

Corporate Parenting Board Looked After Children Pledges

Meeting with Saul Cranson, Cllr L Farthing, Neil Revely – 19 October 2015

Pledge: If possible, I want to live with my own family or relatives

We met to further consider how we could deliver on the pledge and a number of topics were considered:

- What needs to be done for children to go back to their parent(s)
- How we explain to a child why they are looked after and how we could improve on that
- Ensuring life story books are accurate
- How do we best communicate to younger children
- How do we ensure looked after children are in a 'good' environment (from their point of view)
- What needs to be done for children to go back to their parents or a family member – as soon as possible
- Meaningful contact arrangements are vital

The crucial importance of 'family' connections was a strong theme and we felt it would be useful to build on where things have worked well in;

- Keeping families together
- Placing children with family members
- Maintaining family contact when children cannot be placed with family

Action: To explore assembling a group to discuss case studies of examples of when things have gone well and then share the outcome with social work staff.

NR to ask Children's Services to identify good practice case studies (including from other local authorities).

