



REPORT AUTHOR:	Alexandra Bowey, Participation and Engagement Officer
SUBJECT:	Together for Children's Change Council Report for Supportive Parenting Partnership Board (Corporate Parenting Board) 9th January 2023
PURPOSE:	To report on the activity of both Change Council 10-15 group and Change Council 16+ group (November 2022-December 2023)

Change Council have continued to meet regularly face to face throughout November-December 2023. Change Council are meeting in their designated space, both Change Council's 10-15 and 16+ group are meeting fortnightly.

Activity	What's Working Well?	What's Not Working So Well?	What needs to happen?
Film - planning around education Change Council 10-15yrs - short videos to be made, raising awareness and challenging the stigma in education. Change Council 16+ to feed in with suggestions on post 16 education and how this impacts them.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We have started to plan and create a storyboard to create short films to be used for training around how a young person may be feeling to make professionals more aware of what might be going on for a young person. We have been creating characters and discussing why cared for/care experienced 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We are waiting for the animation student to be chosen by the university. We have not been able to move much further forward until the students are ready to start. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sunderland University to appoint its animation student and set up first meeting.

	<p>people may be struggling.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sunderland University has decided that this can be a part of their Changemaker scheme which funds two students to produce and animate the project for us. They will be funded for 100 hours of work. • Sunderland have appointed their production student who can start in January. 		
<p>Training for Corporate Parents We have been working on a training workshop.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The training is nearly ready we just need to do a practice run which we are planning with the participation team. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has taken longer than planned due to other commitments. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We need to agree and book a date at Supportive Parenting Partnership Board (Corporate Parenting Board) tonight to deliver the training.
<p>New members of Change Council</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have two new members attending Change Council 10-15yrs and have more young people interested. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We would like more young people to join. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to encourage new members. • Ensure the groups are being given time to get to know each other and bond as a group. • We are going to create invitation/leaflet to

			<p>give to Social workers/Next steps to give to their young people encouraging them to come along to Change Council.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alex to go along to team meetings to promote Change Council.
Making Care Experience a Protected Characteristic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We discussed this at the last Board meeting. Cllr Farthing is going to raise this at Council meeting on the 25th January. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are unsure what the process will be once Cllr Farthing raises this and how we can be involved in the process. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To meet with Council if this is passed as a motion and talk about what we would like to see from this.
Dresses for Christmas Party	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four young people were given the opportunity to have tailor made dresses for the Christmas party. • We felt amazing and it was a really exciting opportunity. • We were able to be part of the designing process. • We will be holding a photoshoot afterwards and have our hair and makeup done. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We were on a tight time scale to get them finished and it was sometimes difficult to get everyone there for fittings at the same time. • Some of the fabrics we liked were not available due to mail strikes and time constraints. • More people wanted dresses than were available so some people were disappointed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dressmaker is interested in continuing this process with other young people on a monthly basis. This does not just have to be dresses. • Alex to pass onto permanence/next steps so that other young people benefit from this rather than just Change Council. • Dressmaker also suggested later next year doing a

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dressmaker had to cancel planned shoot at last minute which was disappointing. 	possible fashion show with all young people who have had the dresses/outfits.
Cared For Christmas Event - Members of Change Council supported the set up of the event by making Reindeer Dust. Most members attended the party.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We were given the opportunity to be a part of the planning and event set up. • We felt included and were able to see their contributions be appreciated. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Older members did not get invitations. • We would like this to be in the usual venue for the future. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To continue to give support these events in the future. • To continue to give feedback and ideas on what we would like at the party. • Sharon to visit Change Council to pass on her thanks.
Change Council Bonkers Bingo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We were able to bring both groups together to spend time together. • Both groups were able to spend time with TFC SLT. • Everyone enjoyed the night and was able to feel very festive. • We had a lot of fun and it was nice to spend time together. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was very close to Christmas and a few members and staff already had other plans. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To continue to hold a Christmas celebration event. • To consider when planning when will be the best date for everyone to attend.

Coming up:

- Winter HAF January 2023
- Regional CiCC meeting January 2023
- Care Day February 2023
- Residential for Children in Care Council - April 2023

Planned work for Jan – Dec 2023:

- Drive forward the Change the Language campaign, including working group and workshops.
- Creating leaflets to promote Change Council and encourage new members.
- Corporate Parenting Introduction training and support the development of the corporate parenting strategy.
- Engage young people in enriching activities to celebrate their hard work and increase engagement.
- Consult and involve more cared for and care experienced children and young people. Alex to drop into Children's Homes and Support 2 Independence, also be around for warm spaces.
- To create easy guides to different aspects of being cared for/care experienced to support other young people with things we have been unsure of- Accessing records, entering care.

