

Corporate Parenting Panel

Monday 13th June 2022

CiCC & Participation Update

1. Recommendation(s)

- 1.1 That the Panel note the work of the Children in Care Council (CiCC), Care Leavers Forum (CLF) and the Participation Team.
- 1.2 That the Panel acknowledge the work that continues to take place with young people.

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 This is a standing item on the Corporate Parenting Panel agenda which updates members on the work of the CiCC and CLF.

3. Financial Implications

- 3.1 There are no significant financial implications to consider at this stage.

4. Environmental Implications

- 4.1 There are no significant environmental implications to consider at this stage.

5. Supporting Information

- 5.1 This update covers the period from 14th March to 31st May 2022.

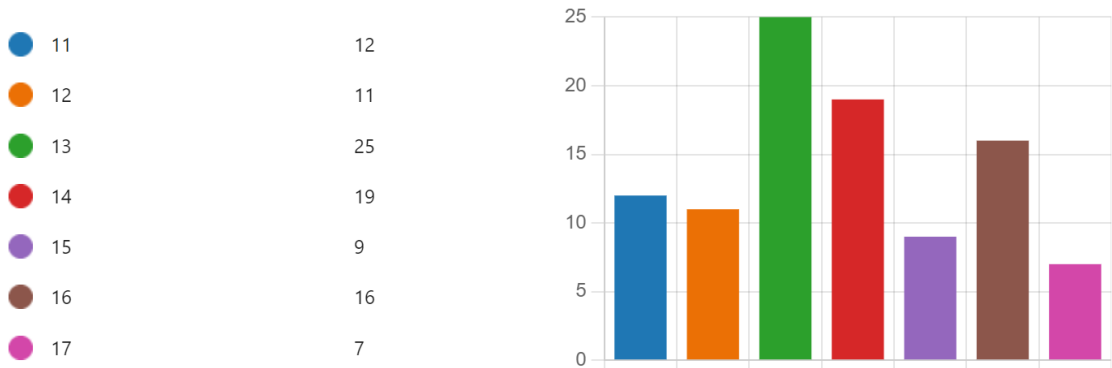
5.2 *Warwickshire Youth Conference – Future Ready 21st April*

At the last Corporate Parenting Panel meeting details for running a Warwickshire Youth Conference event were shared.

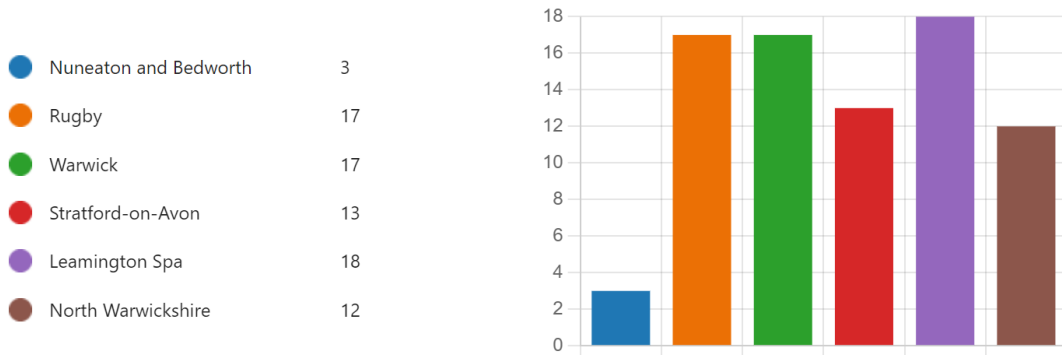
The Youth Conference took place on 21st April at the Woodland Grange Conference Centre, from 11 to 4pm.

