



Centre for excellence
for looked after children in Scotland

The Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 Part 9 (Corporate Parenting)

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8th September 2015



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Purpose

To introduce the role of a 'Corporate Parent' and to explore some examples of corporate parenting

By the end of the session, you should:

- 1. Be able to explain what a 'Corporate Parent' is, and why the duties are important**
- 2. Consider how different types of Corporate Parents engage with the role**





Format

- 1. What is corporate parenting?**
- 2. Who does corporate parenting apply to?**
- 3. What does it mean to be a corporate parent?**
- 4. Introduction to the Corporate Parenting duties**
- 5. How are corporate parents engaging with the role?**
 - **Gordon Currie, Director of Education & Children's Services, East Dunbartonshire Council**
 - **John Dalziel, Skills Development Scotland, Scottish Government Relationship Adviser**

What is 'corporate parenting'?

“An organisation's performance of actions necessary to uphold the rights and safeguard the wellbeing of a looked after child or care leaver, and through which physical, emotional, spiritual, social and educational development is promoted.”



*Definition from Statutory
Guidance on Corporate
Parenting (August 2015)*

What is 'corporate parenting'?

“It’s about listening to the wishes, needs and fears of the children and young people we work with, and proactive and determined in our effort to meet them.”



Which young people does CP apply to?

- a. Every child who is looked after by a local authority
- b. Every 'care leaver' under the age of 26



Placement Types

There are several types of placements that looked after children or young people live in:



Foster Care



Kinship placement



At home



Residential Unit or School



Secure unit

5,533

35.5 %

4,181

26.8 %

4,144

26.6 %

1,090


7%

82

0.5 %

Health & Wellbeing Needs

Looked after children and care leavers are more likely to experience health problems than young people in the general population (even after we control for factors like 'low income').



Health N

Smoke

Alcohol Abuse

Conduct Disorders

Substance Abuse

Eye Sight

Hearing

Coordination

Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders

Hyperkinetic Disorders

Oral Health

Self Harm

Unplanned Pregnancy

Eating Disorders

Emotional Disorders

after child and care leaver
are more likely to experience health
problems than young people
general population (even after
for factors)



Educational Outcomes

- **Tend to leave school at a younger age**
 - 74% left when they were 16 or under, compared to a national average of 27%.
- **‘School leaver’ attainment rates**
 - only 12% achieve 1 or more qualification at SCQF 6, compared to a national average of 59%.
- **Difficulty sustaining a ‘positive destinations’**
 - 27% of looked after leavers, compared to a national average of 8%.
- **F.E is the main ‘positive destination’**
 - (37% in 2013-14).



Post-education

Looked after children and care leavers can often lack the skills and self-esteem necessary to impress employers, and as a result many find themselves trapped in long term unemployment.



**Which does it mean to
be a ‘Corporate Parent’?**

Part 9 (Corporate Parenting)

56. Schedule 4 (who is a Corporate Parent)

57. Application of Part 9 (who it applies to)

58. Corporate Parenting 'Responsibilities'

59. Planning requirements

60. Collaboration requirements

61. Reporting duties (incl. providing info to Ministers)

62. Reports to Parliament by Scottish Ministers

63. Guidance on Corporate Parenting

64. Directions to Corporate Parents

65. Reports by Scottish Ministers

➤ Commencement – April 2015

Who are the 'Corporate Parents'?



Scottish Ministers



A local authority



National Convener of Children's Hearings Scotland



Children's Hearings Scotland



Principal Reporter



The Scottish Children's Reporter Administration



A health board



A board constituted under the National Health Service (Scotland) Act 1978



Healthcare Improvement Scotland



Scottish Qualifications Authority



Skills Development Scotland



Social Care & Social Work Improvement Scotland



The Scottish Social Services Council



Sport Scotland



The Chief Constable of the Police Service of Scotland



Scottish Police Authority



Scottish Fire & Rescue Service



The Scottish Legal Aid Board



Scotland's Commissioner for Children and Young People



The Mental Welfare Commission for Scotland



The Scottish Housing Regulator



Bòrd na Gàidhlig



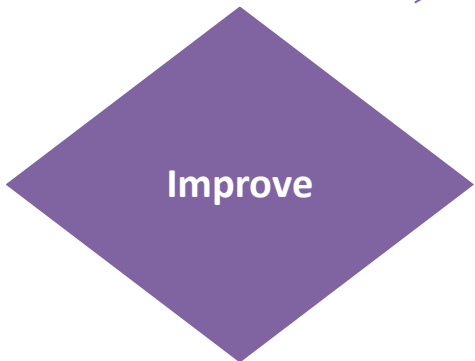
Creative Scotland



A "post-16" education body



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Section 58



Review performance as corporate parents, and take any necessary action to improve

Improve

Help eligible young people to overcome barriers, so that they can benefit from opportunities, services and support

Access

Identify relevant opportunities, through which eligible young people can improve their wellbeing

Opportunities

Alert

Systems in place to stay informed of issues which could have a negative impact on the child/young person/population

Assess

To ensure services are relevant and accessible to the widest possible group

Promote

Perform actions which will advantage or benefit looked after children and care leavers

Section 58



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Corporate Parenting in Action

- Please welcome
 - Gordon Currie, Director of Education & Children's Services, East Dunbartonshire Council
 - John Dalziel, Skills Development Scotland, Scottish Government Relationship Adviser



