



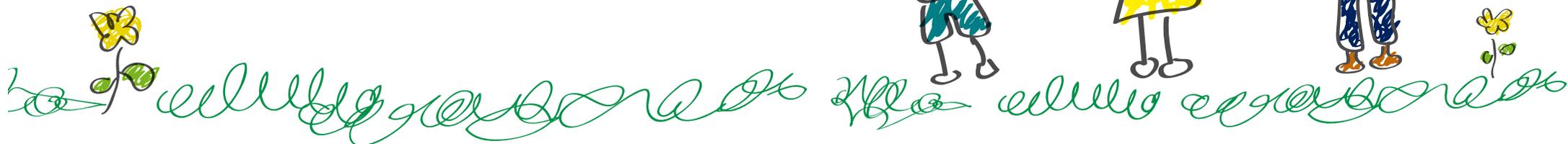
TRAFFORD
COUNCIL

The Trafford Corporate Parenting Strategy 2018 – 2020

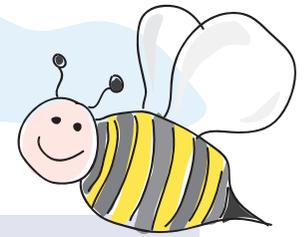
How we are going to work together to be the very best parents to our children in care

Thank you to the children, young people, carers and staff who have helped us to put together this strategy.

Trafford Council is committed to working with children, families and carers to find solutions together. This starts with our relationships with each other, listening and taking account of children's wishes and feelings. We will recognise and build on strengths to help our children, families, carers, staff and services grow. We will provide high support along with a high level of challenge.



We will ...



1

Listen and take account of children's views, wishes and feelings.

2

Make sure children have a safe place to live so that they can be happy and healthy and do well in their education.

3

Work with children and their families so that they can get stronger and get help from people who live near to them.

4

Have high aspirations for each child in care and care leaver and celebrate when things go well.

5

Help children and young people to get ready for being independent.

6

Respect that everyone is different and celebrate each child for who they are.

7

Get all services in Trafford working together for children in care and care leavers.

8

Make sure children can keep in touch with their family, friends and anyone else who is important to them.

The strategic aims and objectives of this strategy will be led and developed by Trafford Council in partnership with Pennine Care NHS Foundation Trust, which will be jointly responsible for its promotion, implementation and delivery together with our partners and stakeholders.



Where do we want to be?

We want our children in care and care leavers to be able to live in their local communities where possible. We want to work with children, young people and families so that they can get support from within their communities in the future.

We will increase our local placement options by increasing the numbers of Trafford Council-approved foster carers and Supported Lodgings providers. We will find more accommodation in Trafford for our young people over 16.

We will work to reduce the numbers of children in care and focus on keeping families together whenever it is safe to do so.

We will progress Special Guardianship, Adoption and Child Arrangement Orders for children who are not able to continue to live with birth parents. This will help children get on with family life outside the care system.

We will improve our placement stability.



How will we make sure we are on track?

The Corporate Parenting Board will:

1

Build relationships with children and young people to hear what life is like for them.

2

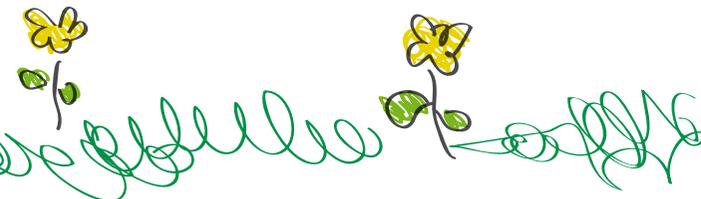
Get reports from the strategic sub-groups which are the Children in Care Council, Aftercare Forum, the Virtual School Governing Body and the Healthy Care Partnership.

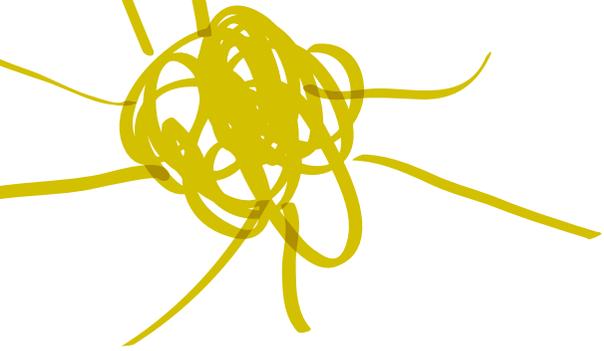
3

Monitor the quality of care delivered by Trafford's residential children's homes.