- 99 young people registered for the event
- 76 attended

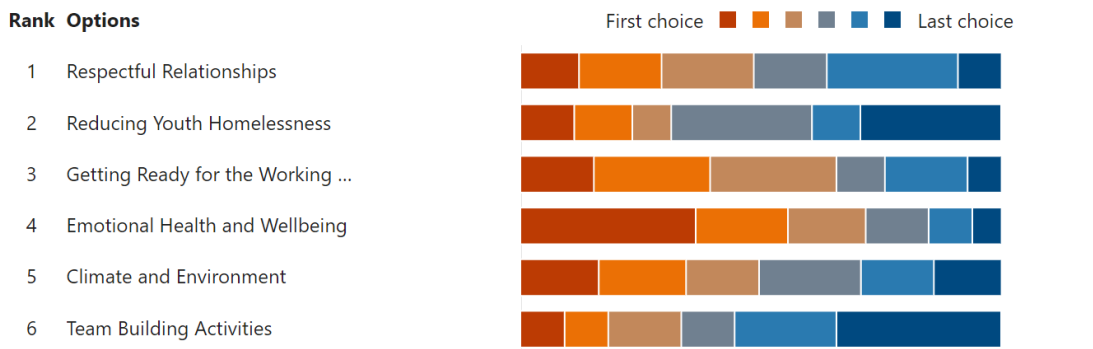
- This first graph shows the age profile of young people that registered



- This second graph shows the area from which young people registered



- This third graph shows the most popular workshops



- Young person and parent feedback

I got back earlier from the conference and just wanted to thank all involved. I had a brilliant day! Please pass my best wishes to everyone involved (can't wait for the next one!) From a young person.

"My daughter (and her friend) had a brilliant day today thank you so much. She loved the lunch and the hot chocolate at break. The relationship workshop was brilliant and she has

come home with so many goodies. Not to forget and amazing life like caricature. Thanks so much for organising!" From a Mum

- **Feedback from workshop leaders**

"It was a striking and impressive event, and I can see a lot of future in it. Well done!" David Mond, Warwickshire Climate Alliance.

"It was great to be part of it and to see so many young people there. I hope this can be a yearly event". Chris Stephens, Prospects

"It was a lovely event yesterday and great to be a part of it!" Jennifer Shergill, Kooth

"It was great to see so many young people there, well organised and run". Kerry Hansard, St. Basils

"Young people engaged really well and seemed to enjoy the day". Loz Grinnell Targeted Youth Support

- **Feedback from stall holders**



Following the conference work is underway to produce a short 3-minute video and a conference report with recommendations.

5.3 ***Young Inspections - Update***

At a previous Corporate Parenting Panel meeting information was shared with the Panel on inspections carried out by young people of 9 different Supported Accommodation venues over August and September 2021.

The feedback was reported to the Performance and Quality Team within Commissioning.

Young people were particularly concerned about the standards of one venue that they had inspected.

Following young people's feedback, Performance and Quality staff met with the venue to discuss improvements.

Young people are pleased to report that positive progress has been made to improve the standard of the kitchen at the venue.



5.4 ***Brothers & Sisters Event – 12th April***

A BBQ and Family Fun Day for brothers and sisters in care was hosted on Tues 12th April from 2-4pm, at Myton Park Offices.

The following activities were available for foster carers and young people to enjoy.

- Animal Man
- BBQ
- Ice cream van
- Soft play area
- Easter egg hunt
- Cake sale
- Arts & crafts – Bonnet Competition
- Guess the “Teddys Name”

Approximately 50 foster carers and young people attended on the day. Below are some comments sent by those who attended.

“Many many thanks for organising the Siblings day today. The three children that I brought thoroughly enjoyed the afternoon. They particularly liked the huge ice creams!”

“All three loved the soft play and looking at the animals”.

“It must have taken a lot of organising and I just wanted to let you know that it was much appreciated”.

“Most of all it was great to see her with her siblings enjoying this. We can’t wait to see the group photo with her siblings which we will display in her bedroom”.

Furthermore, an online broadcast is planned for 27th June, 12-1pm, to promote workshops that staff can attend to learn more about working with brothers and sisters in care.

Finally, a survey has been sent out to brothers and sisters to help understand their experiences of being in care, the closing date of the survey is June 22nd.

5.5 *Watch Your Words – Improving Language in Care*

Work has been undertaken over the last 6 months to produce a booklet that sets out to promote more positive language within the social care setting.

