

Corporate Parenting Directorate Offers within Brighton & Hove City Council

Note; these offers and subsequent discussions were made and progressed under council structure in place spring and summer 2010. Some revision and renegotiation may need to take place resulting from the Council's change programme implemented from November 2010.

Directorate	Proposed Contribution to Corporate Parenting	Support to Contribution from Children & Families	Progress
Housing, Culture & Enterprise	<p><u>Housing</u> 1. "Agreed that foster parents can be included in the C&F nominations quota to Band 'A' for Homemove and have increased the quota accordingly. This means that foster parents who need accommodation, can be given priority or social housing. C&F currently has 15 nominations each year which are mainly for families with children at risk of going into care if they don't have better accommodation. We have expanded this provision to include foster carers"</p>	<p>1. This has not been a problem for mainstream foster carers who are unrelated to the child and in recent years there has been just one case where a B&H carer needed to take up one of the 15 per annum C&F nominations.</p> <p>1. With potential Family & Friends (Kinship) carers, housing is a challenge when they take on caring for children with little notice or planning, have limited accommodation available and are often not 'well-off' financially. In the interim it is usually accepted that there will be overcrowding and pressures on the placement will result. The Family & Friends Team (Fostering & Adoption) have had some success in finding solutions ie</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • being included in the 15 per annum C&F nominations • negotiating for a family to move to Band 'A' • moving temporarily into private rented accommodation so there is more room for the children. 	<p>1. No further action required</p> <p>1. Further clarification is required about Family & Friends (Kinship) carers: - being 'priority need' and therefore placed in 'Band A' - clarity in relation to calculations and entitlements to housing benefit vis-à-vis foster care allowances <u>Lead:</u> Sharon Donnelly (C&F) and Steven Hird (HB)</p>

	<p>2. "We are targeting families who are overcrowded and moving them into private leased accommodation which alleviates pressures on the households and contributes towards avoiding family break down and children having to be looked after"</p> <p>3. "The full implications of the Southwark judgment have yet to be assessed but it is likely that it will result in an increase in the number of young homeless people (16-17 years old) being Looked After rather than housed under Homeless legislation.</p> <p>4. "We have a joint protocol for looked after children who are leaving care to move into their</p>	<p>1. There are sometimes barriers to rehabilitation plans from high cost and scarce Parent & Baby foster placements due to difficulties in identifying suitable move-on accommodation.</p> <p>2. The increased use and availability of private leased accommodation alongside other targeted multi-agency interventions can reduce the need for some children to come into care.</p> <p>3. The implementation of the implications of the Southwark judgement *are currently subject of discussion and negotiation between C&F & Housing. Revised guidance from DfE & CLG on how LA's should provide accommodation for homeless 16/17 year olds which clarifies corporate responsibilities has recently been issued. This will assist clarification of thresholds for 'care' to be agreed with Legal Services.</p> <p>4. The Joint Protocol between C&F and Housing ensures that the corporate responsibility for meeting the diverse accommodation needs of young people who have been Looked After by</p>	<p>1. Further work required to identify suitable move-on accommodation to provide a considerable corporate saving. <u>Lead:</u> Sharon Donnelly (C&F) Jugal Sharma (Housing)</p> <p>2. On-going multi-agency interventions.</p> <p>3. Social Worker attached to housing advice completes Initial Assessments on 16/17 year olds presenting as homeless. <u>Lead:</u> Andy Whippey (C&F) Sylvia Peckham (Housing) Natasha Watson (Legal)</p> <p>4. The Protocol will be updated and revised to take account of the Southwark judgement and</p>
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<p>own accommodation and there are already pathways to help them access work and/or learning.”</p> <p>5. Apprenticeships for Care Leavers in new repairs service.</p> <p>Culture</p> <p>6. “Tickets to shows at Brighton Centre and Hove Town Hall”</p> <p>7. “Tickets to Children’s events as part of the Brighton Festival”</p> <p>8. “Tickets to gain free entry to exhibitions in Museum Service or</p>	<p>B&HCC are met. This has been cited by DCSF & CLG as excellent Corporate Parenting practice</p> <p>5. The 10 year partnership with Mears for housing repairs that started on 01.04.10 includes a commitment to 200 apprenticeships. Care leavers will have an opportunity to access these through a care pathway linked to the Community Social Responsibility Group of the partnership. The commissioning process has emphasised the need for tenants to benefit from the partnership. As many children in care and care leavers originate from council properties and some care leavers are tenants in their own right this should assist their access to apprenticeship opportunities.</p> <p>6. Funding of this scheme administered by Arts & Cultural Projects is currently capped at £500 pa (£15 per event maximum) and so limits the numbers of children in care who can benefit. Currently this is administered by manager of Independent Visitors scheme (F&A, C&F)</p> <p>7. Further discussion from C&F with Arts & Cultural Projects to take place on how this might apply to Brighton Festivals from 2011</p> <p>8. Free entry for exhibitions at B&H museums and art galleries and free entry to Royal Pavilion and Preston Manor is available for all B&H Children in</p>	<p>will be in place by April 2011. <u>Lead:</u> Dermot Anketell (C&F) Sylvia Peckham (Housing)</p> <p>5. Follow up Spring 2011 when apprenticeship element of service established. <u>Lead:</u> Nick Hibberd (Housing) Dermot Anketell (C&F) Mike Eaton (Strat & Gov)</p> <p>6. Investigate whether any additional funding for this scheme is available. <u>Lead:</u> Lucy Jefferies (Arts & Culture) Dermot Anketell (C&F)</p> <p><u>7.Lead:</u> Lucy Jefferies (A&C) Dermot Anketell (C&F)</p> <p>8. <u>Lead:</u> Janita Bagshaw</p>
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	Royal Pavilion”	Care up to age 18 wherever they are resident.	(Head of Museums & Royal Pavilion)
Adult Social Care & Health	<p>9. “Offer of apprenticeships e.g. Information Support Assistant post”</p> <p>10. “Volunteering/inter-generational opportunities”</p>	<p>9. Initial discussions have taken place within Adult Social Care about offering work ‘taster’ days and work experience opportunities to children in care and care leavers. Specific opportunities with Care Crew in residential settings to be explored that could develop into apprenticeships.</p> <p>10. Further work with ASC identified to explore ‘grandparenting’ experiences within the Community Support Team and the Buddy Scheme within Day Services</p>	<p>9. Follow up required to determine these potential opportunities. Lead: Karin Divall (ASC), Anne Hagan (ASC), Mike Eaton (Strat & Gov)</p> <p>10. Follow up required to determine these potential opportunities. <u>Lead:</u> Karin Divall (ASC) Dermot Anketell (C&F)</p>
Finance & Resources	11. “ICT is the main area with E-safety training for children & carers, advice on assistive technologies for children in care and care leavers with special needs and basic training and support in website, PC hardware and fault fixing”	11. Greg Austin, Business Systems Manager has been nominated lead officer for Corporate Parenting within ICT. He suggested the most appropriate online guide to ‘E-safety’ for children and carers to be www.microsoft.com/protect/familysafety/default.aspx which covers guidelines for social networking including age-based safety tips for children, a sample family contract for Internet rules at home, 4 steps parents or carers can take to help protect children online and basics to teach children about the Internet.	11. <u>Lead:</u> Dermot Anketell (C&F) to follow up any further identified needs with Greg Austin (ICT & E – Government)

