



Cheshire East

# **TOGETHER** for Children and Young People

*Together we will make Cheshire East a great place to be young*

## Corporate Parent Working Group

DRAFT Terms of Reference

May 2024



## Purpose

The Corporate Parent Working Group will improve outcomes for Cheshire East’s care experienced children, young people, and young adults by:

- Working together with care experienced children, young people and young adults to understand what support they need, what is working and what needs to change.
- Ensuring there is a joined up multi-agency and whole-council approach to supporting care experienced children, young people, and young adults, ensuring they receive the care and nurture they can expect from any good parent, and preparing them for adulthood.
- Agreeing what action needs to be taken to continue to improve our offer and support to care experienced children, young people and young adults.
- Driving and evaluating progress in improving our support, ensuring that the findings from the Ofsted ILACS inspection in March 2024 are addressed swiftly.
- Overseeing the work and impact of working groups to improve outcomes for care experienced children, young people, and young adults, including the implementation of the staying close project.
- Promoting and raising awareness of our corporate parenting responsibilities within the council, across the partnership, local businesses, and communities.
- Providing challenge and holding each other to account for improving outcomes for care experienced children, young people, and young adults.

The group will be underpinned by workstreams on specific areas such as accommodation, health, preparation for adulthood and education, employment and training. The working group will determine the workstreams that are required, and will receive updates on workstream progress at each meeting.

## Frequency

The board will meet in person on a quarterly basis for two hours.

## Membership

**Chair:** Chief Executive Cheshire East Council - Rob Polkinghorne

Title/ Role	Name
Care experienced young people	
Member care experienced champion	
Chair of the Children and Families Committee	Cllr Carol Bulman



Vice chair of the Children and Families Committee	Cllr Emma Gilman
3/4 other councillors (cross party membership)	
Executive Director of Children's Services	Deborah Woodcock
Executive Director of Adults, Health and Integration	Helen Charlesworth-May
Acting Executive Director of Place	Peter Skates
Chief Finance Officer	Adele Taylor
Detective Chief Superintendent, Head of Protecting Vulnerable People and Criminal Justice, Cheshire Constabulary	Gareth Lee
Associate Director Quality and Safety Cheshire East, Cheshire and Merseyside NHS	Josette Niyokindi
Cheshire East Partnership Manager, Department for Work and Pensions	Stephen Monks
Director of Education, Strong Start and Integration	Claire Williamson
Director of Family Help and Children's Social Care	Kerry Birtles/ Andrea Stone (interim)
Director of Public Health	Matt Tyrer
Head of Housing	Karen Carsberg
Head of HR	Sara Barker
Head of Service Children's Development and Partnerships	Gill Betton
Head of Service for Cared for Children and Care Leavers	Annemarie Parker
Head of Service for Safeguarding Children and Quality Assurance	Katherine Oldacre
Head of Service for Children's Provision	Samantha Derbyshire
Head of Service for Inclusion and Head of the Virtual School	Laura Rogerson
Head of Integrated Commissioning, Children, Families and Adults with Complex Needs	Martyn Baggaley
Service Manager Cared for Children	Simon Delamar
Service Manager Cared for Children	Laura McLoughlin
Service Manager Care Leavers	Steve Nevitt
Service Manager Fostering	Shamena Sadiq
Business Intelligence Manager	Bev Harding
Business Manager	Lauren Conway



**Action taker:** Lauren Conway

Additional members may be invited to present information as required.

## Responsibilities

All members are responsible for ensuring that the board works to achieve its purpose, and for raising and/ or challenging any actions/ behaviours that present a barrier to this.

The board will receive the cared for children and care leavers scorecard to evaluate performance against key indicators.

Should any member delegate their responsibilities, they remain accountable for any actions or decisions taken on behalf of their agency/service.

Actions from the meeting will be recorded. Administration support will be provided by Children's Development and Partnerships (CDAP). CDAP will be responsible for the preparation of agendas and papers for the meetings. The agenda and papers will be circulated at least 3 working days prior to the meetings. Actions will be shared with the group within one week of the meeting.

## Accountability

The Corporate Parent Working Group will be accountable to:

- Children and Families Committee
- Cared for Children and Care Leaver's Committee
- The council's corporate leadership team
- The corporate safeguarding accountabilities meeting
- Children's Safeguarding Partnership

Partners are responsible for reporting back into their own agencies or professional networks.

## Review

The terms of reference will be reviewed after 12 months.

