

Central Bedfordshire
Council
Priory House
Monks Walk
Chicksands,
Shefford SG17 5TQ

**This meeting
may be filmed.***



**Central
Bedfordshire**

please ask for Leslie Manning

direct line 0300 300 5132

date 23 June 2017

NOTICE OF MEETING

CORPORATE PARENTING PANEL

Date & Time

Monday, 3 July 2017 at 2.00 p.m.

Venue at

Room 14, Priory House, Monks Walk, Shefford.

Richard Carr
Chief Executive

PLEASE NOTE THE START TIME

To: The Chairman and Members of the CORPORATE PARENTING PANEL:

Elected Members (voting)

Cllrs: Mrs C Hegley (Chairman), Mrs A L Dodwell (Vice-Chairman),
Mrs A Barker, N B Costin, Mrs S A Goodchild, Mrs T Stock, M A G Versallion
and B Wells

[Named Substitutes:

Cllrs: R D Berry, D Bowater, Mrs D B Gurney, G Perham and G Tubb]

Officers (voting)

Director of Children's Services

Director of Social Care, Health and Housing (or the Assistant Director
Housing Services or their representative if the Director is unable to attend)

Assistant Director Leisure, Libraries and Countryside (or their representative if
the Assistant Director is unable to attend)

Carers (non-voting)

Only four of the foster carers' co-opted representatives will be expected to attend at any one meeting.

***Please note that phones or other equipment may be used to film, audio record, tweet or blog from this meeting. No part of the meeting room is exempt from public filming.**

The use of arising images or recordings is not under the Council's control.

AGENDA

1. **Apologies for Absence**

To receive any apologies for absence.

2. **Minutes**

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Corporate Parenting Panel held on 8 May 2017 (copy attached).

3. **Members' Interests**

To receive from Members any declarations of interest.

4. **Chairman's Announcements and Communications**

To receive any announcements from the Chairman and any matters of communication.

Reports

Item	Subject	Page Nos.
5.	Independent Reviewing Officers' Annual Report April 2016 - March 2017 To consider a report by the Independent Reviewing Officers (IRO's) which provides quantitative and qualitative evidence relating to the IRO Service in Central Bedfordshire.	+ To Follow
6.	Fostering Recruitment and Retention Strategy 2017/18 To consider the fostering recruitment target for 2017/18 including an overview of key marketing initiatives and targeted campaigns.	+ To Follow
7.	Investigating Concerns and Complaints against Foster Carers To consider the investigation of concerns and complaints in relation to foster carers.	+ To Follow

8. **Agency Report Quarter 4 - Fostering 1 January - 31 March 2017** + To Follow
- To consider the Fostering Agency Quarter 4 Performance Report for 2016/17.
9. **Corporate Parenting Service - Fostering Team Annual Report 2016/17** + To Follow
- To consider the 2016/17 Annual Report for the Fostering Agency.
10. **Adoption Recruitment Strategy 2017/18** + To Follow
- To consider the adoption recruitment target for 2017/18 including an overview of key marketing initiatives and targeted campaigns.
11. **Adoption Agency Annual Report 2016/17** + To Follow
- To consider the 2016/17 Annual Report for the Adoption Agency.
12. **Work Programme** * 39 - 44
- To consider the Panel's work programme.

CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCIL

At a meeting of the **CORPORATE PARENTING PANEL** held at Room 15, Priory House, Chicksands, Shefford on Monday, 8 May 2017

PRESENT

Elected Members (voting)

Cllrs Cllr Mrs C Hegley (Chairman)
R D Berry (substituting for Mrs A Barker)
D Bowater (substituting for Mrs A L Dodwell)
N B Costin
Mrs S A Goodchild
Mrs T Stock
M A G Versallion
B Wells

Officers (voting)

Mr T Keaveney, Assistant Director Housing Services

Carers (non-voting)

