

**OLDHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL  
CORPORATE PARENTING PANEL**

**TERMS OF REFERENCE**

**Aim**

The Corporate Parenting Panel is to ensure that Oldham fulfils its corporate parenting responsibilities and monitors performance in terms of improving outcomes for looked after children and care leavers.

**Objectives**

1. To lead on the corporate parenting agenda and ensure that Oldham council and its partner agencies fulfil their statutory duties and responsibilities in relation to looked after children and care leavers
2. Ensure there is cross party representation from elected members
3. To monitor, evaluate and regularly review the Corporate Parenting Strategy and Action Plan
4. To monitor adherence to the 'Pledge' to looked after children
5. To consider performance management information, both quantitative and qualitative, from all services delivering to looked after children and care leavers
6. To oversee the management of Regulation 33 inspections to children's homes and the elected members visiting programme.
7. To oversee the development of the Virtual School and receive regular activity reports from the Virtual School co-ordinator.
8. To ensure all partners providing services to looked after children and elected members attend the 'Total Respect' and other training programmes to increase awareness and understanding of looked after children, their needs/ experiences and consider how they can contribute to improving outcomes.
9. Ensure up to date research and policy development are communicated and consideration given to initiatives to develop services and improve outcomes
10. To ensure looked after and care leavers are involved in the corporate parenting agenda and regularly attend panel meeting for open dialogue to influence service re-design.

11. To provide regular updates on activity and outcomes to the Local Strategic Partnership
12. To provide an annual report to the Strategic Management Team
13. To provide an annual report to Overview and Scrutiny

## **Membership**

Membership of the group will be as follows:

- Executive Director, Children, Young People and Families
- Lead member for Children, Young people and Families (Chair)
- 4 elected members, cross party representation
- Service Directors, Children, Young People and Families
- Corporate Parenting Manager
- Positive Steps
- Youth Service
- Youth Offending Team
- Housing
- PCT
- Voluntary sector
- Police
- Representatives from the Children In Care Council
- Virtual School Co-ordinator
- Service Manager – Looked After Children

The Chair of the Panel will seek the contribution of other partners and/or key individuals as and when required.

## **Responsibilities of Panel members**

- To act as a Champion for looked after children and care leavers within their own party or organisation and to ensure their needs are represented within all decision making forums
- To feedback information in relation to Corporate Parenting to colleagues within their own service and members within their own party
- To ensure that all elected members and colleagues understand and fulfil their responsibilities as corporate parents
- To ensure that children and young people are treated with respect as equal members of the panel and that they have a voice which is heard.
- To attend all meetings and actively contribute to the agenda
- To prepare, present and read reports as requested.