

**EVERY
CHANCE**
for **EVERY
CHILD**

Tower Hamlets Corporate Parenting Board
Draft Annual Report 2019 / 2020

Chair's Foreword

I am pleased to present the Tower Hamlets Corporate Parenting Board Annual Report 2019 to 2020. This document outlines the purpose of the board, how it functions in Tower Hamlets, what has been achieved over the last year and future priorities and challenges.

Being a good corporate parent means making sure that the children in our care and care leavers benefit from the same chances that every child deserves, and that we are always thinking about what more we can do to help them to realise their full potential and aspirations.

The Tower Hamlets Corporate Parenting Board (CPB) works to ensure that these children are a priority for everyone, that they have the care, support and nurturing they need and that they can successfully meet the challenges they face.

A lot of work has been carried out to develop and strengthen the board. This includes training, seminars and workshop sessions that have helped to make sure that CPB members understand their role and responsibilities and have an in-depth knowledge of key issues affecting children and young people.

It is of paramount importance that we listen to our children and young people. The board actively seeks out and welcomes the challenge of young people 'telling it as it is' so that officers and

Members can learn from hearing about their experiences and this can then inform and steer the work of the board.

An essential element of what the board does is advocating for young people, taking their views and concerns and working across all council services, with partners and at a regional and national level to ensure their voice is heard.

We know that the year ahead will include many challenges but by working together with our partners and listening closely to children in care and care leavers we will continue to improve outcomes for our young people.



**Councillor Danny Hassell,
Chair of the Corporate
Parenting Board**

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Children looked after and care leavers in Tower Hamlets

Children Looked After

307 children were looked after by the local authority (end of Mar 2020)

There were 37 Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (USAC) (end of Mar 2020)

CLA long term placement stability 72% (end of Mar 2020)

Average no. of placement moves 1.6 (end of Mar 2020)

Accommodation

91% of care leavers were in suitable accommodation (at end of Mar 2020)

Care Leavers

At 31st March 2020 the Through Care Service was working with a cohort of 411 young people (between the ages of 14 – 25)

Health

79% of Children Looked After had an annual health check within 12 months (end Mar 2020)

83% of Children Looked After had an annual dental check within 12 months (end Mar 2020)

Education, training and employment

56% of pupils making expected progress (end of Mar 2020)

93% of pupils had a personal education plan meeting during the term (end of Mar 2020)

99% of care leavers had a pathway plan (end of Mar 2020)

67% of care leavers were in employment, education or training (end of Mar 2020)

Governance

Legal Context

The Children and Social Work Act 2017 (Section 1) sets out seven corporate parenting principles which local authorities must have regard to for looked after children or care leavers. Statutory guidance for local authorities 'Applying corporate parenting principles to looked-after children and care leavers' was published in February 2018. The guidance highlights that the critical question for local authorities as the 'corporate parent' should be 'would this be good enough for my child'?

The principles

In order to thrive, children and young people have certain key needs that good parents generally meet. The corporate parenting principles set out seven principles that local authorities must have regard to when exercising their functions in relation to looked after children and young people, as follows:

1. To act in the best interests, and promote the physical and mental health and well-being, of those children and young people
2. To encourage those children and young people to express their views, wishes and feelings
3. To take into account the views, wishes and feelings of those children and young people

4. To help those children and young people gain access to, and make the best use of, services provided by the local authority and its relevant partners
5. To promote high aspirations, and seek to secure the best outcomes, for those children and young people
6. For those children and young people to be safe, and for stability in their home lives, relationships and education or work; and
7. To prepare those children and young people for adulthood and independent living.

The Board

The Tower Hamlets Corporate Parenting Board (CPB) demonstrates our continuing commitment to the corporate parenting principles and shows how we deliver on them across many partnerships and services. The board meets on a quarterly basis and has representation from Councillors, young people, foster-carers, partner organisations and senior managers from across the Council. The diagram on page 7 sets out the membership of the board and a full list is provided at Appendix A. Appendix B provides an overview of the topics covered in CPB meetings during 2019/20.

Alongside the Children in Care Council, the board provides a forum where children and young people in the care of the council have direct access to senior leaders and decision makers to share their views and raise and address issues.

