



Executive Advisory Body

Date of Meeting	Tuesday 20 April
Subject	Revised Corporate Parenting Plan
Agenda No.	5
Paper No.	22.4
Prepared By	Miriam Craven
Purpose	Agree

1. Background

1.1 Section 4 of the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 introduced Corporate Parenting duties on various Public Bodies. This legislation outlines the Scottish Government's commitment to making Scotland the best place in the world to grow up. The Act established a new legal framework for public services to work together in support of children, young people and families in Scotland. There are six statutory duties; Alert, Improve, Access, Promote, Opportunities and Assess.

1.2 Our first Corporate Parenting Action Plan was published in November 2019, and it sets out our commitment to people with care experience. We consider our action plan as an opportunity to continually improve. We are consistently monitoring and improving our plan, and identifying new actions. Throughout this process, our aim is to strengthen the relationships that we have built so far, make new connections while continuing to engage with organisations and people with lived experience of care.

1.3 Presented for comment is the plan for 2021-2023. It is due to be published in May 2021, and the most recent draft is attached as a separate paper. An Equality Impact Assessment has been undertaken to inform this plan. A summary of key findings will be published with the plan.

2. Key Points

2.1 The Corporate Assurance Team have led on the co-ordination and development of the Corporate Parenting Plan. To support the implementation of the plan we created a Corporate Parenting Champions Group of colleagues in Social Security Scotland. We also have the Corporate Parenting Champions Board which is chaired by Ally MacPhail, and includes our champions and representatives from Scottish Throughcare and Aftercare Forum, Centre for Excellence for Children's Care and Protection and Who Cares? Scotland.

2.2 The establishment of these forums have fundamental in driving forward work and they achieved a number of substantial developments. Key activity has included:



- We have expanded our focus from young people with care experience to people with care experience regardless of age. We have also expanded our Equality Impact Assessment process to include people with care experience.
- The development of an e-learning package on Corporate Parenting that is available for all colleagues.
- The inclusion of the care experience category within the All Client Survey.
- Mentoring support through Who Cares? Scotland. We are providing one off mentoring discussions for care experienced people to discuss working in key areas including Human Resources, Digital and Finance.
- A focus on collaboration with other Corporate Parents. Meetings have taken place with Disclosure Scotland, Skills Development Scotland and the Student Awards Agency for Scotland.

2.3 Learning from our discussions with stakeholders and the findings from the Equality Impact Assessment, the plan for 2021 – 2023 will have a specific focus on the Opportunities and Access duties. The access duty requires Corporate Parents to take action to help people with care experience make use of services and support available. The opportunity duty requires us to provide opportunities to participate in activities to promote wellbeing.

3. Conclusion

3.1 The most recent draft of the plan is included in your papers for this meeting, and we would welcome any comments from the Executive Advisory Body on whether there are any gaps in the activity, that you would expect Social Security Scotland to be taking.

3.2 Members are also welcome to attend one of the Corporate Parenting Champion Board or Group meetings in the future.



Link to Corporate Objectives

Strategic Objective		Contribution
Dignity, fairness and respect Delivering a service with dignity, fairness and respect at its core.	As a Corporate Parent we have a statutory responsibility to identify how we fulfil the six duties. This aligns with our values and builds on our commitment to listening to the voice of experience.	
Equality and tackling poverty Promoting equality and tackling poverty.	People with care experienced regularly report significantly poorer outcomes than people who do not have care experience. Implementing actions to support those with care experience can help address those disadvantages.	
Efficiency and alignment Ensuring efficiency and aligning our activities with wider public sector for the benefit of the people we serve.	Not Applicable	
Economy, society and environment Contributing to our economy, society and protection of our environment.	Not Applicable	
Strategic consideration		Impact
Environment		Not Applicable
Governance		Not Applicable
Data		Not Applicable
Finance		Costs relating to learning and development and engagement work will be met within current budgets
Staff		Not Applicable
Equalities		An Equality Impact Assessment will be underway and will be published with the revised plan
Estates		Not Applicable
Communications and Presentation		Not Applicable