

# Corporate Parenting Panel Report

ITEM 5

## TODAY'S CHILDREN TOMORROWS FUTURE

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### Report Summary

**Purpose:**

To update Corporate Parenting Panel of the activities of Milton Keynes Council Today's Children Tomorrows Future (TCTF) since the last report.

**Background:**

Local Authorities are required to establish mechanisms which empower young people to act positively and effect change in their own lives. A Children in Care Council (TCTC) has been established to enable regular, good quality dialogue and involvement in the planning and delivering services, and to ensure that the Children in Care Council has direct links to the Director of Children's Services and Elected Members;

The existence, quality and effectiveness of this arrangement are monitored by Ofsted through inspection.

**Corporate Priorities:**

TCTF represent a central plank in the council's participation agenda through which we seek to provide responsive and effective services. Through active engagement with and listening to service users we aim to ensure that those services meet the expressed needs and improve outcomes for children in and leaving care in line with the Council's Children & Families 2012/13 priority 4: To develop and maintain effective intervention from experiencing additional difficulty and prevents them from suffering significant harm.

**Performance Information:** N/A

**Equality and Diversity Impact:**

The Corporate Parenting service is provided for children from across the Milton Keynes community. It therefore needs to provide interventions that can meet the diverse needs of the children and young people in the Council's care.

**Recommendations /Proposals:**

Corporate Parenting panel are asked to note the report.

## Full Report

Since the last meeting with the Corporate Parenting Panel, TCTF has held a 'Party' to encourage young people to learn more about TCTF and its achievements. The party was organised by TCTF and was held on 1<sup>st</sup> December at the Youth Spot Café.

The party was well attended by supporting staff and approximately 20 young people from placements across the country. Whilst this number was lower than desired, the evening's objective was to increase awareness of TCTF and recruit new participants, both of which were achieved. All young people at the event were spoken to about TCTF and 'goody bags' were given out with more information about TCTF. Interviews with young people were held to see if any were interested in becoming members and to ask if there were any issues young people would like raised on their behalf.

The meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> December with councillors had to be postponed due to an extraordinary council meeting being held, however three young people took this opportunity to attend the All Party Parliamentary Group for looked after children and care leavers held at Portcullis House. The topic for the evening was placements – how to decide what the right placement is and what should happen when they go wrong. The event was well attended by professionals, children in care and care leavers from across the country and interesting discussions were developed. TCTF members have taken note of discussions and will debrief at the next TCTF with Councillors.

<b>Author Signature</b>	Jo Hooper	<b>Date</b>	12/12/12
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