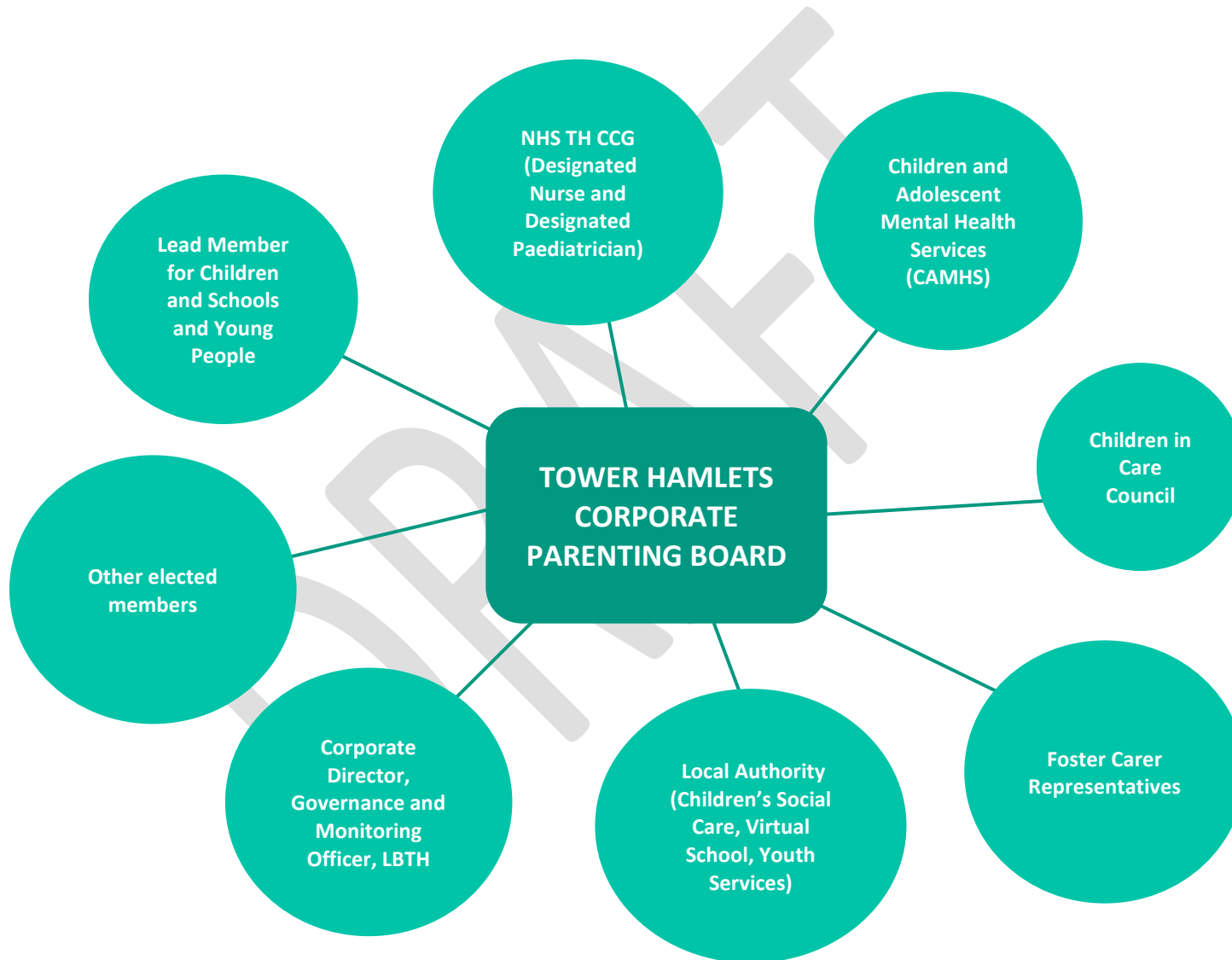
The board aims to take a strategic approach to the experiences of children looked after and care leavers and work with partners to continually develop and strengthen practice in relation to our corporate parenting responsibilities.

Training for all members of the board in Spring 2019 was designed to ensure that all members of the board have an in-depth knowledge and understanding of key issues to support them in discharging their duties. The sessions included information and guidance on the work of the Through Care Service, Personal Education Plans (PEPs), educational attainment and progress data, and performance data which is presented to the board.