Mrs T Rowlands
Mrs A Wallace

Apologies for Absence: Mr P Albon, Carer
Cllr Mrs A Barker
Cllr Mrs A L Dodwell, Vice-Chairman
Mrs S Harrison, Director of Children's Services
Mrs J Ogley, Director of Social Care, Health and Housing

Officers in Attendance:	Mr R Bharkhada	– Interim Head of Corporate Parenting Service
	Ms R Coals	– Principal Social Worker and Head of Professional Standards
	Ms A Craig	– Practice Manager Fostering
	Mr G Jones	– Assistant Director Safeguarding and Early Help
	Mr L Manning	– Committee Services Officer
	Miss N Phillips	– Practice Manager Adoption
	Ms M Short	– Participation Officer Professional Standards

Others in Attendance: Ambassadors – for Children in Care Council

CPP/17/39. Election of Chairman

In the absence of the Chairman, and having received apologies for absence from the Vice-Chairman, it was

RESOLVED

that Councillor Mrs T Stock be elected Chairman of the Corporate Parenting Panel until such time as Councillor Mrs Hegley arrives at the meeting.

Councillor Mrs T Stock in the Chair

CPP/17/40. **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 6 March 2017 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman subject to the following amendment:

Minute CPP/11/32 (LAC Health Report – Six Month Update)

In the penultimate sentence of paragraph 7 delete ‘.re’ found between the words ‘case loads’ and ‘as the safeguarding’.

Note: At the conclusion of the above item at 10.14 a.m. Councillor Mrs C Hegley arrived at the meeting and took the Chair.

Councillor Mrs C Hegley in the Chair

CPP/17/41. **Members' Interests**

None notified.

CPP/17/42. **Chairman's Announcements and Communications**

The following announcements and communications were made:

- The Children in Care Council (CiCC) Ambassadors had visited the Priory View development where they had been able to examine this example of housing provision for older people and meet with the sheltered tenants' action group.
- The CiCC Ambassadors had also attended a presentation for Councillor Chatterley. This had been held in recognition of Councillor Chatterley's work under the Looked After Children Champion initiative in arranging a visit for Looked After Children to Luton Town Football Club.
- The Chairman referred to the Panel's next meeting and to the scheduled report on Leaving Care Housing. She also stated that she would welcome an update on how the Aspirations Wish List was progressing. She was aware some offers had been made.

CPP/17/43. Peer Review and Action Plan

The Panel considered a presentation entitled 'Peer Review and Action Plan' which informed Members of the process and outcome of the Peer Review undertaken by the Eastern Region Partnership between 20-22 February. The presentation was introduced by the Interim Head of the Corporate Parenting Service.

The Panel noted that on the slide headed 'Action Plan – Work Streams' work stream number 6 should read 'Policy on missing UASC needs to be clearer'.

A copy of the presentation pack is attached at Appendix A to the minutes.

Points and comments included:

1. An expression of gratitude by the Interim Head of the Corporate Parenting Service to the Children in Care Council for its contribution to the Peer Review. He also thanked Members for the leadership role they had carried out.
2. Arising from the findings of the Review the Interim Head of the Corporate Parenting Service stressed that reflective supervision was taking place but that the extent to which it was held had not been accurately recorded.
3. The Assistant Director Safeguarding and Early Help stated that the Peer Review had been treated by the Council as if it were a full Ofsted (Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills) inspection.
4. The inspection team had stated that the quality of the Council's service was far better than the impression given by the Council itself. The Panel noted that Ofsted had previously made a similar comment.
5. The Peer Review was a planned (pre-notified) in-depth inspection which used Ofsted descriptors. The work undertaken by the Council in preparation for the Review would be of use when the expected future Ofsted inspection took place.
6. The Assistant Director Safeguarding and Early Help referred to those areas where the Review had felt the Council could improve and he set out the action which had been taken in response. Although there was no final score awarded by the Review the Assistant Director Safeguarding and Early Help stated that, given there was no evidence of inadequacy, he believed the score would have been 'good'.
7. The Interim Head of Corporate Parenting responded to Members' queries regarding support for 'Out of County' care leavers. The meeting noted the background to this issue and the action which had already been taken. The Panel also noted the planned purchase of an app which would allow young people to access the full range of information that they required.

