

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

Draft Tower Hamlets Corporate Parenting Board
Annual Report 2020/21

Chair's Foreword

This has been another busy and challenging year for all involved in supporting young people who are cared for by Tower Hamlets. The continued concerns in relation to the Covid 19 pandemic and the emerging concerns linked to its persistence mean that the emotional and physical welfare of all young people has been a key priority for the Council.

Of particular importance have been the group of young people who are cared for by our-selves. We have needed to ensure that foster-carers, teachers, social workers and all other professionals in the lives of our young people have focused on maintaining good relationships, and where safe to do so these need to be face to face. I have seen and heard of many very imaginative ways in which relationships have been maintained and encouraged to flourish despite the continuing challenges of Covid.

As the roll-out of the vaccination process continues, I am hopeful that the next 12 months can see us taking some important steps back towards a sense of normality and to bring back for our young people the opportunities and experiences that we had prior to the pandemic.

The Parenting Board has also developed and seen a number of changes over the past 12 months. In March I was appointed as the new lead member for Children, Youth Services and Families, and I have really enjoyed the new challenges that this role brings. As a

parent myself I fully understand the importance of ensuring that young people are prioritised and celebrated. I would also like to thank my predecessor, Cllr Danny Hassell for the work that he undertook over the past three years.

However, it is also important to look forward, and the work of the Corporate Parenting Board must continue to develop and respond to the challenges around us. We need to continue to strengthen the work that has begun this year to improve the apprenticeship offer we have for care-leavers, and we must also focus on different ways to engage with the young people in our care, particularly our younger children. I know that this is a priority for the CLICC (Children Living in Care Council) over the next 12 months.

I look forward to working with you.

Councillor Asma Begum
Deputy Mayor

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Children looked after and care leavers in Tower Hamlets

Children Looked After

306 children were looked after by the local authority (end of Mar 2021)

Under 5	55
5 to 9	43
10 to 15	105
16 to 17	103

There were 29 Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children (UASC) (end of Mar 2021)

CLA long term placement stability 73% (end of Mar 2021)

Accommodation

96% of allocated care leavers were in suitable accommodation (at end of Mar 2021)

Care Leavers

At 31st March 2021 the Through Care Service was working with a cohort of 435 young people (between the ages of 14 – 25)

Health

86% of Children Looked After had an annual health check within 12 months (end Mar 2021)

60% of Children Looked After had an annual dental check within 12 months (end Mar 2021)

Education, training and employment

62% of pupils making expected progress (autumn term 2020/21)

95% of pupils had a personal education plan meeting during the term (autumn term 2020/21)

98% of allocated care leavers had a pathway plan (end of Mar 2021)

73% of allocated care leavers were in employment, education or training (end of Mar 2021)

Average no. of placement moves 1.5 (end of Mar 2021)

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 6 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 2020/21.

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.