Planning workshops were held in October 2019 to develop ideas for the future based on the themes within the Tower Hamlets Children and Families Strategy 2019- 2024. Work plan priorities were agreed around the themes 'Aspiration to Action', 'Healthy Families' and 'Safe and Secure.

Covid-19 - in compiling this report we are very aware that the final few weeks of the scope of this Annual report included the initial stages of the national lockdown. This lockdown had a profound impact on many children in care and care leavers. Through-out the period of lockdown and into the current "recovery" phase. The council has sought to ensure that all support for young people is maintained either through continued home-visits or through virtual/online contact. We have also ensured that the work and agenda of the CPB has been maintained throughout this period.

Membership of the Tower Hamlets Corporate Parenting Board



Engagement with Young People

The Tower Hamlets Children in Care Council (CiCC) aims to reflect the views of children looked after and care leavers. It gives children and young people the chance to shape and influence the parenting that they receive at every level and gives them an opportunity to have a say about the things that really matter in their lives. This helps to inform the overall strategy for cared for children and young people in Tower Hamlets.

The CiCC promotes a direct link between children looked after and care leavers with senior managers and elected members within the Local Authority on issues affecting them.

The LBTH Youth Service took over the support of the CiCC in July 2019. The CiCC is also supported on a day-to-day basis by dedicated young people's coordinator who is employed on an apprenticeship.

In late 2019 a meeting was held with the CiCC, the Chair of the CPB and Senior Managers to explore issues raised by the young people in more detail and develop an action plan. The work carried out through the action plan is reflected throughout this report.

Some key issues have been highlighted in 2019/20 through the work of the CiCC. These are summarised below:

- Mental Health – young people have consistently emphasised the importance of mental health services and support, and that

services must meet the needs of all age groups including those over 18. As can be seen later in this report (page 15) a focus group is to be held which will explore these issues further. This focus on mental and emotional health has become even more important because of the Covid-19. The efforts of all staff and carers to ensure regular conversations with our young people has been vital in maintaining positive mental health. However, we are aware that ensuring this is maintained as we move out of the pandemic stage will be of the utmost importance for 20/21.

- Care and Young People's Rights – young people have highlighted that there is a need to ensure everyone is fully aware of what their rights are and that there is greater consistency for the information that is provided.
- Housing - the increased pressures for care leavers when moving from dependent or semi-independent living alongside the restrictions of housing processes have been identified by young people as leading to a range of issues. At the October meeting concerns were raised by young people present in relation to their concerns about the limited number of opportunities and short time-scales they had to make decisions about properties that they were being offered to make "bids" on. They were concerned that this pressure could mean they make the wrong decisions on opting to take or not accept properties. Therefore, it was agreed that this would be raised with colleagues in the Housing department. As a result of this challenge, changes have

been made to the Housing “bidding” process which will allow care-leavers an extended period to consider offers and make decisions on properties that they are offered. The new revised protocol will be launched in September 2020.

- Higher Education – alongside recognition of the excellent support for care leavers to go to university young people have highlighted the need for more support for those wanting to pursue alternatives, such attending college or doing an apprenticeship.

There is further information about the CiCC’s priorities and plans for 2020/21 on page 13 onwards.

Role of Foster Carers

The exceptional contribution that Foster Carers make in caring for young people in Tower Hamlets was reflected in the Ofsted Inspection Report for June 2019. The report noted that Foster carers “feel highly valued, they receive good support and extensive training focused on meeting the needs of children. An excellent Foster Carers Association contributes to national guidance, for example guidance for caring for Muslim children, and is integral to the positive development of the service”.

The Corporate Parenting Board benefits from the membership of two Foster Carer Representatives who are also members of the Tower Hamlets Foster Carers Association (THFCA). They bring their considerable experience and expertise to the board and help ensure that the voice of foster carers informs all discussions, actions and planning for the future.

The Tower Hamlets Foster Carers Association provides a voice for Foster Carers and works closely with the council to ensure their views, experiences and issues are heard and addressed. The FCA holds an Annual General Meeting and members facilitate a Preparation Group, support groups, attend the London FCA Forum, act as mentors, promote the role of Foster Carers and help as Ambassadors in the recruitment of new carers.

