

## **CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD**

**10 October 2016**

### **VIEWPOINT**

#### **Report of the Participation and Engagement Lead**

#### **1. Purpose of the Report**

- 1.1 To give an overview of the attached viewpoint report.

#### **2. Introduction/Background**

- 2.1 Viewpoint is a computer assisted interviewing tool which is used nationally by a number of councils. Viewpoint offers local authorities a large number of in-depth service-led consultation questionnaires.
- 2.3 In Sunderland we use viewpoint to gain the views of looked after children to give them a voice in relation to their experiences of being in care. Results from the viewpoints are used within their looked after reviews to support and change things on an individual basis and used to improve service delivery and design.
- 2.3 In Sunderland we have a dedicated Viewpoint officer based within the participation and engagement team for 18.5 hours per week.

#### **3. Main Body of the Report**

- 3.1 That attached report gives an overview of responses collected from looked after children and young people in Sunderland from Jan 2016 – August 2016. The report presents the views of 73 children and young people aged 4-15 in Sunderland.
- 3.2 Viewpoint can be used with older young people when it is requested by a social worker or IRO. A young person can also be sent their viewpoint profile via email and complete the survey on their own if they do not require any assistance.
- 3.3 Please note that although differences are observed throughout the report in relation to the young people's responses and different groups, these should be viewed with caution, as number of responses is low for some age groups and differences could have occurred by chance.
- 3.4 The report is split into the sections identified by viewpoint which include;

- Placement: safe and settled
- Care planning
- Health
- Education
- Identity
- Family and Relationships
- Self-care skills

3.5 In Sunderland we asked viewpoint to divide responses in sections that relate to our looked after children pledges. Please see appendix of viewpoint report for pledge breakdown and information.

#### **4. Recommendations**

4.1 To discuss with corporate parents how they would like the viewpoint report to be presented in the future.

4.2 To acknowledge the use of the viewpoint tool and how we can use this data to inform service design and evaluation.