

BOURNEMOUTH, CHRISTCHURCH AND POOLE COUNCIL
CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD

Minutes of the Meeting held on 22 June 2026 at 5.00 pm

Present:-

Cllr R Burton – Chairman

Cllr S Mackrow – Vice-Chairman

Present:	Cllr L Northover (online) Cathi Hadley Juliette Blake Louise Maple Ben Tomlin Insight Representative Insight Representative Unite Representative Unite Representative	Councillor Children's Services Children's Social Care Health Housing (substitute)
Also in attendance:	Lisa Linscott Leah May Jo Fry Jane Pullen Dannii Da Silva Jack Parker Aleksandra Zabeilska Nicky Campbell Tracey Kybert Joe Friend	Director Education & Skills Virtual School Headteacher Children's Rights and Engagement Officer Children's Rights and Engagement Officer Socail Worker, CiC Team Manager, CiC Head of Service, Children with Disabilities Head of Service, Independent Review Service Specialist Housing Programme Lead Housing Options Manager

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr A-M Moriarty, Shan Searl(Children's Social Care), Nicola Canning (Education) and Kelly Dean (Housing).

Apologies were also received from Rachel Gravett.

2. Substitute Members

Ben Tomlin substituted for Kelly Dean (attending online).

3. Election of Vice-Chair for the 2026/27 Municipal Year

Cllr S Mackrow was nominated as Vice-Chair for the 2026/27 municipal year. There were no further nominations.

RESOLVED that Cllr S Mackrow be appointed Vice-Chair of the Corporate Parenting Board for the 2026/27 municipal year.

4. Declarations of Interests

Cllr S Mackrow advised for the purpose of transparency that they were a special guardian as this was referenced in the Data and Analysis report.

5. Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 16 March were confirmed as a correct record subject to the following amendments:

The following amendments were noted:

- Councillor Lisa Northover attendance to be recorded correctly.
- Jenny Nest attended remotely.

6. Young Persons Voice

Young people led introductions and an icebreaker activity.

The Board welcomed contributions from young people throughout the meeting and thanked them for their continued involvement and challenge.

7. Star Awards Feedback

Feedback from the 2026 Star Awards event was presented.

Key achievements

- Nominations increased from approximately 190 to 288.
- Around 200 people attended, compared with approximately 150 the previous year.
- 71 children and young people attended.
- The event was described as welcoming, relaxed and enjoyable.
- Certificates recognising achievements were highly valued.
- Food, refreshments, activities and free ice creams received positive feedback.
- Indoor and outdoor space at the venue was praised.

Young people's feedback

Young people particularly enjoyed:

- Face painting
- Balloon modelling
- Outdoor activities
- Certificates
- Free ice creams

Suggestions for future events included:

- More games and activities
- Glitter tattoos
- Additional entertainment opportunities

Areas for improvement

Some attendees identified:

- Sound quality issues during presentations
- Technical problems with the presentation screen
- Presentations being too long
- Limited parking
- Kitchen facility limitations

Feedback from some children indicated they had not been aware of the event before it took place.

Board discussion

The Board recognised the significant amount of planning and partnership work required to deliver the event.

Members highlighted:

- The value of involving staff from across the Council.
- Opportunities to use the skills and talents of carers, staff and partners.
- The positive impact of informal photographs taken throughout the event.
- The need to widen promotion and participation.

ACTION 1: Explore opportunities to promote future Star Awards events more widely across the Council workforce and partner organisations.

ACTION 2: Consider publishing an internal staff article celebrating the event and encouraging volunteers for future years.

ACTION 3: Provide information on kinship carer attendance and representation at future events.

8. Housing and Accommodation in BCP for Care Experienced Young People (CEYP)

A presentation was provided by Housing colleagues regarding housing support and homelessness prevention for care experienced young people.

Key updates

Housing demand

Compared with the previous year:

- Homelessness assessments increased by 17%.
- Relief duties increased by 20%.
- Homelessness prevention activity increased by 15%.

Current position

At the time of reporting:

- Four care experienced young people were in temporary accommodation.
- Three were in bed and breakfast accommodation.
- One was in shared accommodation.
- Twenty-one young people were awaiting move-on accommodation.
- Forty-two young people were in supported accommodation.

Housing developments

The service reported:

- Additional staff had been recruited.
- Increased support for homelessness prevention.
- More support with private rented accommodation.
- Improved partnership working with Children's Services.
- Earlier housing planning for young people approaching adulthood.

Young people's feedback

Young people raised concerns regarding:

- Delays in rent deposit payments.
- Risks of losing accommodation while payments were processed.
- Difficulties securing guarantors.
- Challenges created by affordability rules and benefit thresholds.

Housing officers acknowledged these concerns and outlined:

- Work underway to improve processing arrangements.
- Development of a potential guarantor scheme.
- Incentives and rent bond arrangements to support landlords.
- Additional support for young people managing finances and housing costs.

Positive developments

The Board noted:

- Stronger joint working between Housing and Children's Services.
- Trauma-informed training for housing colleagues.
- Improved planning processes.
- New supported accommodation developments.
- Creation of the Youth Homelessness Board.
- Increased involvement of people with lived experience.

ACTION 1: Housing and Children's Services to undertake further discussion regarding homelessness applications arising from care leavers and the underlying causes.

ACTION 2: Explore opportunities to align language and communication approaches with wider "Changing the Narrative" work.

9. Local Offer

The detailed Local Offer item was deferred to the next meeting.

RESOLVED:

The Local Offer update will be brought to the next Corporate Parenting Board meeting.

10. CiC/CEYP Data and Analysis Report

Key data and performance information were presented.

Headlines

- Numbers of children in care remained above national averages.
- May 2026 saw more children return home than enter care.
- Additional resources had been allocated to reunification work.

- External support from Empower had been commissioned to review data, practice and opportunities for improvement.
- Most children in care were engaged in education, employment or training.
- Levels of in-house fostering placements remained above national averages.
- Placement stability remained positive.

Additional information

- 51 children in care had been reported missing during the reporting period.
- Approximately 17% of children in care had been assessed as being at risk of exploitation.

ACTION: Bring an interim update on the Empower review to a future Corporate Parenting Board meeting.

11. Forward Plan

The Plan was noted. Members were asked to send notification of any additional items outside of the meeting.

12. Future Meeting Dates

The date of the next meeting was noted as Monday 28 September 2026.

On conclusion of the meeting Young people shared messages of thanks and appreciation for the Director of Children's Services ahead of her retirement.

The Board recognised her leadership and commitment to improving outcomes for children and young people.

The Director thanked young people, carers, partners and colleagues and encouraged everyone to continue championing the rights and ambitions of children and young people.

The meeting ended at 19:00

CHAIRMAN