

## Children's Services

19 – 23 La Motte Street  
St Helier  
Jersey  
JE2 4SY



## Corporate Parenting Board

Date: 11 June 2019

Time of Meeting: 3.00 pm

Venue: Jersey Youth Service

Attendees	
Name	Agency
Sam Mezec	Minister for Children & Housing and Chair
Tracey Vallois	Minister for Education
Richard Renouf	Minister for Health
Deputy Rob Ward	Chair of Care Inquiry Scrutiny Committee
Deidre Mezbourian	Chair of Comité de Connétables
Andrew Heaven	Director of Children's Policy, Government of Jersey
Susan Devlin	Group Director, CYPES
Len Norman	Minister for Justice & Home Affairs
Steve Harvey	Brightly
Carly Glover	Jersey Cares
Amanda Kelly	Consultant to CYPES
Sheree Maher	Children's Rights Officer
Daisy Hefford	Board Administrator
Apologies	
Mark Rogers	Director General, CYPES

	Item
1	<p><b><u>Apologies</u></b></p> <p>Mark Rogers</p>
2	<p><b>Previous Minutes</b></p> <p>SD advised she had some amendments needed which did not affect what was said and would send these on to DH.</p> <p>The minutes were approved.</p> <p>The Chair asked if these Minutes are made public. AH advised that the plan is to publish the ToR and Minutes of the Board. The exception would be when there are discussion / presentation / papers describing policy in development.</p> <p>AH to liaise with DH on this.</p>

<p><b>3</b></p>	<p><b>Liverpool Conference.</b></p> <p>The Chair mentioned that there had been a press release on this today which was excellent timing.</p> <p>SM introduced Lauren Burnett who is care experienced but also now works for Fostering and Adoption Team on Recruitment and Marketing.</p> <p>SM gave a presentation describing the Jersey delegation's participation in the conference. In brief the key themes were</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Language</li> <li>• Education</li> <li>• Criminalisation</li> <li>• Relationships</li> <li>• Hope</li> </ul> <p>SM said that this had been a thoroughly enjoyable event and everyone got a lot out of the experience. The fact that the group from Jersey was part of 170 + care experienced group at this inaugural Conference where people were showing care, solidarity and support to each other was very special.</p> <p>The Chair asked what SM sees as the next steps.</p> <p>SM said that we need to focus on the CYPES commitment to progress participation and advocacy with Jersey Cares. She had also met with Deborah McMillan and CG and discussed how they bring the group together and do more but also clearly define what each of the roles was. SM stated that we need to work alongside others to develop and work out a plan for participation.</p> <p>The Chair asked how we get people outside of this Board to understand this. The Chair said he was not quite clear on what Corporate Parenting was all about until he met a number of young people which was key to him understanding this. The Chair said that some of the things he heard were very powerful.</p> <p>AH said that there may be a simple step whereby each Board Member could talk to others and share what the Board is doing and how they can help us to accomplish some of the things we want to.</p> <p>SM mentioned that due to the confidence the Conference had given some of the young people some of them had attended the Care Inquiry Meeting and had taken a few others along with them, 7 in total. The feedback from these young people was that the Care Inquiry meeting was too formal, emphasising the need to make events/meetings more young person/child friendly.</p> <p>SM stated that we need to carefully define the next steps as we need to build trust, confidence and capacity and not just jump into anything.</p>
<p><b>4</b></p>	<p><b>Care Leavers Offer</b></p> <p>AK advised that she had prepared 2 documents that had been circulated to the Board.</p> <p>The aim of the presentation and discussion is for the Board to agree in principle to the proposal and then costings can be put together to then be taken to CSB and CoM.</p> <p>AK advised that they would like to move on this quickly and did not want to wait until the next time this Board sat in September.</p>

	<p>AH advised the Board that what we want to do is use the key principles to develop into a Policy which will go to the CoM and an amendment made to the Children’s Law.</p> <p>The Board agreed that the paper usefully and clearly described what a care leaver is. This is important as the current children’s legislation does not contain a useful definition.</p> <p>RR advised that he has a work stream within Health for vulnerable people.</p> <p>TV said that the paper is a positive start. The final paper should carefully consider the issue of Ministerial exemptions to the definitions contained within the paper ahead of any presentation to COM.</p> <p>SH thanked AK for a helpful paper. From a Brightly perspective and they have offered these services for years and would love to not do this and go back to providing the ‘icing on the cake’ items which is what they are really there for. SH advised this should be a ‘right’ for children in care. SH will email AK with some feedback on the presentation.</p> <p>The Chair asked that given the proposed definition of care leavers (16 – 25 yrs) would there be any flexibility in this if a young person does not fit the criteria, would they still be able to access this package. It was mentioned that there are Ministers Exemptions which could be used. TV mentioned that she does not like putting cut off ages into a Policy or Legislation as it should be by need not age.</p> <p>SD asked if the Board was in agreement with the principles contained within the paper and for it to go onto CSB and CoM for further consideration and approval.</p> <p>DM stated that we have all agreed the paper is excellent and we need this. This needs to be taken for endorsement and then the funding bids put in for this.</p> <p>AH said that bids for investment are in the Government Plan which will to support implementation of the Care Leavers Offer.</p> <p>The Board endorsed this proposal. The Chair asked if CoM decide changes are required will these need to come back to this Board. It was confirmed that they would need to be referred back to the Board.</p>
<p><b>5</b></p>	<p><b>Letter to Ministers – Priorities for Corporate Parenting</b></p> <p>AH described how the Minister for Children will be writing to other Ministers to identify their Corporate Parenting Priorities. This will enable the board to have oversight of the total number of priorities being progressed.</p> <p>The responses would help the Board fulfil its roll of support, check and challenge to improve the outcomes for children entering and or leaving care. TV advised that we would need to set a rigid timeline for response otherwise everyone will leave it to the last minute.</p> <p>Board approved that amended letter to be sent out to Ministers.</p>
<p><b>6</b></p>	<p><b>Training for Corporate Parenting</b></p> <p>AH advised that he had written to Local Government Authorities in England looking for opportunities to bring someone over for a better understanding of Corporate Parenting and the subsequent proposals were not what the Board was looking for. The Board discussed further ideas.</p>

	<p>RW suggested that this training should start with the CoM.</p> <p>SM advised that we have care experienced people who would like to get involved in this as well.</p> <p>AH/CG and SM to put something together and circulate to this Board for comment.</p>
<p><b>7</b></p>	<p><b>Terms of Reference</b></p> <p>SH suggested that the Foster Carers Association be on the Board. The Chair said he was happy to speak to them to see how they feel.</p> <p>We need to be clear on what this Board does and ensure we get the work done. As the Board only meets 4 times a year it was agreed that we would need groups to do certain pieces of work between Boards.</p> <p>SM stated that we need to get to the place where the care experienced young people are agreeing if not setting the Agenda for these Boards.</p> <p>TV commented that there may be some 'quick wins' as well which may not be a top priority but would show that as a Board we are moving forward.</p> <p><u>Time of Meeting</u></p> <p>There was a brief discussion on what time this Board should sit as SH would find it difficult to attend in the afternoons. It was explained that the reason it was set at this time as eventually we will have young people attending the Board and so this needs to be after school hours. A suggestion was put forward that this could be held in the evenings which may suit a lot of people better.</p> <p>It was agreed that AH would talk to the Chair with a view to identifying alternative times.</p>
	<p><b>Next Meeting:</b></p> <p><b>Date: 3 September 2019 3.00 pm to 5.00 pm</b></p> <p><b>Venue: To be confirmed</b></p>