The THFCA also holds a range of events and activities which bring together foster carers and families, helping them to make some special memories and offer support to each other. Events in 2019/20 included:

- Residential trip for foster carers and children in August 2019
- ‘Picnic in the park’ at the end of August 2019.
- ‘Fun Day’ for all carers and children, with social workers also attending.
- Pantomime in January 2019

The Fostering Potential (Educational Champions) programme aims to raise the educational outcomes of fostered children by increasing foster carers’ knowledge and confidence in their role as ‘first educators’. Tower Hamlets is one of seven local authorities taking part in this innovative programme led by the Fostering Network which enables Education Champions to work closely with foster carers to increase their skills and confidence in their role as educators. The work is being supported by a national virtual network, resources and a series of free webinars. This scheme will also be featured in our recruitment materials.

Key Achievements 2019/20

- Children’s Services Ofsted Inspection Rating of ‘Good’** in June 2019. This outcome represented an improvement of two grades in the space of just over two years. The Ofsted inspection report noted that since the early inspection of 2017 “leaders and managers have had a relentless focus to improve practice to deliver good experiences and progress for children and their families. At all levels, there is effective management oversight and a direct understanding of the quality of significantly improved frontline practice.”
- Council Tax Care Leavers Discount Scheme** - the Council continues to ensure that all Care-leavers who live in the Borough do not pay Council tax. We continue to explore ways in which to ensure that those care-leavers living outside of the Borough can access the same type of support and assistance.
- Changes to Housing Protocol** as highlighted earlier in this report, challenges to the Housing ‘Bidding’ process that were raised by young people at the October 2019 meeting were followed up and have resulted in changes to the housing ‘Bidding’ process which have resulted in Care-leavers being given greater amounts of time to consider housing/accommodation offers.
- Improvements to facilities for young people (Kitcat Terrace)** have included upgrades to computers and installation of washer / dryers.
- Children in Care Council (CiCC) workshop at the CPB** – in Oct 2019 members of the CiCC prepared and delivered an activity at CPB which highlighted the challenges that they face, particularly when it comes to budgeting, travel costs and rent. During the meeting, each CPB member then went on to pledge one thing that they would do to support the CiCC.
- The CiCC tested a care leavers app** that can help local authorities promote their local offer. The group looked at various local authority designs and provided recommendations on a Tower Hamlets app could include. This work will continue during 2020/21.
- The Young People’s Coordinator Apprentice** was seconded to the Youth Service enabling the role to focus on participation and the voice of young people as well as ensuring that YPCA has the opportunity to learn about the importance of young people’s role in decision-making and in influencing change.
- The ‘My BNK’ Money House Programme** – provided a ‘simulated living programme’ delivered in real flats which helps young people to develop money management and tenancy management skills. In Tower Hamlets we have made it compulsory for all young people to attend the five day programme as part of our assessment of readiness to be nominated for permanent accommodation.

- **The Virtual School Awards in October 2019** were a celebration of the children's achievements and the efforts of all the students. A range of awards were presented and the event supported by organisations which help to provide learning and enrichment opportunities for the children including West Ham United Foundation and the Jack Petchey Foundation.
- **Enrichment offer 'Give it a Go'** seeks to embed the concept of the Virtual School as a supportive community. The offer has been delivered alongside the West Ham Foundation who have a commitment to support LAC through their organisation and the club. 'Give it a Go' Juniors enables access to activities for the youngest students so that they also benefit from these opportunities at an early stage.
- **A Photography Project display** promoted the work of young people and the messages they wanted to convey to users of, and visitors to, Mulberry Place and highlights our corporate care responsibility.
- **Gorsefield Summer School** has provided an aspirational offer based on life skills, relaxation and the learning journey. Spending time with fellow children in care is a valuable experience for the children as they realise they are not alone.
- **Careers Young Workpath** has continued to provide information, advice and guidance to help young people reach their goals for the future. The service assists young people aged 13 to 19 and up to age 25 if they have a special educational need or disability (SEND). The service works predominantly with young people who may need extra support including those who have SEND, physical or mental health issues, are in or leaving care and are 'not in education, employment or training'.
- **A study support programme with UEL** has ensured children are able to see the option of further education as 'normal' and learn about the support a young person in care would receive and the access routes for this.
- **The Mayors Fund Growth Bid** – education and training opportunities for care leavers who are at risk of or 'Not in Education, Employment or Training' (NEET). Projects have included:
 - Summer Internship Programme - for care leavers who are attending university to engage in practical work experience and increase employability on graduation
 - Traineeships - with work experience aimed at helping young people to get the appropriate skills and experience to become 'work ready'