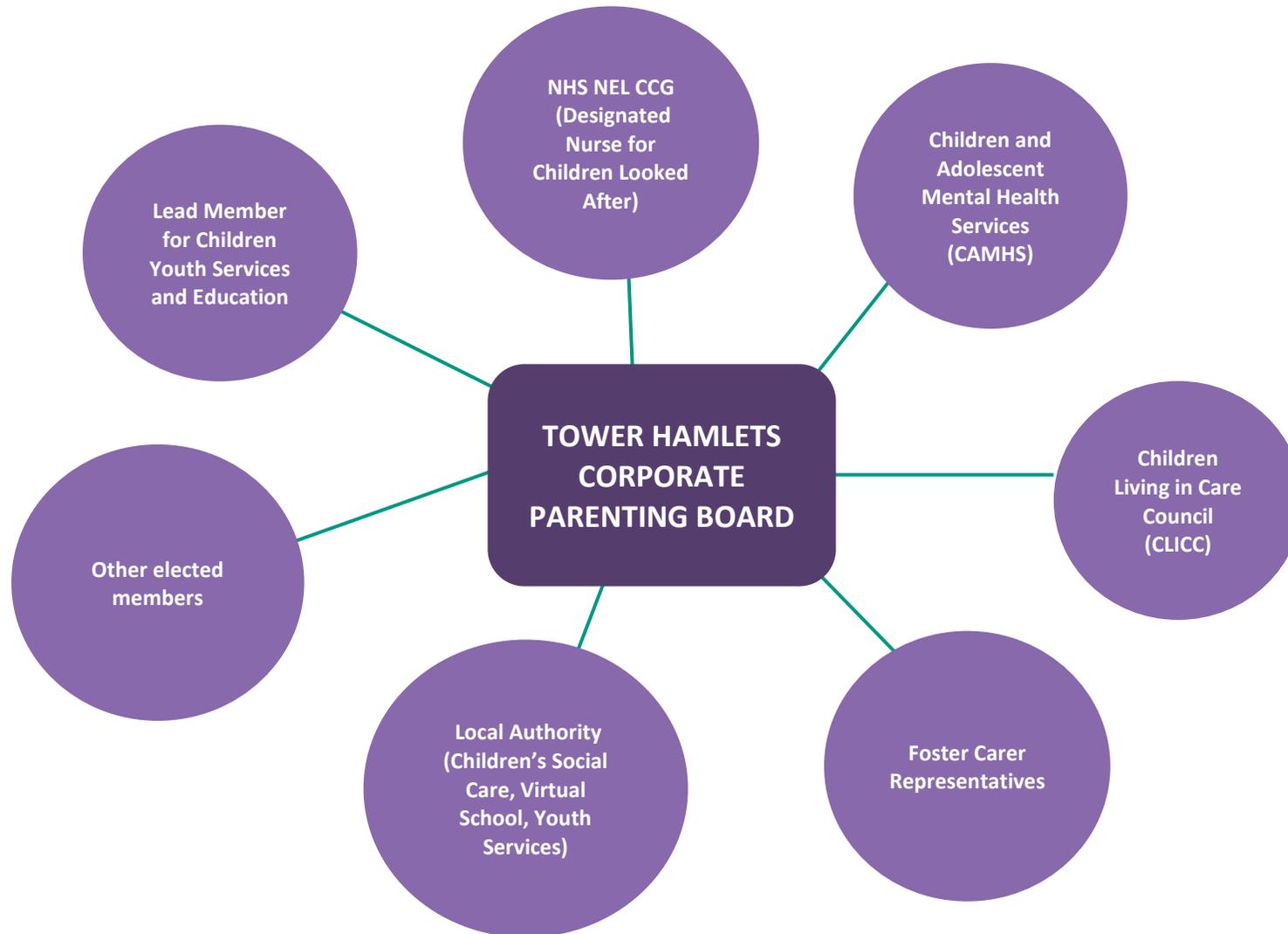
Responding to Covid 19

The challenges of Covid 19 continue to be significant. Despite the roll out of the government's vaccination programme, we are clear that the long-term impact of Covid 19 for young people remains an area that the Corporate Parenting Board must continue to address. In particular we highlight the following issues where work has been undertaken and will remain a priority for action:

- **Digital Poverty:** The roll-out of lap-tops for young people in care and Care-Leavers was the focus of considerable activity in the initial months of the pandemic. We were able to quickly ensure that all school-age children that we care for had their own lap-top in and had access to connectivity so that lessons and learning could be maintained. We have also ensured that we worked with Care Leavers and those supporting our care-leavers to ensure they also access connectivity to assist with college courses training and employment. This was been more challenging because of the range of different accommodation that some care-leavers have and the varying strength of broadband capacity within accommodation. However, we feel that we are now on top of this.

