



Friday 20th January 2017

Corporate Parenting Panel update –

On behalf of the Children in Care Councils and Young Adult Council

February Half Term

- 13th February – Revolution Skate Park. 40 spaces available to Children in Care
- 14th February- Super Council & OCYPC
- 17th February – This Art of Mine. 40 spaces available to Children in Care

YAC

- On the 8th December we took our YAC members for a Christmas Meal to thank them for all their hard work and contributions for 2016.
- 5th January 2017: Our members were told about the 'Take over Challenge' which was attended by VSK Apprentices, YAC members and KYCC members. At the Take Over Challenge Day, Naintara produced two reports 'Placement Stability' and 'Accommodation Provision for Young People as they Transition into Adulthood' for the Young People to read as they took over Councillor Peter Oakford's role for the day, providing an opportunity for the Young People to ask questions and present challenges about the role of Corporate Parenting. This sparked a good discussion from the Take over Challenge report which gave the YAC members an opportunity to ask questions directly to Naintara. See January 5th Meeting Minutes.

The YAC aims that were decided on at the end of 2016 were looked at agreed. They are:

- 1) Ask KCC to provide a provisional driving licence to all children in care and care leavers aged 16-25
- 2) YAC members to receive a Young Persons rail card
- 3) To have more activity days for 16+ young people
- 4) Complete a fundraising event
- 5) Receive more support, information and advice on further education options
- 6) Receive more support, information and advice on housing
- 7) Ensure that all young people know they are entitled to get a free bus pass, and make sure they have one.



Challenges from YAC

- 1) For KCC to provide a young person's railcard to YAC members to help them with their travel costs as a reward for becoming a YAC member. It would make jobs more accessible, and encourage independence.
- 2) Question for CPP: if a young person over school leaving age decided to be fully independent and work full time paying their own rent, would KCC as a 'Corporate Parent' act as the young person's guarantor?

Christmas Card Competition 2016

VSK ran their annual Christmas card competition which had 26 entries. We had a winner, second place and runner up and they received a voucher for their brilliant designs and all other entries received a certificate.

Grandmentors

We now have a pilot for the Grandmentors Project in Folkestone – it looks to match someone 50yrs+ as a 'grandparent' to a care leaver to help support them in the steps towards independence. Volunteering Matters are currently recruiting mentors to be trained and matched with a care leaver. We would like our Corporate Parents to share this with their networks or consider putting themselves forward to do the training and support a young person.

Transitions Workshops and Targeted Participation Days

A VSK Apprentice will be presenting at the Transitions Workshop on the 31 January and a YAC member will be featured in the DVD looking at VSK's positive support with transitions.

A series of participation days targeted at 16/17 year olds, with the aim of underpinning their pathway planning via fun and engaging activities, is in development. The first session will be held at Kingswood Outdoor Activity Centre in Ashford on the 15 February where, alongside team-building activities, we will gather the views of young people as to what areas of pathway planning to focus on that will therefore be of most use to them. This will inform the following four sessions which will be held over the school breaks up to the beginning of the summer holidays. Examples of sessions might include daily living skills, budgeting, health and wellbeing.

We are running a competition for young people to name their assessment tool workbook, as this is not a very catchy title for a young person and ask if Peter Oakford would be kind enough to judge the final entries?