8. With regard to the Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire (SDQ) the Assistant Director Safeguarding and Early Help advised that although the score had improved he acknowledged that issues remained in Central Bedfordshire regarding young peoples' mental health and general wellbeing.
9. Full debate took place on the issue of housing provision for care leavers and young people and the quantity, quality and appropriateness of that available. A Children in Care Ambassador briefed the Panel of her own experiences in this area. The Assistant Director Safeguarding and Early Help, the Interim Head of Corporate Parenting and Assistant Director Housing Services responded to the points raised by Members.
10. In response to comments raised by the Chairman the Assistant Director Safeguarding and Early Help stated that Action Plan arising from the Review would be issued shortly. He added that much was already complete. With regard to employment and care leavers he suggested that a deep dive report and presentation be made to the Panel accompanied by care leavers and including the aspirations list. The Assistant Director Safeguarding and Early Help stressed that accommodation for care leavers had been a matter of consideration for some time though he acknowledged that progress had been slow. Following further debate he stated that the report on housing scheduled for the Panel's July meeting would include an outline plan with actions and options.

NOTED

the presentation entitled 'Peer Review and Action Plan'.

RESOLVED

that a 'deep dive' item on care leaver employment to include a presentation, the Aspirations Wish List and the attendance of care leavers be made to a future meeting of the Panel.

CPP/17/44. Update on the Transformation Plan

The Panel considered a presentation entitled 'Transforming Children's Services' which updated Members on the progress made in implementing the Transformation Programme against the adopted timetable. The presentation was introduced by the Assistant Director Safeguarding and Early Help.

A copy of the presentation pack is attached at Appendix B to the minutes.

Points and comments included:

1. The numbers of Looked After Children, Child Protection Plans and Child in Need Plans had dropped following a significant increase in early help. This approach had reduced the number of children experiencing avoidable harm and family breakdowns. It was noted that there had

actually been a 9% reduction in the number of Looked After Children over a three year period rather than, as stated in the presentation, a 6% reduction over four years.

2. The Panel noted the major achievement the above figures represented and that they placed Central Bedfordshire within the top tier of local authorities in England. The Assistant Director Safeguarding and Early Help stated that he believed the figures could be further improved and undertook to circulate an Executive report, which provided a useful background narrative on this topic, to Members.
3. The meeting noted the number, age and background of those children who had become Looked After between June 2015 and May 2016. The Assistant Director Safeguarding and Early Help advised that four children had left care and one had entered the care system in April 2017. As a result of the dispersal of Unaccompanied Asylum Seeker Children (UASC) when entering the country there were now fewer becoming Looked After in Central Bedfordshire.
4. Members raised a number of queries on aspects of the Transformation Programme including the need for its introduction, the likely outcome and impact on the quality of service provision and the recent decrease in the opportunity for Members to participate and comment on such proposals following the reorganisation of representative bodies. In response the Assistant Director Safeguarding and Early Help explained that the Transformation Programme was necessary because only limited change was possible under the current business delivery model. A more integrated service approach was required to meet the increasing challenges being faced both in local communities and in schools as these could not be managed under the current arrangements. Instead, teams of professionals with a range of skills were required and by December 2018, the target date at the end of the planned Transformation timetable, such teams would be in place in each locality able to undertake early intervention work.
5. Following Members' comments the Assistant Director Safeguarding and Early Help undertook to raise the progress of the establishment of a Members' Reference Group with the Director of Children's Services, provide the Panel with story board illustrating the Transformation journey, ensure that Members were fully briefed on the work that was being undertaken and bring the Transformation team to a future meeting of the Panel.