- **Well-Being and Emotional Health:** This was (and continues to be) a considerable issue for many of our young people. The launch and roll-out of the "Kooth" app, designed to assist with well-being issues, has been very positively received and the app is well used. We have also sought to work closely with CAMHS colleagues to ensure that the embedded facility we have for children in care is fully utilised and that carers are aware of its availability. This facility has also been of considerable assistance.
- **NEET:** Covid 19 has greatly affected how young people can access opportunities for training and employment. This is one of the reasons why the emphasis on Council apprenticeships is so important for our young people. The pandemic has seen a major impact on jobs within the borough and creating new and different training and employment opportunities has to remain a priority for the Council.

Membership of the Tower Hamlets Corporate Parenting Board



Participation and engagement with children and young people

The Tower Hamlets Children Living in Care Council (CLICC)

The Tower Hamlets Children Living in Care Council (CLICC) provides an opportunity for children looked after and care leavers to give their views and shape and influence the parenting that they receive at every level. The CLICC makes sure there is a way for young people to communicate directly with senior managers and elected members about things that matter to them. It also provides opportunities to meet new people, gain new skills, be supported to access wider services and take part in creative activities which boost self-esteem and confidence.

The Youth Service has created a post within the service to support the work of the CLICC & young carers so that more focused work can be undertaken and the young people in the CLICC are supported. This role helps to ensure that their voice is heard within the council at all levels as well as working with the CLICC to coproduce services that affect them and other young people to improve their lived experience.

As a result of the pandemic lockdown there were many months in 2020 when the CLICC were unable to meet as usual at KitKat Terrace. Fortnightly virtual meetings were organised as an alternative and as restrictions eased arrangements were made for the group to meet in person at the Haileybury Youth Centre via pre-booked sessions. This made it possible for young people

to socialise and have fun with activities such as basketball and table tennis, as well as an opportunity to eat together.

Summarised below are some of the key areas of work taken forward by the CLICC in 2020/21:

- **Emotional wellbeing** - young people highlighted the importance of being able to access timely, effective support for their emotional wellbeing at CPB meetings and through the CLICC. In response a series of focus groups were set up by Tower Hamlets Children and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) and facilitated by a Clinical Psychologist and CAMHS Social Worker. The sessions provided an opportunity for young people to explore their experiences of accessing mental health support whilst they were in care and make recommendations for service improvements.
- **Personal and Professional Development Programme** - young people have raised their concerns about the opportunities which will be available to them especially when considering the impact of the pandemic on education, employment and training. The programme offered young people the chance to explore goals and consider how they could overcome barriers. The programme offered young people the chance to explore their ambitions and goals as well as considering how they could overcome barriers. By working as a group over several sessions the young people were able to encourage

and support each other as they identified their aspirations on a personal and professional basis.

- **Defining the future priorities for young people** - at the Corporate Parenting Board (CPB) in early 2021 a presentation was given by the Children Living in Care Council (CLICC) Team and young people representatives setting out what their priorities were and what they would like to see happening in the future. This 'Wish List' is shown below and will be used as a foundation to develop an action plan for the next 12 to 18 months which will enable CLICC and the board to monitor progress on delivery.

CLICC 'Wish List'

- Creating wrap around services – identifying gaps in service delivery and exploring how feedback from young people can be embedded in practice.
- Strengthening joined-up approach to transitions – working with young people to find ways to make transitions smoother in the future.
- Creating CLICC Ambassadors Scheme – to represent children looked after and care leavers by advocating for them and being their voice.
- Training and development for social workers – young people to help shape the future training offer, including awareness

of the wider services and opportunities that young people may need to access.

- Affordable travel – improving awareness of, and access to, travel entitlements and increasing the offer through the Pan-London CLICC Participation Group.
- Local Offer for Care Leavers – delivering a more 'young person friendly' resource.
- Relationships with professionals and agencies – establishing ways that young people can easily raise and address any concerns about relationships with staff.
- Referral processes – working with young people to identify challenges with referral processes ensuring support is provided and reducing the need to repeat information.
- Mental health and wellbeing – finding more ways to provide support around emotional wellbeing for young people.

