CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD 7 JUNE 2018

Corporate Parenting District Events

Recommendation

1. The Board is asked to continue with annual District based Events following the recommendation of the Cross Party Working Group.

Background

2. Cllr Anne Hingley, who was Chairman during 2017/18 had chaired the Cross-Party Corporate Parenting group, which was attended by an elected member from each district across Worcestershire. Elected Member attendance was as follows:

Cllr Fran Oborski – Wyre Forest Cllr Stephen Mackay – Worcester City Cllr Charles Hotham – Bromsgrove Cllr Pattie Hill – Redditch Cllr Lucy Hodgson – Malvern Hills Cllr Rob Adams – Wychavon

3. The group was also attended by Officers from the Children, Families and Communities Directorate including Jake Shaw (Assistant Director), Paul Finnemore (Commissioning Manager, Young People), Sally Clewes (Participation and Engagement Co-ordinator) and Katie Beddows (Project Support).

4. The purpose of this group was to raise awareness of Corporate Parenting among Elected Members and to arrange events in each district across Worcestershire to enable Looked After Children, their carers and Care Leavers to come together and meet their local Members.

- 5. 7 events have taken place so far:
 - Wychavon an archaeological test-pit dig
 - Wyre Forest an afternoon children's party that included face painting, bouncy castle, disco, indoor archery, pizza, ice cream and a magician
 - Worcester Tea with the Mayor Steve Mackay and a Tour of the Guildhall and Commandery
 - Fire Station Activity Afternoon this included a tour of station, rides in a fire engine, smoke room, car cutting and yard drills from the Young Firefighters. This was in association with PRIME Fire Mentor Service and Herford and Worcester Fire Rescue Service

- Thanksgiving Service at Worcester Cathedral, which had hymns and intercessions for all our Looked after Children and Care Leavers. Youth Voice Groups in attendance and introduced one of the hymns
- Malvern Tea Party, crafts and activities at Malvern Cube
- Redditch Abbey Stadium sport activities, athletics track and bouncy castle
- Final District event Farm Event hosted by Rob Adams 3rd June Trailer ride around farm, feeding lambs, cows, pigs, ducks, crafts and activities, food and refreshments.

Role of Corporate Parting Board

6. The meetings have been really well received by children and young people as well as carers. The events have also raised the profile of Corporate Parenting with elected members. The recent Cross Party Working group felt strongly that the events should continue annually but widen to include other corporate parents represented within the Board.

7. The group considered that the work would fit within the remit of the Corporate Parenting Board and allow a greater buy in from districts, different partners and agencies.

Funding and Resources

8. All events in 2017/18 were funded through member's divisional funds and any surplus has been formally agreed by each member to go towards the Looked After Children and Care Leavers Fun Day this summer.

9. Events so far have averaged at approx. £300. The costs have remained low due to support locally and good will from services and suppliers.

10. If the Board took over these events there would be the need for each district event to plan how funding would be raised and what local support would be on offer.

Contact Points

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