- Apprenticeships – Youth participation and health and social care apprenticeships aimed at NEET care leavers to develop the skills, experience and attributes that employers are looking for and support their transition into sustainable employment.
- Bespoke programmes - aimed at the specific interests of some young people
- Tutorial support - aimed at young people who are at risk of becoming NEET through discontinuing their studies
- Residential trip - a trip to Wales delivering an activity based programme developing team working skills and confidence building
- **A Conference on the new Restorative Social Work Model for Foster Carers** was held in March 2019.
- **An Awards ceremony for Foster Carers** in Nov 2019 with over 200 attendees.
- **Improving timeliness of statutory health assessments** - the CCG worked with the Local Authority and Bart's Health NHS Trust (BHT) to significantly improve completion in target timescales of Initial Health Assessments (IHA) in 2019/20.
- **Reviewing safeguarding and CLA documentation.** This work has been underway with the focus being to standardised safeguarding processes across NELCA, provide assurance to the wider system and retain local safeguarding knowledge and expertise. A range of policies, procedures and strategies have been reviewed or developed with remaining requirements set out in future work plans.
- **The Health of Children Looked After and Care Leavers Steering Group** was established in Autumn 2019. The group has developed a workplan, an integrated data dashboard and is liaising with the CiCC to take forward actions focused on engagement of children and young people.
- **The Children and Adolescents Mental Health Service (CAMHS) in Social Care Team** undertook consultations in relation to 128 children or sibling groups (for children and young people subject to a Children Looked After Plan). This led to an offer of face to face assessment and intervention work or advice to the Social Worker within the screening consultation and help with an onward referral if appropriate.
- The team also took 133 referrals for child and young people subject to either a Child in Need or Child Protection Plan. Consultations led to direct clinical involvement or advice to the referring Social Worker and the option of further consultation if required.
- **The CAMHS post in the Edge of Care Team** has been recruited to and made a permanent part of the structure. This role helps to upskill the team in evidence-based interventions designed to enable young people on the edge of care to either remain living at home with their parents or extended family members or where possible be supported back home after a period of time in local authority care.

Priorities and Emerging Challenges for 2020/21

Responding to the Covid-19

A huge amount of work has taken place during the period affected by the Covid-19 to ensure that good quality services continue to be delivered despite the emergency situation.

Considerable emphasis was placed on maintaining face to face contact with our vulnerable families where it was safe to do so. We maintained contact with children in need and children on a child protection plan primarily via telephone and video calls. However, for our most vulnerable young people we continued to focus on face to face visits.

Throughout this period of time we have remained in close contact with all of our looked after young people. Again, continuing face to face visits where it was safe to do so and the use of remote options.

Our phone and social media contact with care leavers increased in order to address issues that they raised during the restrictions. Work was carried out at an early stage in order to identify those who were most likely to require additional support, and face to face visits were prioritised. There was additional support available from the CAMHS Support Team and food parcels to assist with healthy regular eating.

We know that the longer term impacts of the emergency will only become fully evident in the coming months, especially as children

return to school. We expect to see an increase in demand in relation to the impact of poverty, trauma and loss and of online exploitation.

The continued promotion of “Practice Weeks” within the Children’s Social Care has strengthened the corporate understanding of young people who are fostered. This has ensured that the profile of the responsibilities of all staff, and Councillors as “Corporate Parents” has strengthened and improved. We still have much to do in this respect but the continued importance of the six-monthly Practice Weeks (May and November) each year will assist in building the importance of Corporate parenting within Tower Hamlets.

We will continue to work closely with all partners to respond as we move into the next phase of the emergency and develop a longer term, sustainable response. As well as developing new ways of working, and the ability to be flexible in responding to any further changes, we will continue to carefully monitor ongoing risks and issues and to identify emerging concerns.