Role of Foster Carers

The Corporate Parenting Board continues to benefit 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 inform all discussions, actions taken and planning for the future. They are also able to raise any issues or concerns which affect foster carers so that the board can help to seek solutions when needed.

Tower Hamlets Foster Carers Association (THFCA)

The THFCA aims to bring all foster carers together to offer support and be a voice for them. They do this by working closely with the council and other partners in order to put carer's views and concerns forward. The THFCA holds an Annual General Meeting, facilitates support groups, attends the London FCA Forum and help as Ambassadors in the recruitment of new carers. Three committee members regularly facilitate the 'Skills to Foster' group and four members are mentors.

The THFCA also organises a range of events and activities which bring together foster carers and families. Unfortunately, due to the pandemic it was not possible to hold the planned

events in 2020 but as the restrictions change trips to seaside resorts and weekend breaks are being explored to help support foster carers and their children after a very challenging year.

The Tower Hamlets Fostering Service

There have been some staffing changes in the Fostering Service during 2020/21 and with the addition of some new colleagues the service is focused on ensuring a secure workforce which will provide stability as it continues to develop further.

Several new initiatives are being implemented to deliver improvements which will better support carers and refocus and re-energise the service. This will also help to improve the sense of connection with foster carers after the lockdown periods. Fortnightly email updates are being sent out to strengthen communication between the department and carers and help restore the sense of community and family. An online survey is being sent out to foster carers in 2021 and feedback received will help the service understand the challenges carers face, their views and concerns and to develop actions in response.

Key Achievements 2020/21

- **Educational attainment** - 53% of Children Looked After in the Virtual School are making expected progress in the core subjects of English/Maths (Spring 2021). This rises to 57% for those in care for one year.
- **Blended learning and digital provision** - the Virtual school has overseen provision of laptops have been provided via the DfE scheme for all young people in care (via the DfE scheme). The move to a blended learning approach in Tower Hamlets schools has been reflected in additions to the Virtual School website with an app to support learners and the creation of a Microsoft Virtual Learning Environment (VLE). Tower Hamlets will be the first Virtual School with a VLE capability fully funded by the DfE to run sessions. This will greatly enhance our ability to support young people out of borough: 60% of the cohort.
- **Tuition support** - the Tower Hamlets Virtual School made representations to the DfE and National Tuition Programme (NTP) about the need for Virtual Schools to make direct bookings for tuition to support learners out of school. Access to the scheme was secured for all Virtual School Heads nationwide, enhancing the ability to support these most vulnerable learners in care in or out of borough.
- **Training for Virtual School Staff** – training delivered by North East London Care Commissioners which provided an insight into the care experience of young people. This has included being mindful of the use of language when writing reports and recording events, supporting mental well-being, pupils in residentials and those subject to placement change.
- **Training for Foster Carers** – despite the pandemic the Virtual School has continued to offer training to foster carers on education matters from primary to post 16 cohorts.
- **Pupil Education Plans (PEP)** - 98% of pupils overseen by the Virtual School have had a PEP meeting in the last term (Spring term). 95% of these plans were rated Green and Amber which means they are completed to a high standard and within time frames.
- **Stepladder PLUS Programme** - young people have been supported by the Sir John Cass Foundation with £15,000 to launch the Stepladder PLUS programme in Tower Hamlets. This is a 6-step financial education programme for 15 to 17 year olds who are in care. For each step they complete, the young person earns a reward into their Child Trust Fund or Junior ISA. The total rewards for full completion are £1500. Six pupils are taking part in the borough and they have so far added £2,400 to their children trust funds.

