearce-Kearney ‘interviewed’ the Voice Ambassadors present at the meeting and asked them about their achievements over the last 3 months, how did they feel that they are using the power of their voice and what were they enjoying about their ambassador roles?*
- Annual Update on the Connect (substance misuse) service  
*The Panel were given referral comparison data of those using the Connect service including their age, gender, referring agency and substance use of those referred, details of the work done over the last year and next steps planned. The Panel also heard a clip of an interview with a young person who had benefited from using the Connect service.*
- Update on the Staying Close Project  
*The Panel received highlights from year one of the project and the priorities for year two and specifically heard from a young person who was part of the project to detail what support he and received and heard a shared story from another young person that was read out at the meeting.*
- CAMHS update report  
*The Panel received details of the open caseload as at May 2024, the current service offer in Wiltshire, the ages of the young people CAMHS are working with, information about waiting times, current challenges and the actions underway, staff vacancy rates, and details of the Link Worker role.*
- Findings from Initial Health Assessments Audit carried out in April 2024  
*The Panel were given details of why the re-audit of the quality of IHA’s was repeated from 2023, what the results showed and the recommendations moving forward.*
- Update on progress from the Child Sexual Abuse Task and Finish Group  
*The Panel received details of the summary of the final report of the Task and Finish Group that was due to go to the Families and Children’s Systems Assurance group in July 2024 including the recommendations.*

- Review of the Panel's annual report to Council 2023/24  
*The Panel received an overview of the revised executive summary of the annual report and noted that a young person version of the report would also be prepared to be presented to Full Council in July 2024 and that some further revisions would be made to the report following suggestions from the scrutiny received from the Childrens Select Standing Task Group.*
- Corporate Parenting data and exceptions report for Quarter 4 (January to March 2024)  
*The Panel received details of the greens to celebrate and reds of concern in the most recent data collection.*
- Data Spotlight – Six monthly update on Missing Data for Children  
*The Panel received an overview of the Children Looked After missing episodes from October 2023 to March 2024, information about the return home interviews, push and pull factors and that a SWAP audit would be carried out in the near future to provide assurance that data sharing for Missing Children is efficient and effective.*
- Placement Sufficiency Update  
*The Panel received an update on the residential children's home project, the supported accommodation project, the Mockingbird support network for foster carers and the go live of the Regional Recruitment and Retention Hub in May 2024.*
- Update on progressing care experience as a protected characteristic  
*The Panel were informed that an initial review of the options available based on national information and review of other local authority decisions has been undertaken and that further work would take place over the summer to consult with children in care and care experienced adults and reach out to partners to establish their position in relation to care experienced as a protected characteristic.*
- Updates from other Council Teams and other Representatives  
*The Panel received details of intensive swimming lessons that had been arranged for the summer holidays for children aged 4-16 that were unable to access lessons with a particular focus on older children who had not had this opportunity.*

The next meeting of the Panel will be on 24 September 2024 and Children's Select will receive an update at their meeting on 26 November 2024.