Engagement with young people

The structure of the CICC is under review with a focus on ensuring a broader membership to reflect different age groups. The aim is also for different groups to feed into each other and older groups to provide peer training and mentoring to others.

The proposal being explored is to establish the following groups, with some potentially meeting online:

- Juniors – eight to 12-year olds
- Seniors – 14 to 17-year olds
- Elders – 18 to 25-year olds

An information, recruitment and consultation event is being planned which will be delivered with partners including the Become charity, Barnardo's, East London Business Alliance (ELBA), CAMHS, Young Workpath, Prince's Trust and Drive Forward.

In response to the Covid-19 the CiCC has been meeting weekly since the end of April 2020. Additional challenges that they have raised during this period include concerns about mental health and wellbeing, loss of normal routine and feeling isolated. Future plans are being informed by this feedback and below are some highlights of what the CiCC has been doing,

- Lockdown Step Challenge – set up in response to some of the concerns above this has helped a group of 10 young people to increase their activity using fitness watches to engage with each other and monitor progress on the number of steps taken.
- The CiCC magazine for all CLA and care leavers in Tower Hamlets is under development with the first issue due in August 2020. The magazine will include an introduction to the CiCC, a summary of issues covered in meetings, opportunities for young people, profiles of members and details of activities and events.

- A leadership residential that was planned for April 2020 will now be rescheduled. This will provide an opportunity for a group of CiCC members to carry out some team building exercises, review their roles and responsibilities and produce their annual plan.

Education, Training and Employment

- The Virtual School has been focused on the following during spring and summer 2020:
 - Laptops are being provided via the DFE online scheme. The Virtual School has coordinated this for the Virtual School, Children in Need, Children with Disabilities and the Through Care cohort and has successfully negotiated a 25 per cent uplift in the allocation of 2,500 devices.
 - Investment and ramping up of the Virtual School online offer is helping us to meet the demands of the pandemic.
 - The service has had to reconfigure to support carers as home educators.
 - Additional tuition for children is now provided online with Zoom classes taking place, including through the holiday periods
 - All Personal Education Plans have been completed virtually.

- One-hundred staff inside and outside of the borough have been trained by industry specialists on trauma awareness and returning to school as Covid-19 restrictions are lifted.
- Supported Employment Programme (formerly known as the Traineeship)– the first Through Care Service cohort for the redesigned programme concluded in April 2020. Tower Hamlets Workpath continues to support this group of young people to ensure they will have ‘education, training or employment’ activity, or be supported into this, after restrictions are lifted. Planning is underway to start recruiting the next programme cohort in Autumn 2020.
- Element Creative Programme – although this Through Care Service programme was postponed in 2020 due to Covid-19 restrictions it will be re-book this once restrictions have been lifted.

Foster Carers

- Tower Hamlets Foster Carers participated in a survey focused on sharing experiences of home schooling during the Pandemic, and the transition back to school. The survey is aimed at enabling the Fostering Network policy team to raise key issues that foster carers and children have faced with the Department for Education.
- The Tower Hamlets Mockingbird family (part of the Fostering Network programme) has contributed to the ‘Mockingbird in Lockdown’ film in 2020 and helped to host a programme for a

group of visitors from the Netherlands. The visitors included senior managers in fostering services and foster carers who were interested in starting the programme in their country. The visit created an opportunity for carers to share their experiences, successes and challenges of being pioneers in using this family model of providing support to children and carers.

- The Fostering Service will be taking part in a research-based project led by the Fostering Network with the Thomas Coram Research Unit. The project will involve foster carers, babies and young children and supervising social workers. The aim is to help create approaches for carers to meet the educational and social development needs of children.
- Tower Hamlets has also signed up to use a new approach to training and recruitment from the Cornerstone Partnership. They have pioneered a virtual reality experience for fostering and adoption services which allows parents and carers to experience life from the perspective of the child. This offers a unique way of to understand the impact of attachment and trauma through the eyes of the child.

Kitcat Terrace for young people

- We will continue to develop the functionality of Kitcat Terrace for all young people in the borough. This plan will include discussion on how to make better use of some of the large upstairs in the building and will involve the CiCC in this process.