Key Achievements 2020/21

- **Step challenges** - with young people staying inside more as a result of the pandemic a step challenge was introduced by the CLICC to help address the negative impacts on physical and emotional wellbeing. Teams of young people and council staff challenged and supported each other to be more active and the first challenge was so successful that a second was held later in 2020.
- **First Aid Training for young people from the CLICC** – as a result of feedback from young people a workshop was delivered remotely using a large screen at a local youth centre and mannequins which had been arranged in advance. The session gave the young people an opportunity to learn the basics of first aid for emergency situations, with certificates issued on completion.
- **Improving functional skills in Maths and English** - a need was identified for training so that young people are better ready for employment or are able to progress into the next stage of their education. An external provider was found and eight young people have been referred for free basic Functional Skills Maths and English training. Work continues to find other agencies or establish further initiatives to address the issue.
- **The Through Care Service;** has worked hard to develop its Care Leavers app. The app has been designed and co-produced with young people and is now ready for launch.
- **Mockingbird Programme (part of the Fostering Network)** - the two current Mockingbird Hubs continued to meet virtually in 2020 on a fortnightly basis. This meant activities continued to be delivered to engage children and young people as well as providing support to carers.
- The groups organised events such as quizzes, online parties and the creation of birthday videos to ensure children felt special. Carers provided feedback noting that they really enjoyed seeing the children on their screens and although it was not the same as meeting in person it had helped give them a strong feeling of community and family.

Key Achievements 2020/21

- **The Fostering Service** - established a Fostering Therapeutic Service which is a clinical psychology led service dedicated to working with Tower Hamlets foster carers and social workers to improve the wellbeing of Children Looked After and Children under Special Guardianship orders.
- The service aims to improve outcomes for children through strategic level change in the training and support offered to assessing and supervising social workers and foster carers. The service bridges health and social care and has strong links with the Children and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS). The overarching goal is to improve the wellbeing of children, to support placement stability and improve the quality of placements through training and support to foster carers and social workers.
- **The Health of Children Looked After and Care Leavers Steering Group** has delivered a range of achievements in 2020 which has been focused on improved partnership working among professionals across whole system (Health, Social Care & Education). This has included:
 - Increase in reaching older young people for Initial and Review Health Assessments due to more flexibility using virtual and telephone consults
 - Increased awareness and partnership working with the Virtual School and Special Educational Needs (SEN) Team to review and develop clearer Children Looked After and Care Leavers SEN Pathway
 - Improved partnership between Health and Adoption & Fostering with the reorganisation of panels
- Improved information sharing and sharing of best practice during the pandemic, especially regarding dental services, school nursing, immunisations and Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children services.
- The 'Catch-Up Project' offered face to face consultations for children (under 5's, children with medical problems and refugees) when lockdown restrictions were eased.
- **The Children and Adolescents Mental Health Service (CAMHS) in Social Care Team** undertook consultations with allocated social workers in relation to 139 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 and wider network as appropriate. 79 of these was as a result of a universal offer of emotional wellbeing screening for children as they enter local authority care.

Key Achievements 2020/21

- A further 60 referrals were made by Social Workers for CAMHS input in relation to children already looked after. 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.
- As already highlighted focus groups have been held with the Children in Care Council (CLICC) to seek their views on issues regarding emotional wellbeing and their experiences of accessing services. These sessions were an excellent opportunity for us to hear about barriers for young people in the care system to accessing support. As set out below the findings from the focus groups will help to guide plans for the future around supporting young people with their emotional wellbeing.

Priorities and Emerging Challenges for 2021/20

Participation and engagement with young people

The Children Living in Care Council (CLICC) has been focused on expanding the membership so that they can reach out to as many children and young people as possible, across different age groups.

Plans for recruitment have been developed during 2020 and will be implemented throughout 2021. This includes establishing two other CLICC forums:

- Juniors CLICC – 8 to 12-year olds
- Teen CLICC – 13 to 17-year olds

Meetings have been taking place with the Foster Carers Association, Foster Care Team, Children Looked After and Through Care Teams to help spread the message, gather data and to discuss different ways of recruiting new members.

An information leaflet has been designed and produced (by the young people?) to help promote the CLICC and what it can offer. This is now being shared by colleagues in relevant teams and the FCA. Dates are currently being organised for during Summer 2021 to hold recruitment events where the CLICC and officers who support the group can speak with care experienced young people across the borough.