NOTED

the presentation entitled 'Transforming Children's Services'.

THE COMMITTEE ADJOURNED AT 12.05 P.M. AND RECONVENED AT 12.10 P.M.

CPP/17/45. Adoption Service Statement of Purpose 2017/18

The Panel considered a report on the draft Adoption Service Statement of Purpose for 2017/18.

Points and comments included:

- The draft Statement, a copy of which was attached at Appendix A to the report, had been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Local Authority Adoption Service (England) Regulations 2003 and Standard 18 of the National Minimum Standards for Adoption 2011.
- The Practice Manager Adoption introduced the report and highlighted the changes which had been incorporated into the draft Statement including a revamped layout and greater detail.
- In response to a Member's queries the Practice Manager Adoption stated that, locally, the timescale for the adoption process had been reduced by 38 days and that, as a result, the Council lay within the top 25% of local authorities. She added that there had been no disrupted adoptions within the last twelve months, a situation which she attributed to the improved training of prospective adopters.

RESOLVED

that the draft Adoption Service Statement of Purpose 2017/18 be approved and adopted.

CPP/17/46. Fostering Service Statement of Purpose 2017/18

The Panel considered a report on the draft Fostering Service Statement of Purpose for 2017/18.

Points and comments included:

- The draft Statement, a copy of which was attached at Appendix A to the report, had been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Care Standards Act 2000 for the conduct of fostering services, the National Minimum Standards (NMS) for the provision of fostering services and the Fostering Services (England) Regulations 2011 which governed the work of fostering services throughout England.
- The Practice Manager, Fostering introduced the report and drew the Panel's attention to the revamped format adopted for the draft Statement and the inclusion of greater detail than in its previous versions.
- A Member commented on how easy it was to read and understand the draft Statement. She also suggested a minor amendment to the document.

RESOLVED

that, subject to amending the word ‘quarter’ to ‘quarterly’ in paragraph 14.3 of the draft Fostering Service draft Statement of Purpose 2017/18, the draft Statement be approved and adopted.

CPP/17/47. Work Programme

Members considered the report of the Committee services Officer which set out the Panel’s proposed work programme for the municipal year 2017/18. The Panel was aware that it had already approved the addition of a ‘deep dive’ item on care leaver employment at a future meeting of the Panel (minute CPP/17/43 above refers).

The Assistant Director Housing Services referred to the scheduled report in July on Leaving Care Housing and, in view of the workload involved, requested that this item be deferred for consideration to the September meeting. The Interim Head of Corporate Parenting indicated his support for this action.

RESOLVED

that the Corporate Parenting Panel work programme, as attached at Appendix A of the report of the Committee Services Officer, be approved subject to:

- **deferring the scheduled ‘spotlight’ report on Leaving Care Housing to the September meeting of the Panel**
- **including a ‘deep dive’ item with a presentation and the attendance of care leavers on care leaver employment together with an update on the Aspirations Wish List at a future meeting of the Panel.**

(Note: The meeting commenced at 10.08 a.m. and concluded at 12.24 p.m.)

Chairman.....

Dated.....

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Peer Review and Action Plan

Gerard Jones - Assistant Director Children Services Safeguarding & Early Help

Raj Bharkhada - Interim Head of Corporate Parenting Service

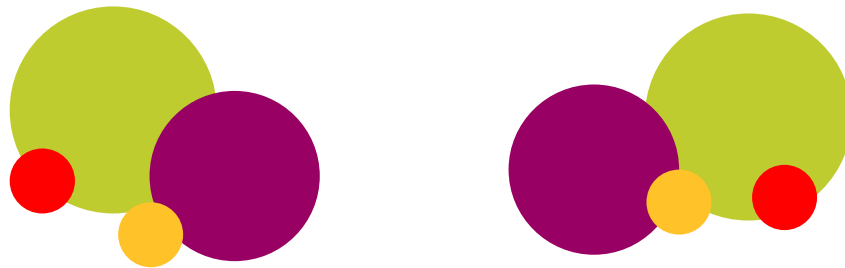


Peer Review

- A Peer Review was undertaken by the Eastern Region Partnership between 20 and 22 February 2017
- Conducted by colleagues from other local authorities in our region
- The Peer Inspectors involved were experienced social work managers
- They spent time looking at the quality of the services we provide to looked after children, with a particular focus (but not only) on care leavers and asylum seeking children
- A formal Letter was sent to the Director with their findings