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East Dunbartonshire Council

www.eastdunbarton.gov.uk

Gordon Currie

Director of Education & Children's Services

EAST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL

Corporate Parenting Lead Officer

BACKGROUND

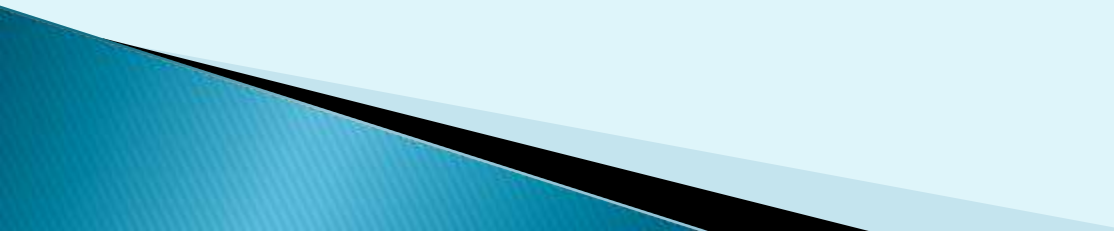
We are in year three of development

2013/2014 Awareness Raising with
“Who Cares”

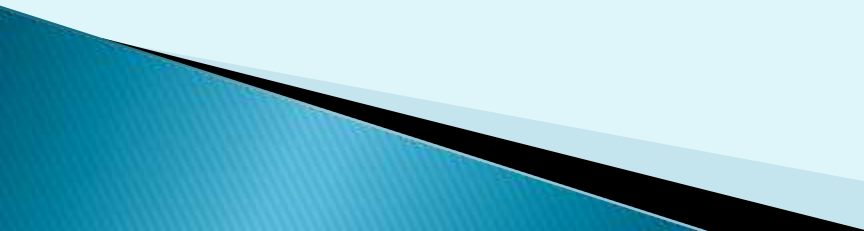
- ▶ All Politicians
- ▶ Head Teacher
- ▶ 1st, 2nd and 3rd Tier Managers
- ▶ Community Planning Partners



2013/2014 – continued

- ▶ Champion's Board established
 - ▶ Steering Group
 - ▶ 6 Champions identified to support 8 children
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2013/2014 Challenges

- ▶ Paperwork too wordy
 - ▶ Champions required better support
 - ▶ Improved communications required
 - ▶ Self-evaluation demonstrated variable approaches
- 

ROLE OF CORPORATE PARENTING CHAMPION

Session 2014/2015

What is your role?

- ▶ Find out how the young person is doing
- ▶ Get to know what their potential is by asking the questions that any responsible parent would ask
- ▶ As a champion, you are being asked to be a “pushy parent”
- ▶ Share your experience and learning to affect the outcomes for all looked after children

What we improved?

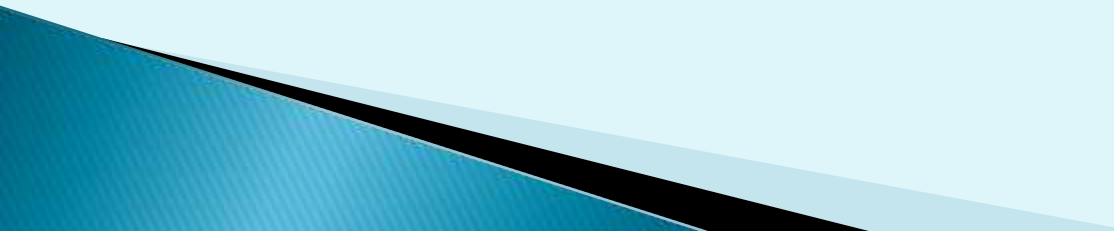
- ▶ Face to face meetings
- ▶ Monthly updates for Champions
- ▶ Champions info sharing sessions
- ▶ Letters and packs reviewed
- ▶ Tightened up timelines
- ▶ Better communications
- ▶ Governance



Champions Support Materials

- ▶ Health/Education Timelines : age appropriate
- ▶ Carefirst notes
- ▶ SEEMIS pastoral notes
- ▶ Contact details : all key professionals
- ▶ Champion's Pack : Guidance Pack
- ▶ Young Persons Pack : What can they do for you
- ▶ Letter templates

Selection of Young People

- ▶ In schools with challenging behaviour/multi-agency support
 - ▶ Primary school setting with particular needs
 - ▶ Secondary setting early/later stages
 - ▶ Early years
 - ▶ Post school
 - ▶ Out of authority placements
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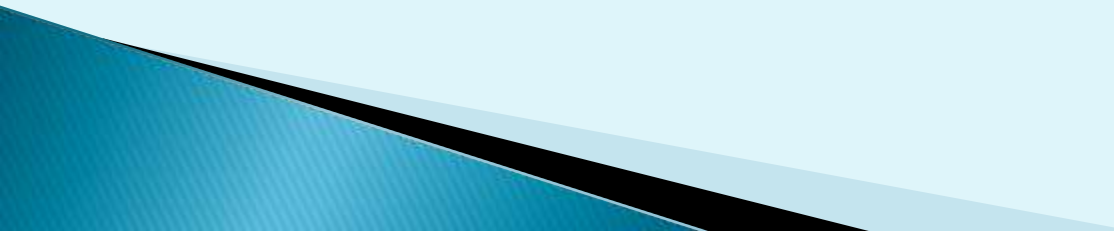
Lessons Learned

The learning experienced by the champions must be used to improve the life changes of all looked after children in the authority.

The width of young person supported must be inclusive of 3 – 26.

Sharing experiences within the champions group is essential.

Next Steps – 2015 and Beyond

- ▶ Extend champions from 12 to 18
 - ▶ Monitor efficacy of governance
 - ▶ Ensure compliance with the C&YP Act
 - ▶ Extend champions to CPP members
 - ▶ Use learning to influence practice for the wider group of all looked after children
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Questions?



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