

Meeting of:	Cabinet
Date of Meeting:	Thursday, 21 July 2022
Relevant Scrutiny Committee:	Healthy Living and Social Care
Report Title:	Corporate Parenting Panel
Purpose of Report:	To provide for the re-appointment of the Council's Corporate Parenting Panel
Report Owner:	Cabinet Member for Social Care and Health
Responsible Officer:	Principal Democratic and Scrutiny Services Officer
Elected Member and Officer Consultation:	This is an internal matter and therefore no external consultation procedure is necessary
Policy Framework:	This is a matter for Executive decision
Executive Summary:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To seek Cabinet approval regarding the membership of the Corporate Parenting Panel following the change in the Council's Administration.

Recommendation

1. That the Corporate Parenting Panel be re-appointed, with its membership comprising 2 Conservative Group Members, 2 Labour Group Members and 1 Member each from the Plaid Cymru Group, Llantwit First Independents Group and an Independent Member.

Reason for Recommendation

1. To facilitate the ongoing role of the Corporate Parenting Panel.

1. Background

- 1.1 The Corporate Parenting Panel was appointed by Cabinet on 30th July, 2012. Cabinet had previously agreed (on 15th July, 2009) that the membership of the Panel be increased from 3 to 7 members. In doing so, the Cabinet had considered, and agreed to, a recommendation from the former Scrutiny Committee (Social Care and Health) that the membership of the Panel include all political groups.
- 1.2 In 2017, as there was no other independent group on the Council, the Panel membership was reduced from 7 to 6 Members.
- 1.3 With the change in Administration in 2019 (Cabinet Minute C20, 17th June, 2019, refers), it was agreed that the Corporate Parenting Panel would consist of 2 Conservative Group Members, 2 Labour Group Members and 1 Member each from the Plaid Cymru Group, Llantwit First Independents Group and the Vale Independents Group.
- 1.4 The report proposes that following the Local County Borough Council Elections held on 5th May, 2022 that the Corporate Parenting Panel be re-appointed as per the Recommendation to the report.

2. Key Issues for Consideration

- 2.1 Elected Members and the Council as a whole have a legal and moral duty to provide the level of support, care and protection to all looked after children that any good parent would give to their own children. It is important, therefore, that this responsibility is understood and that appropriate actions to promote the wellbeing of looked after children are prioritised across the Council.
- 2.2 Corporate parenting responsibilities can be delivered only when there is a clear political commitment and leadership and when senior managers agree that this is a priority that can be made explicit in strategic and business planning. In order to achieve this framework for action, the Council has established the cross-party Corporate Parenting Panel to be chaired by the Executive Lead Member for Social Care and Health (whose portfolio includes Children's Services), the Panel consists of Elected Members, senior officers and a care experienced young person representative.
- 2.3 The Corporate Parenting Panel will resume its schedule of meetings shortly and a new work programme will be agreed by the Panel at that time.

- 2.4 In terms of the size of the Panel, the membership as agreed in 2019 is in line with the political balance of the Council.

3. How do proposals evidence the Five Ways of Working and contribute to our Well-being Objectives?

- 3.1 The report ties in with the Corporate Wellbeing Outcome of an Active and Healthy Vale as well as the approach to integrated planning under the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act.

4. Climate Change and Nature Implications

- 4.1 There are no direct implications as a result of the report.

5. Resources and Legal Considerations

Financial

- 5.1 There are no resource implications arising directly out of this report.

Employment

- 5.2 There are no resource implications arising directly out of this report.

Legal (Including Equalities)

- 5.3 The Corporate Parenting Panel is a subsidiary of Cabinet. The membership of the Panel has not, historically, been considered in the calculation of overall political balance on the Council. Nevertheless, it is felt that it would be beneficial if all political groups continued to be represented.

6. Background Papers

Report to Cabinet - 30th July, 2012

[Cabinet Meeting - 17th June, 2019](#)