Peer Review

- They focused on:
 - ❖ Quality of Care
 - ❖ Accommodation for young people aged 16 plus
 - ❖ Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)
 - ❖ Housing and employment for Care Leavers



Peer Review

As part of this process the Peer Inspectors

- ❖ Were based on site at Stephenson Court
- ❖ Read all the pre-supplied documents before they arrived on site and gave brief feedback on them
- ❖ Met with the Chief Executive, Councillors, the Chair of the Local Safeguarding Children Board, the DCS and senior managers, other managers and practitioners and 'our very charming Children in Care Council'
- ❖ Looked at all the case audits (12) supplied and met with staff involved in these cases

Peer Review

- ❖ Met with Focus Groups on a variety of topics
- ❖ Dip-sampled a number of cases
- ❖ Looked at further written material supplied
- ❖ Presented their findings to DCS, Senior and Middle Managers



Peer Review

The Peer Reviewers stated that overall our service was safe, children and young people were well cared for and supported. The findings also included:

- ❖ Workers clearly know and care about their children and come across very well
- ❖ Workers are very positive about CBC and particularly about Professional Development Opportunities
- ❖ Caseloads are reasonable and workers report good supervision and supportive management
- ❖ Political and strategic leadership is effective and can demonstrate commitment to children including investment in the service

Peer Review

- ❖ Political and Strategic Leadership is joined up – this means that the whole Council has children in view, not just the CYP Department
- ❖ Management “grip” is strong, KPIs are generally in right place, many are in top quartile and strategic plans are kept under review and progressed
- ❖ The Children in Care Council (CiCC) are very impressive and gave good evidence of their impact – particularly welcomed personal support of senior managers including the DCS and AD



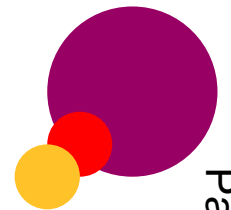
Peer Review

- ❖ Examples of very good life story work reflecting strong engagement with young people
- ❖ Pathway plans have a good format and demonstrate good involvement of young people
- ❖ Workers know how they will manage risks and have contingencies in place
- ❖ SDQs and other Health LAC indicators are very good



Peer Review

- Areas where we could do better included:
 - ❖ Recording reflective supervision more accurately as it is happening but not recorded as such often enough
 - ❖ A summary of case history on chronology would be helpful
 - ❖ Out of County 16+ are not supported by Youth Support Service
 - ❖ Missing policy for UASC should be clarified
 - ❖ Written Leaving Care entitlement and clarity about our complaints process



Action Plan - Work streams

The areas of development were considered and grouped into 7 work streams:

1. Clearer recording of case histories/chronologies on MOSAIC and the suggestion that it would be useful to have a summary of the case history within our chronologies
2. Better evidence of reflective discussions in supervision
3. Clearer case decision making to avoid 'drift', Are there too many meetings that do not involve the child/young person?
4. Ensuring out of authority care leavers get good 16+ educational opportunities
5. Develop Life Story work further
6. Missing policy on UASC needs to be clearer
7. Risk Assessment including CSE

Examples of actions and progress

Clearer recording of case histories/chronologies on MOSAIC

- **Actions completed**

- ❖ Single signposting statement drafted to direct the reader to where earlier chronologies are located
- ❖ All records have an up to date chronology with clear signposting statement to other chronologies of earlier periods in the child/young persons life