Care Leaver Employability Working Group

The CLICC have been successful in applying to be a part of the Care Leaver Employability Working Group run by the organisation 'Catch 22'. Ten local authorities were selected and Tower Hamlets is the only London borough involved. The aim of the programme is to share best practise and apply that learning to develop how we work with local employers to provide employment opportunities for young people with care experience.

As part of the project the CLICC has identified areas it wants to work on to increase employability options for care leavers in the borough. These will be 'strengthening our internal offers, pre-employment training (Level 2 Functional Skills in Maths and English) and improving the communication of our offer to young people'.

Care Leavers App

Tower Hamlets will be launching a Care Leavers App in 2021. The app will support and help young people leaving care by enabling them to access local information and support and advice for their wellbeing. The app will also provide information about the day to day lives of care leavers to the local authority on a real-time basis, allowing preventative action and early intervention to take place quickly.

The App will be available on the main phone platforms and can be customised with local information and advice to provide a valuable resource that care leavers can access on their phones and tablets on a 24/7 basis.

Post 16 support

A key focus for the Virtual School (VS) during 2021-22 is supporting Post-16 students into education and employment. Our ambition is to be a Virtual College. Nationally, the level of those 'not in education, employment or training' (NEET) is increasing with some of the highest rises in youth unemployment in a decade due to the pandemic. The VS recognises that this is going to put pressure on training opportunities and education options. Staff from the Tower Hamlets Behaviour and Attendance Service will be working with the school to support the monitoring and targeting of support for vulnerable young people to keep them on course and prevent mid-year drop out.

GCSE assessment in 2021

Virtual School teachers have supported schools and students in Year 11 with preparations for teacher assessments that that will underpin GCSE grading decided at school level in the absence of exams during 2021. Comprehensive termly tracking by the VS means that expectations of achievement have been set with schools, which will be a factor informing the management moderation of grades. This ensures that every school knows there is a highly informed, concerned and expert adult behind every child in our care.

Using education data to support young people

To support interagency working and a greater awareness of educational issues, the Virtual School is going to work with

Children's Social Care on the transparency and use of education data that tracks a child's attainment from Early Years forward. The aim will be to comprehensively record education data in IT systems which allow it to be used more widely to enhance the support provided to children and young people.

Enrichment

A Post-Covid recovery bid has been prepared to restart the Virtual School's face to face enrichment programme, with sessions to support young people mixing with their peers. This will lead to a full awards ceremony for 2022 with a smaller exam group only celebration planned for 2021. In the meantime, online sessions with aspirational care experienced professionals have taken place. These included an online cook-a-long with Chef Mark Lloyd and a reading session with care experienced author Alex Wheatle.

Return to school based learning

Training to support the integration back into school has taken place for all Designated Teachers, with additional training on Emotional Based School Avoidance for the team. The online blended training approach means we can now record sessions, invite out of borough adults working with our children and staff from care homes. Attendance and feedback from sessions has actually improved.

Mockingbird Programme (part of the Fostering Network)

This programme is aimed at improving the stability of fostering placements and strengthening the relationships between carers, children and young people, fostering services and birth families.

Work is underway to create two further hubs in Tower Hamlets in addition to the existing two. The lockdowns caused some delay to progressing this but sessions are now planned for September 2021 to help identify people for 'Hub Carers' and identifying those carers within a suitable catchment area to enable the new hubs to be able to work closely together.

Cornerstone Virtual Reality (VR) Training for Foster Carers

Due to the impacts from the pandemic there has been a delay to the planned VR training. The intention was to provide training on topics such as attachment and help support carers who are struggling with challenging behaviours by being able to consider how life may feel in the child's shoes. The situation is being monitored and Cornerstone are looking at how they can develop their film library further which will provide extra opportunities for training on a variety of subjects. Other training courses have continued to run virtually.

