

Anglesey Council Corporate Parenting Panel Terms of Reference

Purpose of the Corporate Parenting Panel

S78 Social Services and Wellbeing Act (Wales) 2014 provides for the duty of councils to safeguard and promote the welfare of each child it looks after in addition to every care leaver.

A priority for Anglesey Council is that it is a place where children and young people looked after by the council, thrive. As corporate parents, both elected members and officers of the Council, with the support of colleagues within other statutory agencies, have a duty to ensure that during the child/young person's time in care, and subsequently as they leave care, their voice and experience is paramount; that their needs are met and they are afforded the same life chances as any other child.

For this to be achieved, it will be necessary for:

- Elected members to champion the needs of looked after children and care leavers;
- Partners to have high expectations for looked after children and care leavers;
- The North Wales Safeguarding Partnership and Corporate Parenting Panel (CPP) to provide effective leadership and contribute significantly to the development of services, which are audited for effectiveness.

In exercising its duties, the panel will be mindful to promote the following for the children the Council is responsible for:

- Physical, mental and emotional wellbeing;
- Protection from abuse and neglect;
- Education, training and recreation;
- Family and personal relationships;
- Involvement in the local community;
- Securing rights and entitlements, inclusive of not living in poverty;
- Living in suitable accommodation.

Responsibilities of the Corporate Parenting Panel

1. To receive and scrutinise reports in relation to services for looked after children and care leavers.
2. To rigorously monitor and challenge service improvement and the impact of social work practice upon improving outcomes for looked after children.
3. To monitor and challenge the effectiveness of services in improving the educational attainment of looked after children.

4. To monitor and challenge the effectiveness of services in improving the physical and emotional health of looked after children.
5. Ensure that leisure and cultural opportunities are offered and taken up by looked after children and care leavers.
6. To raise members' awareness and understanding of looked after children and care leavers; their needs and experiences both within the Council and across the wider community.
7. Ensure that all elected members are able to fulfil their role as corporate parenting champions and advocates for Anglesey children and young people who are looked after as well as those leaving care by offering appropriate training and development opportunities.
8. To be aspirational and ambitious in driving better outcomes for looked after children.
9. To ensure that the voice and experience of the child is central to the work of the whole Council and to creatively consider ways in which the Corporate Parenting Panel (CPP) will hear and respond to the views of looked after children as well as those leaving local authority care.
10. To develop expertise in issues affecting looked after children and care leavers.
11. To provide the inter-agency strategic direction to achieve good outcomes for both children in local authority care and leaving care.
12. To contribute to the development of the Looked After Children and Care Leavers Strategy; to challenge and hold to account for its delivery.
13. To deliver the Council's 'pledge' to looked after children and care leavers.
14. To report to the Council annually outlining the work undertaken during the year and identifying a work programme for the following year.

Membership and Governance of the Corporate Parenting Panel

Meetings will take place on a quarterly basis preceded by an agenda setting meeting.

Chief Executive Anglesey Council (Chair)

Leader of the Council

Elected Members

Director of Social Services

Director of Education
Head of Housing
Representative – Health Authority
Representative – Education Department
Representative – Democratic Services

The Director of Social Services is responsible for ensuring that the panel has sufficient officer support to lead the Corporate Parenting Strategy.

The Service Manager for the Intensive Intervention Services will be the lead officer for the panel with support from service leads for looked after children and care leavers, adoption & fostering and advocacy.

Democratic Services will provide the administrative arrangements and constitutional guidance to the panel. Agenda and reports to be circulated one week in advance of the meeting.