Corporate Parenting Board

Date: Thursday, 26 November 2026
Time: 3.00 pm
Venue: Council Chamber, County Hall, Dorchester, DT1 1XJ

Members (Quorum: 3)
Duncan Sowry-House (Vice-Chair), Stella Jones, Julie Robinson, Cathy Lugg, Jindy Atwal, Carole Jones and Scott Florek

Chief Executive: Catherine Howe, County Hall, Dorchester, Dorset DT1 1XJ

For more information about this agenda please contact Democratic & Governance Services Meeting Contact Tel: 01305 224450 - antony.nash@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Members of the public are welcome to attend this meeting, apart from any items listed in the exempt part of this agenda. If you would like to attend this meeting and have any specific requirements please contact the Democratic Services Officer named above.

For easy access to all the council's committee agendas and minutes download the free public app called Modern.Gov for use on any iPad, Android, and Windows tablet. Once downloaded select Dorset Council.

Agenda

Item **Pages**

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Chair of the Committee to open the meeting and welcome those present.

a) Election of Chair of Corporate Parenting Board
To Elect a Chair for Corporate Parenting Board.

2. APOLOGIES

To receive any apologies for absense.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING 5 - 8

To confirm the minutes of the previous meeting held on 28 May 2026.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To disclose any pecuniary, other registrable or non-registrable interests as set out in the adopted Code of Conduct. In making their decision councillors are asked to state the agenda item, the nature of the interest and any action they propose to take as part of their declaration.

If required, further advice should be sought from the Monitoring Officer in advance of the meeting.

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Representatives of town or parish councils and members of the public who live, work or represent an organisation within the Dorset Council area are welcome to submit up to two questions or two statements for each meeting. Alternatively, you could submit one question and one statement for each meeting.

All submissions must be emailed in full to antony.nash@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk by 8.30am on **23 November 2026.**

When submitting your question(s) and/or statement(s) please note that:

- no more than three minutes will be allowed for any one question or statement to be asked/read
- a question may include a short pre-amble to set the context, and this will be included within the three-minute period
- please note that sub divided questions count towards your total of two
- when submitting a question please indicate who the question is for (e.g. the name of the committee or Portfolio Holder)
- Include your name, address and contact details. Only your name will be published but we may need your other details to contact you about your question or statement in advance of the meeting.
- questions and statements received in line with the council's rules for public participation will be published as a supplement to the agenda
- all questions, statements and responses will be published in full within the minutes of the meeting.

6. CORPORATE PARENTING DATASET 9 - 50

To receive the report from the Corporate Director - Care & Protection

7. IRO ANNUAL REPORT 51 - 74

To receive the report from the Quality Assurance Service Manager

8. ADVOCACY AND INDEPENDENT VISITORS ANNUAL REPORT 75 - 108

To receive the report from Strategic Commissioner and National Youth Advocacy Service

9. VIRTUAL SCHOOL ANNUAL REPORT 109 - 138

To receive the report from the Head of Service Children Thriving in Education

10. CHILDREN IN CARE AND YOUTH JUSTICE ANNUAL REPORT 139 - 146

To receive the report from the Head of Service, Dorset Combined Youth Justice Service

11. COMPLAINTS ANNUAL REPORT DISCUSSION

The Corporate Director - Care & Protection to discuss the complaints relevant to Corporate parenting board from the wider complaints report.

12. CHILDREN IN CARE HEALTH ANNUAL REPORT 147 - 168

To receive the report from the Designated Nurse for Children in Care and Care Experienced Young People

13. LOCAL AUTHORITY DESIGNATED OFFICER (LADO) ANNUAL REPORT APRIL 2025 - MARCH 2026 169 - 190

To receive the report from Service Manager Safeguarding & Standards Service

14. ASPIRE ADOPTION ANNUAL REPORT 191 - 234

To review and note the Cabinet report form June 2026 and the Aspire Adoption Annual report.

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

To confirm details and deadlines for papers for the next meeting of the (formal) Corporate Parenting Board which will be held on 20 May 2027 (pending full council approval on 3 December 2026). The next informal meeting will be held on 28 January 2027.

16. URGENT ITEMS

To consider any items of business which the Chairman has had prior notification and considers to be urgent pursuant to section 100B (4) b) of the Local Government Act 1972. The reason for the urgency shall be recorded in the minutes.

17. EXEMPT BUSINESS

To move the exclusion of the press and the public for the following item in view of the likely disclosure of exempt information within the meaning of paragraph x of schedule 12 A to the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended). The public and the press will be asked to leave the meeting whilst the item of business is considered.

There are no exempt items scheduled for this meeting.

Public Participation, Accessibility and Emergency Evacuation Information

Public Participation

This meeting may be viewed live or after the event via the YouTube link on the Dorset Council committee webpage. Members of the public may also attend in person. Details of the meeting venue are provided at the top of the agenda.
Members of the public wishing to participate in the meeting may do so in person or via a hybrid link. Further information is available in the Getting Involved guidance.
Please ensure mobile phones are set to silent during the meeting.
Dorset Council may record and broadcast the meeting, except where confidential business is considered.

Members of the public may film, photograph or report on proceedings that are held on public, including via social media, provided this is done unobtrusively and in accordance with the Chair's directions. Anyone wishing to film or record the meeting is asked to inform the Chair or the Democratic & Governance Services Officer.

Visitor Wi-Fi

Password: Jurassic

Accessibility

Dorset Council is committed to providing accessible and inclusive meetings. If you require any assistance, accessibility arrangements, or reasonable adjustments, please contact Democratic & Governance Services in advance of the meeting.

Emergency Evacuation in the event of a fire

Visitors and members of the public are advised that:

- The fire alarm is a continuous ringing bell. (The alarm is tested every Wednesday morning).
- If the alarm sounds, leave the building immediately using the nearest safe exit as directed by a council officer.
- Proceed to the designated muster point in the car park opposite County Hall.
- Do not use lifts during an evacuation.
- Do not re-enter the building until advised that it is safe to do so.
- Anyone who may require assistance during an evacuation should notify Democratic & Governance Services before the meeting begins.

First Aid

Anyone requiring first aid should go to the main reception at County Hall. Outside of normal office hours the first aid contact will be a member of the Facilities Team