- **Longer term action to progress**

Development of a single freestanding chronology on Mosaic fed by:

- ❖ Key events automatically
- ❖ Other events by a simple manual process
- ❖ This work will require consultation with Mosaic system and performance team colleagues

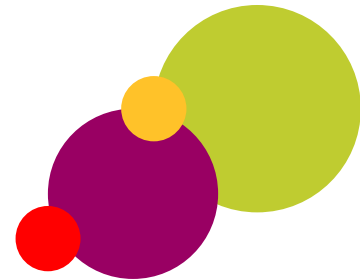
Examples of actions and progress

Ensuring out of authority care leavers get good 16+ educational opportunities

- ❖ Joint work has commenced with colleagues in the Youth Support Service
- ❖ RAG rating of 16+ LAC/Care Leavers for education, employment and training (EET) and personal circumstances for those living outside CBC, Luton and Bedford has begun
- ❖ Following audit individual young people identified as living outside the local authority will be provided with relevant contacts in the authority they live to access support
- ❖ Where support is required Youth Support and key worker to produce an action plan, recorded on Mosaic and monitored by key worker and manager

Peer Review

- We want to thank the Children in Care Council (CiCC) for their support and contribution
- We thank our Members for their support and strong leadership throughout this process



Peer Review

- We are pleased with the outcome of the review
- The outcome demonstrates good quality of practice and commitment of our staff to the young people in our service
- An action plan has been developed. The plan is primarily focused on the areas of development
- An overall timescale has been set for the majority of the plan to be completed by the end of May 2017



Central Bedfordshire Council

TRANSFORMING CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Briefing for Corporate Parenting Panel 8th May 2017

Gerard Jones



Our ambition

To have the happiest, safest, healthiest & highest achieving children in the country



Building on our strengths in preventing family breakdown

Looked After
Children
Numbers

DOWN

Feb 2014 275
Feb 2017 249
excl UASCs

6% reduction
in 4 years
despite 5%
increased
population
and 12%
increase in
national LAC

Child
Protection
Plans Numbers

DOWN

Feb 2014 222
Feb 2017 164

44%
reduction
over 4 years
despite 3%
population
increase

Child in
Need Plans

DOWN

12% in 4
years
despite a 3%
population
increase

Good Outcomes for Children in Care

- Social Workers visits to Children in Care – 97.7%
- Average SDQ Score (Mental & Emotional Wellbeing) for Children in Care – Down from 14.7 to 13.4
- Placement Stability – Children in Care with 3+ Care Placements – Down from 12.2% to 9.2%
- Placement Stability – children in the same placement for 2+ yrs – Up from 63.0% to 78.4%
- Care Leavers in Suitable Accm: Up from 88.3% to 90.9%
- Care Leavers in EET: Up from 68.0% to 70.2%

Realising our ambition – the Transformation Programme

Work Streams

Integrated Working Project

Project leads:
Gerard Jones and Celia Shohet

Service Development

Lead: Alex Coman

- Develop and test new operating model for locality working, including structure, pathways in and out of system, roles and supporting processes
- Establish a plan for implementation, including realistic phasing to introduce the new model

Workforce Development

Lead: Debbie Crawford

- Skills audit focusing on demand drivers & develop plan to address gap
- Review external best practice
- Develop a workforce development strategy and plan
- Identify suitable training and roll out development plan

Commissioning and Performance

Lead: Ben Pearson

- Design commissioning/ decommissioning strategy
- Review effectiveness of services that were not in scope of original PIR
- Develop, test and implement service performance framework
- Resource Allocation System design and implementation