Health of Children Looked After and Care Leavers Steering Group

The steering group is taking forward a set of main goals for 2021 including:

- Increasing Children and Young People (CYP) involvement:
 - Consider establishment of CYP Advisory Board
 - Co- production ensuring CYP have a key voice in service reviews & development
 - Awareness and access to health and service records

- Prioritise issues highlighted on the CLICC 'Wishlist'
 - Health Passports - align process of populating and sharing Health Passports with CYP between Social Care and Health.
- Improving CYP transitions, especially for those who are 16 - 25 years old:
 - Children Looked After & Care Leavers with diagnosed and undiagnosed Special Educational Needs
 - Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (including 18+ with no recourse to public funds)
 - CYP in Youth Justice System
 - Care Leavers (rising 21 years of age and over who are at risk of homelessness)
 - Improve assessment and early intervention of CYP Health & Wellbeing by further integration / partnership work between GP's and CAMHS and developing preventative mindfulness & life skills services
 - Sharing of information and improving processes to aid adoptions.
 - Queen Mary University of London Integration Workshops with the Steering Group and CLICC to develop service maps and aid service integration spanning housing, health & wellbeing, education, training & employment.

Mental Health and Wellbeing

Mental health and wellbeing remains a key issue for children looked after and care leavers and following the focus groups delivered with Children and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) (see page 7 above) further work will be undertaken to identify the most effective ways of meeting these needs. Discussions are taking place with CAMHS and colleagues from the North East London Clinical Commissioning Group (NELCCG) to explore the possibility of delivering wellbeing sessions, opportunities to co-produce services with young people and the exploring the introduction of Wellbeing Champions from the CLICC.

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
Asma Begum	Chair of the CPB and Cabinet Member for Children and Schools	Amanda Harcus	Divisional Director, HR and OD, LBTH
David Edgar	Councillor	Lyn Glover	Designated Nurse for CLA, NHS TH CCG
Asma Islam	Councillor	Hasan Faruq	Commissioning & Contracts Manager Youth Service, LBTH
Ann Sutcliffe	Corporate Director, Place, LBTH	Caroline Campbell	IRO Group Manager, LBTH
Young People's Representatives	Children in Care Council	Farhan Hoque	Youth Services, LBTH
Foster Care Representatives		Sorrel Norwood	Youth Services, 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
Geraldine O'Donnell	Service Manager, LBTH	Karlijn Tummers	Interim Senior Commissioning Manager Children and Young People, LBTH
Pam Cummins	Business Support, LBTH	Tracy Stanley	Strategy & Policy Officer - Children and Culture, LBTH

Appendix B – CPB Meetings and Agendas 2020/21

MEETING	KEY AGENDA ITEMS
Standing Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update from Foster Care Representatives • Update from Children Living in Care Council (CLICC) • Performance Report
April 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update of Support to Care Leavers during the current Covid 19 Emergency • Board member updates on Covid 19 related issues for children looked after and care leavers
June 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update of Support to Care Leavers during the current Covid 19 Emergency • Update on fostering, placements and children looked after • Virtual School briefing
July 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corporate Parenting Board Annual Report 2019/20 • Children Looked After with SEND Report from the Virtual School
October 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quality Assurance Service IRO Annual Report 2018/19 • Update on Children Looked After and Care Leavers Health Steering Group • Update on Regional Adoption Agency • LBTH Independent Panel Chair's Annual Report
January 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion on Corporate Parenting national and regional reports and best practice • Update on Apprenticeships
April 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on Care Leavers App • Draft Corporate Parenting Board Action Plan 2021/22 • Local Planning and Implementation Group for Lifelong Links • Adopt London East - Performance and service development report

Appendix C – Children's Social Care Key Performance Indicator Report Extract March 2021

Performance Measure	2018/19	2019/20	Current (2020/21)	Period
Overview				
Number of CLA	329	307	306	Snapshot
Number of UASC	43	37	29	Snapshot
CLA - rate per 10,000	48.1	43.3	43.1	Snapshot