Health

The Health of Children Looked After and Care Leavers Steering Group is taking forward a wide range of actions including:

- Mapping and assessment of health needs (physical, dental, immunisation and sexual health) for children and young people.
- Ensuring that all children who are in care have regular health assessments.
- Mapping feedback forms for children and young people and developing thorough feedback process across the system
- Review of assessment methods (including Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire, CAMHS emotional wellbeing screening and Moods & Feelings Questionnaire) for mental health and wellbeing.
- Mapping of commissioning intentions across the Local Authority and Clinical Commissioning Groups.
- Development of a Learning & Improvement Framework.

Mental Health and Wellbeing

The CAMHS in Social Care Team has developed enhanced skills in using online media to reach vulnerable children and their carers through events which have shared approaches to providing therapy online.

- Benefits to the new ways of working used during the Covid-19 have included:
 - Greater accessibility to the service for children placed out of borough who do not meet their local CAMHS criteria, through more regular sessions delivered online.

- Increased take up of CLA Emotional Wellbeing Screening due to delivery over the telephone as they are easier to attend.

- A dedicated CAMHS Clinician was recruited to join the Fostering Service in May 2020. The focus of this post is providing specialist clinical support to foster carers and their networks looking after children with complex trauma.
- The CAMHS in Social Care Team has also recently started some service development work with the CiCC. A focus group is being organised which will provide an opportunity for young people to share their experiences to help inform the shaping of services. One of the issues which has already been identified is the impact of service criteria and age on meeting the mental health needs of Care Leavers, which will need to be reviewed by the LA and CCG.

Developing a wider understanding of corporate parenting

We will continue to develop understanding across the entire council of the role that everyone plays in supporting children looked after and care leavers and ensuring they have access to the opportunities that all children should get.

Appendix A: Membership list for the Corporate Parenting Board (including officers who also report to the board)

Name	Job Title / Organisation	Name	Job Title / Organisation
Danny Hassell	Chair of the CPB and Cabinet Member for Children and Schools	Amanda Marcus	Divisional Director, HR and OD, LBTH
David Edgar	Councillor	Lyn Glover	Designated Nurse for CLA, NHS TH CCG
Asma Islam	Councillor	Layla Alnakib	Designated Paediatrician Safeguarding
Asmat Hussain	Corporate Director, Governance and Monitoring Officer, LBTH	Annick Batimba	Programme Development Manager, Integrated Youth & Community Services, LBTH
Young People’s Representatives	Children in Care Council	Farhan Hoque	Youth Services, LBTH
Foster Care Representatives		Assia Ali	Through Care Service, LBTH
Richard Baldwin	Divisional Director Children’s Social Care, LBTH	Edosa Obunge	Through Care Service, LBTH
James Thomas	Director of Children and Culture	Peter Cox	CAMHS in Social Care Team Lead, LBTH
Robert Bielby	Service Manager, Children’s Social Care, LBTH	Lissa-Marie Minnis	Children’s Social Care, LBTH
David Cregan	Headteacher Virtual School, LBTH	Vicky Clark	Divisional Director, Growth and Economic Development, LBTH
Lynn Torpey	Designated Nurse for Safeguarding & Looked After Children, Tower Hamlets Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG)	Tracy Stanley	Strategy & Policy Officer - Children and Culture, LBTH
		Pam Cummins	Business Support, LBTH

Appendix B – CPB Meetings and Agendas 2019/20

MEETING	KEY AGENDA ITEMS
Standing Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update from Foster Care Representatives • Update from Children in Care Council (CiCC) • Performance Report
April 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pilot of mental health checks for Children Looked After (CLA) • Potential opportunities for young people who are at risk of 'not in employment, education or training' (NEET)
July 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sufficiency Strategy and Action Plan • Annual Adoption Report • The Child Protection Chairs Service Annual Report • Safeguarding and Quality Assurance Service Independent Reviewing Officer (IRO) Annual Report
Oct 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshops – based on the 3 Children & Families Strategy Themes • Virtual School interim results • Potential impact of Brexit on CLA and Care Leavers
Jan 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tower Hamlets Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) Safeguarding Children and CLA Annual Report • Actions from meeting with CiCC • Update on Un-regulated Placements and children 'Placed at a Distance' • NEET and Apprenticeships Task and Finish Groups • Update on Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC) and 'Dubs' children
April 2020	<p>*Virtual Meeting due to Covid-19 restrictions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Verbal updates from all attendees, including on - current position for each service area or organisation, any issues or emerging concerns • Update on Children's Social Care during the Pandemic • Update of Support to Care Leavers during the Pandemic