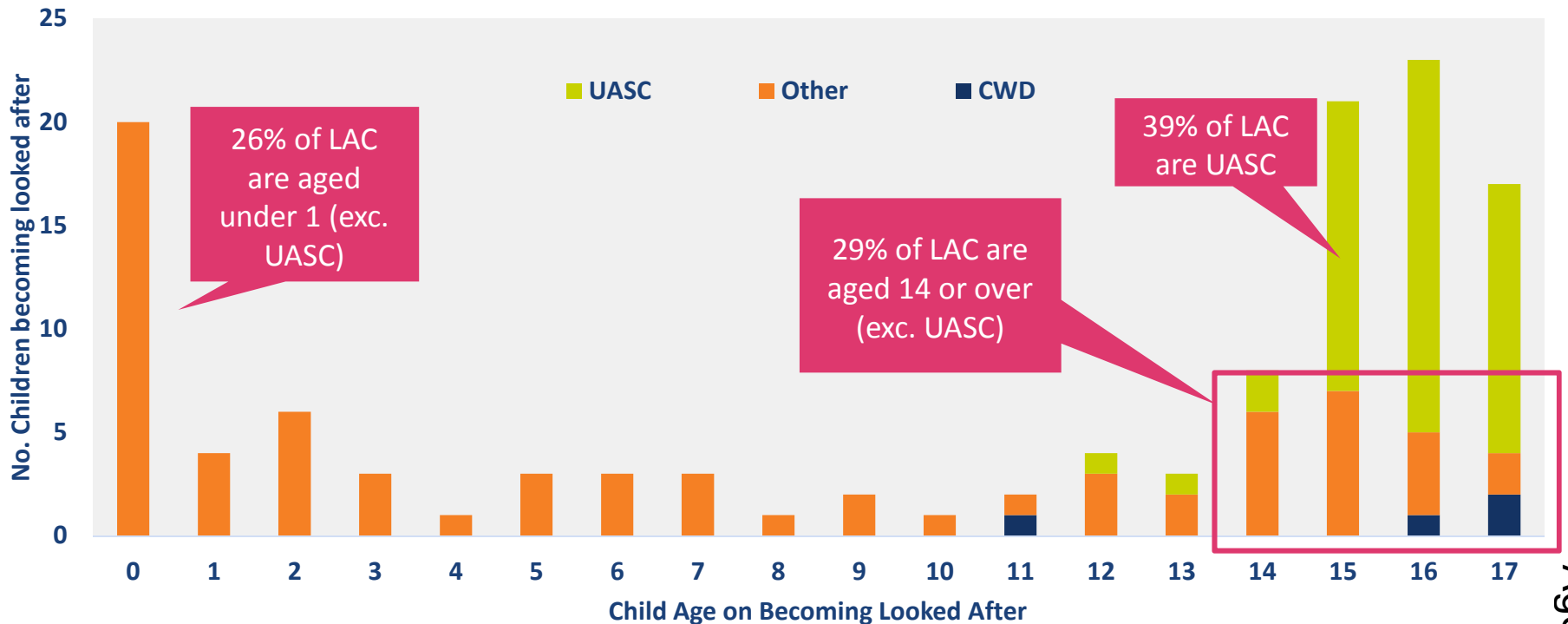
Infrastructure and Systems

Lead: Alex Coman

- Understand the enabling functions to support the new model (IT, equipment and accommodation)
- Develop and agree information sharing protocol across partnership to optimise systems use and access

Insight from the Transformation Programme – care entry is driven by children under 1 year and by adolescents

Number of children who became looked after by age (June 15 – May 16)



Identifying the two key cohorts allows us to focus on shaping the system to support and offer early intervention to the most at risk children and families

Key messages from our development work – to get even better

Our services need to be more integrated

our model of delivery needs to change

We need to work with families for longer

We need to focus on direct intervention and delivery

All staff will need to have core skills

We need to use data differently

We will need to consider how we commission different specialist support

Two key pathways:
Pre-birth to 1 year
•14 + (particularly adolescent girls)

We need to invest in partnerships and work more closely with our localities

We will be introducing five integrated locality teams in June 2017

It is clear that we need to integrate our services to address the problems families face more effectively