4

Hold regular meetings with children in care and care leavers including those in foster care and residential care. The Children in Care Council will take over the board once a year when they will chair the meeting, set the agenda and host the meeting.





5

Meet with individuals and groups (advocates, foster carers, volunteers, social workers and other professionals) who can help the Corporate Parenting Board to understand the needs and experiences of children in care and care leavers, and help to promote service improvements and better outcomes for children in care.

6

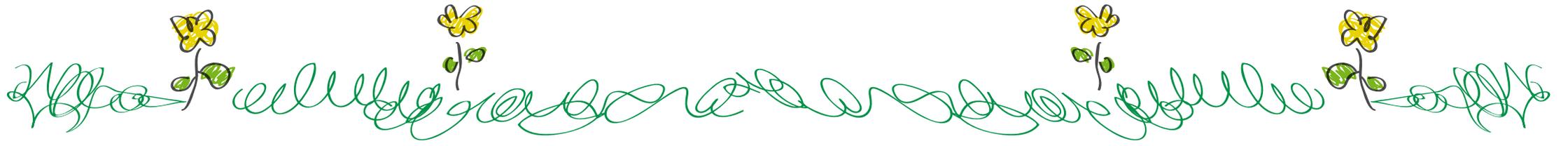
Receive information about comments, compliments and complaints made by children in care and how we have responded to them.

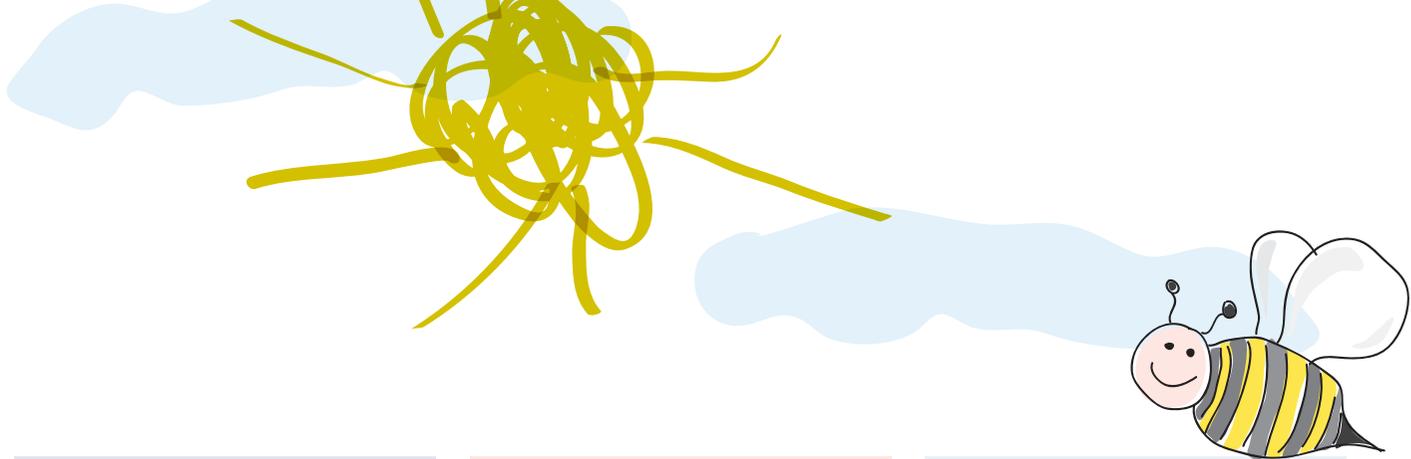
7

Review the outcomes for children in care, by looking at quarterly and annual performance reports.

8

The board will monitor the performance of Adoption Counts via an Adoption annual report and an interim six monthly report.





9

Look at key strategic plans and service reviews relating to children in care and care leavers.

10

Ask that all directorates and partners update the Corporate Parenting Board on their activity with reference to their pledge for children in care and care leavers.

11

Celebrate the success of children in care, care leavers, foster carers and employees by being part of the annual Trafford Children in Care and GM Care Leavers Awards and by holding a Foster Carer Awards ceremony.

12

Monitor the development of, and the adherence to, the Pledge to Children in Care and the Care Leavers Charter and the Foster Carer Charter.

This strategy will be reviewed annually at the first meeting following 1 April. Progress on outcomes will be monitored in the quarterly Children in Care Performance report. A summary of this report will be shared with the service and partners on a quarterly basis.