		<p>For children in care and care leavers with special needs he identifies software products dependant on need eg users who have difficulty using a keyboard could use software such as Dragon Naturally Speaking and the leading software for users with sight disabilities is ZoomText Magnifier / ScreenReader which also includes an audio reader.</p>	
<p>87</p> <p>Environment</p>	<p>14. Partnership between B&HCC and DC Leisure Mangement currently provides a "Listen Up"</p>	<p>Detailed discussion has taken place between Kevin Kingston and Dermot Anketell and the following potential opportunities have been identified.</p> <p>Public Safety 12. Provide work experience in Environmental Health Teams, covering all services including food hygiene inspections, health & safety work, animal welfare, pest control, etc. Provide work experience with the Trading Standards service Provide work experience with the Environment Improvement Team</p> <p>Sport & Leisure 13. Sports Development – helping with sports sessions/events – Festival of Sport Sports Facilities – operation/helping set up a new activity</p> <p>14. Look into feasibility of extending this scheme to include care leavers up to the age of 21.</p>	<p>12. <u>Lead:</u> Dermot Anketell (C&F) to follow up with respective Heads of Service - Tim Nichols, Jo Player Jonathan Fortune</p> <p>13. <u>Lead:</u> Dermot Anketell (C&F) to follow up with respective Heads of Service - Ian Shurrock, Jan Sutherland</p> <p>“ “</p>

card for all children in care which entitles them to free swimming (and free gym for over 16's) at Prince Regent, King Alfred & St Lukes.

15. Seafront Operation – going on patrols or Volks Railway (trains/engineering)
 Events – input into staging a particular event or helping with location filming

City Planning

16. Planning managers would like to set up a programme of short experiences to give young people a sense of the different career options available within Planning made up of some, if not all, of the following:

- An hour on the front desk getting some idea of the range of questions people ask.
- An hour in Development Control learning to read plans.
- A site visit with Building Control staff - ideally one with cranes and heavy plant.
- Some time at a consultation event – similar to the London Road one.
- Site visit with Conservation staff to an “at risk” property – ideally a special opportunity to see something like the roof of the Royal Pavilion.
- An hour in Planning Strategy with a “taster” of how computers are used to update listed building information.

15. Lead: Dermot Anketell (C&F) to follow up with Toni Manuel re seafront operations and Volks Railway opportunities in March 2011.

16. Lead: Dermot Anketell (C&F) to follow up with Rob Fraser, Head of Planning

		<p>City Services 17. To provide work experience in Cityparks including Stanmer Nurseries where an apprenticeship may be possible. Use the ranger service to do some 'fun' activities.</p> <p>Sustainable Transport 18. General ideas that have been suggested and will require detailed follow up are traffic management centre activity, enforcement activity, cycle training and cycle demo town project and road safety site visits.</p>	<p>17. <u>Lead:</u> Dermot Anketell (C&F) to follow up with Robert Walker, Head of City Parks</p> <p>18. <u>Lead:</u> Dermot Anketell (C&F) to follow up with Mark Prior, AD Sustainable Transport – meeting arranged for April 2011</p>

* The 'G' V LB Southwark Judgement – a brief explanation:

“This House of Lords judgment (May 2009) concerned the relationship between the duties on local authorities under the Children Act 1989 (Section 20) and under the Housing Act 1996 (Part 7) in the case of children aged 16 or 17 who require accommodation. It has restated and clarified the established legal position that the Children Act has primacy over the Housing Act in providing for children in need who are homeless. In practice this means that 16 and 17 year old young people must be regarded as children under the Children Act. However it does not necessarily mean that all young people in need of accommodation will become Looked After (Section 20). What it does mean is that Children’s and Housing Services need to work much more closely together to meet these duties and a protocol to clarify these joint responsibilities is currently being finalised”