This booklet is titled “Watch Your Words” and is now complete.

The booklet will be launched on 27th June and promoted over the coming months with WCC staff and stakeholders.

One key event at which the booklet will be distributed is the Children and Families staff conference on 15th July 2022.

5.6 *BBQ/Allotment Re Launch – 19th May*

The BBQ which was a regular feature at the Myton Park offices pre Covid has now re-started, and the first session took place on 19th May. The BBQ will take place fortnightly.

The allotment which is also at Myton Offices will be a focus for the young people who attend the BBQ events

5.7 *Easter Meals/Easter Hampers - 14th April*

In partnership with Stacey Bains (Transforming Communities Together Development Officer) who works with Churches across Warwickshire 50 meals were distributed to young people leaving care.

182 Easter Eggs were donated by 2 businesses for young people in care. These Easter Eggs were distributed to the CiCC, young people that attended the Youth Conference, brothers and sisters who attended the Fun Day and residents within P3 Supported Accommodation.

5.8 *Police Panel*

Liss Phillips and Umar Teerab attended 2 meetings as part of a Police Panel.

The purpose of the Panel is to view film footage of Police interaction with young people. Feedback from the Panel is forwarded to the Police Training School and to the police officers in the videos viewed.

The next Police Panel meeting is in September 2022 and the plan is to support 2 care experienced young people to participate.

Liss and Umar also attended a Police training day on 16th May, in Bedworth.

There is a further opportunity to involve young people to participate in a “Ride Along” with the Police.

5.9 ***Apprenticeship Guide for Care Experienced Apprentices 16+***

Warwickshire has been instrumental in leading a subgroup which has produced a guide for the West Midlands Participation Leads Network.

The guide explains how to support care experienced apprentices and will be promoted as good practice across 14 Local Authorities within the West Midlands Region.

5.10 ***Connect + Go Project in Partnership with Volunteering Matters***

Volunteering Matters is a charity working in partnership with Warwickshire to deliver the Grandmentors Programme.

Volunteer Matters has been successful in securing a bid through the ‘Tackling Loneliness with Transport Fund’ granted by Department of Transport. Out of the 1000 bids the DoT received, 12 have been selected for a 12-month pilot project, and Warwickshire is one of them.

The plan is to have a small vehicle and a 9-seater minibus based in Nuneaton, which will provide free transport to young people who are care experienced. This is for ALL young people in care aged 16-25 including UASC.

The smaller vehicle service will be providing local transport exclusively in Nuneaton, whereas the minibus will be used across Warwickshire and Coventry. Both will be resourced by community volunteer drivers. Both vehicles will be electric.

A start date for the project will be announced shortly.

5.11 ***CiCC updates***

The following items were discussed at the April and May CiCC meetings.

April – Support before 25 (face to face meeting).

Kim Evans from Barnardo’s attended. Karolina Waldron from the Children’s Commissioner Team also attended as a guest.

May – Life after 25 Part 1 (virtual meeting).

Attendance by young people was low.

Following the meeting in May a decision has been made to revert to face to face meetings including a virtual option.

5.12 ***Foster Care Conference Week - 29th & 30th April***

Two workshops titled “What Makes a Good Worker! Hearing Young Peoples Voices” were delivered as part of the Foster Care Conference week.

Liss, Umar and Mati delivered the 2 sessions. Examples of feedback are as follows,

“Thank you for your time this morning. This has been really helpful, and really insightful! Great presenting - would never have known you were new Mati - great presenting skills! Liss and Umar, you were great as usual”.

“It would be great if one/some of the care experienced young people who are now working for WCC joined the Restorative Practice Champions network. Both their professional and their personal experience will be helpful with the work towards culture change. Please get in touch with the RP team if anyone would like to join us every 6 weeks”.

6. Timescales associated with the decision and next steps

6.1 An update report to be presented to the next Corporate Parenting Panel.

Appendices

1. None.

Background Papers

1. None.

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The report was circulated to the following members prior to publication:

Local Member(s):

Other members: