



Report summary

4 Key Priorities for Corporate Parents to focus on in the next 3 years

1. Emotional and physical health and wellbeing - making sure you are happy and healthy

Progress has been made. OOMOO offers young people emotional health and wellbeing support, a new mental health crisis team is now in place and gym and swim passes for care leavers have been made available.

2. Independence and transition to adulthood - helping you learn life skills

Skilz sessions available at the Care Leavers Hub help towards this.

3. Positive lived experiences - making sure there are enough people looking after you in suitable homes

A Partnership Accommodation programme will help reshape the residential care sector. Improvements across fostering have also been made and more changes will be made in the training and recruitment of foster carers. New types of accommodation will also be considered.

4. Education and employment - making sure you have the right support to help you in school and finding work

More work is going to be done around inclusion. The voice of the child will lead and influence all decisions made.

After this survey they came up with a vision

To make sure children looked after and care leavers are valued, listened to, and supported to be aspirational and achieve their full potential

How these priorities were decided

There was a dedicated session held by the Corporate Parenting Board to decide these priorities after a staff survey was shared with employees, and the care councils shared a survey with Wirral's children looked after and care leavers.



How the priorities will be monitored

The Corporate Parenting Board meetings will be themed around the priorities to make sure that they have a leading and influential position in all the decisions made. The Corporate Parenting Operational Group will carry out the actions decided.

As well as this, the care councils will be feeding back on whether decisions that are being made are helpful and/or working well. The care councils will continue to share the voice of children looked after and care leavers to corporate parents to make sure they have their say.

Safeguarding risk

The council will continue to ensure young people are safeguarded.

Evidence of commitment to the young people will continue to be provided for Ofsted and accountability.

Who is involved in these discussions

- Corporate Parenting Board (elected members, foster carers, care council, council officers, partners from health and the police)
- Members of the care council's
- Children's Services staff (frontline practitioners, social workers, senior managers and other staff)
- Operational Managers (placement commissioning, permanence, fostering, care leavers, participation and engagement)
- Department and organisational partners (housing, chamber of commerce, organisational development, health, police)

Equality and Environment

Wirral Council must make sure no one is discriminated against, and all policies are helping towards equality for all.

Corporate parents must teach children about the climate emergency, and how to protect the environment.

Employment

The successful apprenticeship programme that helps care leavers get jobs in the council will continue. This will hopefully give care leavers more chances to have long lasting careers in the council.