

# Corporate Parenting Board

## Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2022

### Challenge Cards

Choose an item.

**Portfolio Holder:** Cllr A Parry, Children, Education, Skills and Early Help

**Local Councillor(s):**

**Executive Director:** T Leavy, Executive Director of People - Children

Report Author: Kaye Wright

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**Report Status:** Public

**Recommendation:**

Challenge cards are discontinued in favour of co-production between corporate parenting board members, children and young people.

**Reason for Recommendation:**

#### 1. Executive Summary

Our previous contractor, The Participation People, used challenge cards which were created by young people and presented to corporate parents for them to find the solution and fix it.

We are moving to a report card approach so that conversations take place between members and young people, which means that solutions will be co-produced.

*'Co-production is **a relationship where professionals and citizens share power to plan and deliver support together**, recognising that both have vital contributions to make in order to improve quality of life for people and communities. '*

#### 2. Financial Implications

None

### **3. Well-being and Health Implications**

Co-production enables good, honest, and transparent working relationships. This is good role modelling for young people.

### **4. Climate implications**

Increase in mileage where in-person co-production take place.

### **5. Other Implications**

It is a corporate parenting responsibility, to work with care experienced young people on improvements.

### **6. Risk Assessment**

Having considered the risks associated with this decision, the level of risk has been identified as:

Current Risk: Low

Residual Risk: Low

### **7. Equalities Impact Assessment**

NA

### **8. Appendices**

NA

### **9. Background Papers**

Children in Care, CLiCC Strategy and Plan (Dec'21)

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### **10. Context**

The Children in Care and CLiCC Strategy and Plan paper, presented to CPB in December 2021, was supported by the board. The paper refers to co-production and members working with young people on solutions, therefore holding the board accountable to The Promise.

Our use of challenge cards over the last 4 years, has delivered some change for children and young people, by adopting the model of 'you said, we did.' There are limitations to this as it encourages a conflict-based approach, rather than a relationship-based approach. Moving to report cards that identify co-production opportunities means there will be continuing dialogue between corporate parents and young people, helping to manage expectations too. This way of working is also aligning with our restorative approach, focusing on relationships and doing WITH and not to.

## 11. Principles

- a. Our corporate parenting priorities states that:

To be an effective corporate parent, we have developed the following ambitions. *Increase opportunities to hear the voice of our children and young people and to take their views, wishes and feelings into account.*

- b. Our Children in Care, CLiCC Strategy and Plan (Dec'21) states that:

- (i) A delivery plan for the Dorset Promise is co-produced with children in care and care leavers and is adopted by the Corporate Parenting Board so that children and young people can hold the board accountable and work with them on solutions. This would form the basis of the report cards which children and young people bring to the Corporate Parenting Boards.
- (ii) Officers across the Children's Services workforce to complete co-production training to ensure this is done in line with children and young people's expectations and that co-production work is as effective as possible in delivering the changes that children and young people ask for.
- (iii) Children and young people that want to, including those with SEND, will be trained in co-production.

## 12. Recommendations

- a) Going forward, themed conversations to take place with children and young people (CYP) in line with The Promise. This will help to embed The Promise within the spirit of the board and to ensure it is being delivered. CYP will also be encouraged to talk about things that are important to them. Report cards will be created from our interactions with CYP, to capture their thoughts, wishes and feelings.
- b) Report cards will be shared with the CLDG (Care Leaver Delivery Group) and CPB.
- c) Co-production opportunities will be identified from the report cards and members will be invited to work with CYP.
- d) Challenge cards will no longer exist.

Members are asked to adopt this approach.

Please do not delete the footnote.

**Footnote:**

Issues relating to financial, legal, environmental, economic and equalities implications have been considered and any information relevant to the decision is included within the report.