

DECISION REPORT

Corporate Parenting Committee

Date of Meeting: 19 January 2021

Report Title: The Health of Cared for Children and Young People Annual Report, 2019-20

Portfolio Holder: Cllr Kathryn Flavell, Portfolio Holder for Children and Families

Senior Officer: Mark Palethorpe, Executive Director of People

1. Report summary

- 1.1. This report outlines the delivery of health services to children in the care of Cheshire East Council (CEC) during the period from 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020, in line with National Statutory Guidance ('Statutory Guidance on Promoting the Health of Looked after Children (LAC): Statutory Guidance for Local Authorities, Clinical Commission Groups and NHS England' (2015); The Children Act (1989) and The Children Act update (2004); and Looked After Children: knowledge, skills and competence of healthcare staff (Intercollegiate Role Framework, 2015).
- 1.2. NHS South Cheshire Clinical Commissioning Group and NHS Eastern Cheshire Clinical Commissioning Group are committed to working with partner agencies to ensure the safety, health and well-being of all the cared for children and care leavers in East Cheshire. Recognised as the most vulnerable in our society, it is essential that we ensure safe and effective services are delivered with a focus on quality and patient experience, and with the key priority of enabling every child to go on to achieve their full potential in adulthood.
- 1.3. This report sets out the range of activities, developments, achievements and challenges that our cared for children team have been involved in across Cheshire East, and identifies key service priorities for 2020-21. We want to first recognise that at the end of this period the global pandemic COVID-19 affected everyone in the Cheshire community.

2. Recommendation/s

2.1. The Corporate Parenting Committee is recommended to:

2.1.1. Note the contents of the report.

2.1.2. Scrutinise the Health of Cared for Children and Young People Annual Report set out at Appendix 1.

3. Reasons for Recommendation/s

3.1. The Corporate Parenting Committee is an advisory group to the Cabinet and, as such, needs to be aware of any national or local issues that are likely to impact on the health and wellbeing of cared for children and care leavers. The Corporate Parenting Committee need to be able to scrutinise and challenge performance to improve health outcomes for cared for children and young people.

4. Other Options Considered

4.1. None; this is an annual report.

5. Background

5.1. This annual report aligns with Pledge Four within the Corporate Parenting Strategy 2018-20, ***'We will improve health and wellbeing outcomes'***.

5.2. The Clinical Commissioning Group also has a statutory duty to comply with requests from a Local Authority to help them provide support and services to cared for children and young people which promote their health and well-being.

6. Implications of the Recommendations

6.1. Legal Implications

6.1.1. Legal advice will be sought, as appropriate, upon all relevant emerging issues.

6.2. Financial Implication

6.2.1. There are no direct financial implications of this report.

6.3. Equality Implications

6.3.1. There are no equality implications as a result of this paper.

6.4. Human Resources Implications

6.4.1. There are no direct human resource implications of this report.

6.5. Risk Management Implications

6.5.1. Cared for children and care leavers are a vulnerable group that are at risk of a number of factors – poor education and training, health, safeguarding and transition into adulthood.

6.6. Rural Communities Implications

6.6.1. There are no direct rural communities' implications of this report.

6.7. Implications for Children & Young People/Cared for Children

6.7.1. The contents of this report have implications for cared for children and care leavers, who are some of Cheshire East's most vulnerable children.

6.8. Public Health Implications

6.8.1. There are no direct implications for public health.

6.9. Climate Change Implications

6.9.1. There are no direct implications for climate change.

7. Ward Members Affected

7.1. Although the number of Cheshire East cared for children and young people is relatively small, they are a vulnerable cohort, who live across Cheshire East and in other local authority areas.

8. Consultation & Engagement

8.1. None.

9. Access to Information

9.1. Appendix 1 – The Health of Cared for Children and Young People Annual Report, 2019-20.

10. Contact Information

10.1. Any questions relating to this report should be directed to the following officer:

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