Appendix C – Children's Social Care Key Performance Indicator Report Extract March 2020

Performance Measure	2017/18	2018/19	Current	Period
Overview				
Number of CLA	290	329	307	Snapshot
Number of UASC			37	Snapshot
CLA - rate per 10,000	43.0	48.1	43.3	Snapshot

Performance Measure	2017/18	2018/19	Current	Period
Looked After Children				
No of new CLA episodes in period	147	217	151	YTD
No. of CLA exits in period	192	174	172	YTD
% repeat CLA (entries that were re-entries within 2 years)	14.3%	6.5%	6.0%	YTD
Average no. of placement moves	1.6	1.5	1.6	Rolling Year
Max. no of placement moves	9.0	10.0	6.0	Rolling Year
CLA long term placement stability %	62.3%	70.6%	71.6%	Snapshot
% of CLA with a named Social Worker (key worker or personal advisor)	100%	100.0%	100.0%	Snapshot

Performance Measure	2017/18	2018/19	Current	Period
Section 6 - Care Leavers				
% care leavers "in touch" (17,18,19,20,21 yr. olds with activity updated within last year)	96.8%	97.9%	95.7%	Snapshot
% care leavers known to be EET	67.6%	71.4%	67.3%	Snapshot

% care leavers known to be in suitable accommodation	91.0%	89.6%	91.4%	Snapshot
% care leavers with a pathway plan	93.5%	94.5%	98.8%	Snapshot
% care leavers with pathway plan updated in last 6 months	66.7%	85.0%	96.7%	Snapshot

Performance Measure	2017/18	2018/19	Current	Period
Missing Children				
Number of missing children during period	274	287	276	YTD
Missing from home	129	176	176	YTD
CP	31	18	16	YTD
CIN	73	48	48	YTD
CLA (out of borough)	57	69	73	YTD
CLA (in borough)	41	24	16	YTD

Performance Measure	2017/18	2018/19	Current	Period
Fostering and Adoption				
Number of Foster Carer Enquiries	258.0	278	95	YTD
No. of Foster Carer Enquiries leading to Initial Visits	37	56	48	YTD
% Initial visits completed within 5 working days	15.8%	64.3%	75%	YTD
Total Approved Foster Carers (excl. family & friends, staying put, on hold/unavailable)	125	101	97	Snapshot
Foster Carer Vacancy rate	24.0%	23.1%	23.7%	Snapshot
Foster Carer Occupancy rate	76.0%	76.9%	75.3%	Snapshot
No. of children placed with Inhouse Foster Carers	-	132	115	Snapshot
No. of children in Independent Fostering Agency (IFA) Placements	-	85	92	Snapshot
Children in Residential Placements	23	30	30	Snapshot

Performance Measure	2017/18	2018/19	Current	Period
Fostering and Adoption (continued)				
Average time between a child entering care and moving in with its adoptive family	547.0	401.9	376	YTD (3 years)
Average time between court authority to place a child and deciding on a match	112	208	164	YTD
% waiting less than 14 months between entering care and moving in with their family (14 months)	77.8%	70.7%	46.2%	Snapshot
Adoptions from care (number adopted and percentage leaving care who are adopted)	4.2%	9.2%	6.4%	YTD
Number of Adoptions and Special Guardianship Orders granted for Looked After Children (S)	30	24	37	YTD
The percentage of black and minority ethnic children leaving care who are adopted	2.7%	6.9%	4.4%	YTD
The percentage of children who ceased to be looked after because of a SGO	11.5%	4.6%	15.1%	YTD
Percentage of CLA placed for adoption within 12 months of agency decision	100.0%	87.5%	90.9%	YTD
Performance Measure	2017/18	2018/19	Current - Autumn 2019/20	Period
Virtual School				
% of pupils making expected progress			56%	Termly
% of pupils where a PEP meeting took place in the term			93%	Termly
% of PEPs which were signed off and RAG rated green			73%	Termly

Appendix D – Tower Hamlets Partnership Structures