Performance Measure	2018/19	2019/20	Current (2020/21)	Period
Looked After Children				
No. of new CLA episodes in period	217	151	131	YTD
No. of CLA exits in period	174	172	131	YTD
% repeat CLA (entries that were re-entries within 2 years)	6.5%	6.0%	2.3%	YTD
Average no. of placement moves	1.5	1.6	1.5	YTD
Max. no of placement moves	10.0	6.0	5.0	YTD
% CLA long term placement stability	70.6%	71.6%	72.7%	Snapshot
% of CLA with a named Social Worker (key worker or personal advisor)	100%	100.0%	100.0%	Snapshot

Performance Measure	2018/19	2019/20	Current (2020/21)	Period
Section 6 - Care Leavers				
% allocated care leavers "in touch" (17,18,19,20,21 yr. olds with activity updated within last year)	97.9%	95.7%	98.8%	Snapshot
% allocated care leavers known to be EET	71.4%	67.3%	72.6%	Snapshot
% allocated care leavers known to be in suitable accommodation	89.6%	91.4%	95.8%	Snapshot
% allocated care leavers with a pathway plan	94.5%	98.8%	98.2%	Snapshot
% allocated care leavers with pathway plan updated in last 6 months	85.0%	96.7%	95.6%	Snapshot

Performance Measure	2018/19	2019/20	Current (2020/21)	Period
Missing Children				
Number of missing children during period	287	276	210	YTD
Missing from home	176	176	141	YTD
CP	18	16	5	YTD
CIN	48	48	34	YTD
CLA (out of borough)	69	73	41	YTD
CLA (in borough)	24	16	15	YTD

Performance Measure	2018/19	2019/20	Current (2020/21)	Period
Fostering and Adoption				
Number of Foster Carer Enquiries	278	95	193	YTD
No. of Foster Carer Enquiries leading to Initial Visits	56	48	53	YTD
% Initial visits completed within 5 working days	64.3%	75.0%	44%	YTD
Total Approved Foster Carers (excl. family & friends, staying put, on hold/unavailable)	101	97	116	Snapshot
Foster Carer Vacancy rate	23.1%	23.7%	45.3%	Snapshot
Foster Carer Occupancy rate	76.9%	75.3%	54.7%	Snapshot
No. of children placed with Inhouse Foster Carers	132	115	109	Snapshot
No. of children in Independent Fostering Agency (IFA) Placements	85	92	85	Snapshot
Children in Residential Placements	30	30	27	Snapshot

Performance Measure	2018/19	2019/20	Current (2020/21)	Period
Fostering and Adoption (continued)				
Average time between a child entering care and moving in with its adoptive family	401.9	376.3	432.3	YTD (3 years)
Average time between court authority to place a child and deciding on a match	208	164	245	YTD
% waiting less than 14 months between entering care and moving in with their family (14 months)	70.7%	46.2%	36.1%	Snapshot
Adoptions from care (number adopted and percentage leaving care who are adopted)	9.2%	6.4%	6.1%	YTD
Number of Adoptions and Special Guardianship Orders granted for Looked After Children (S)	24	37	17	YTD
The percentage of black and minority ethnic children leaving care who are adopted	6.9%	4.4%	3.9%	YTD
The percentage of children who ceased to be looked after because of an SGO	4.6%	15.1%	8.4%	YTD
Percentage of CLA placed for adoption within 12 months of agency decision	87.5%	90.9%	87.5%	YTD

Performance Measure	2018/19	2019/20	Current (Autumn 2020/21)	Period
Virtual School				
% of pupils making expected progress		56%	62%	Termly
% of pupils where a PEP meeting took place in the term		93%	95%	Termly
% of PEPs which were signed off and RAG rated green		73%	91%	Termly

Appendix D – Tower Hamlets Partnership Structures