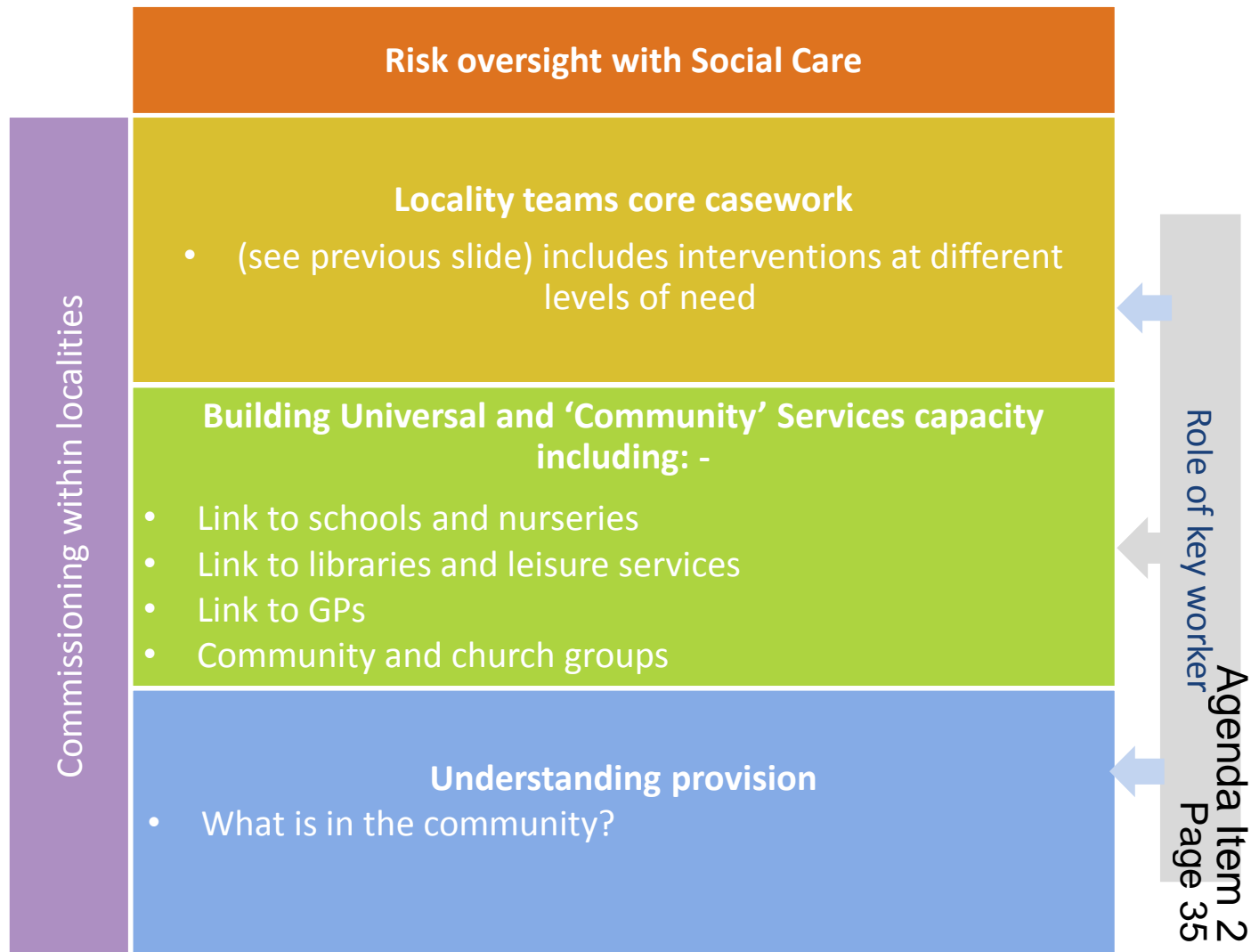


Each team will have a number of Early Help 'key workers' within it

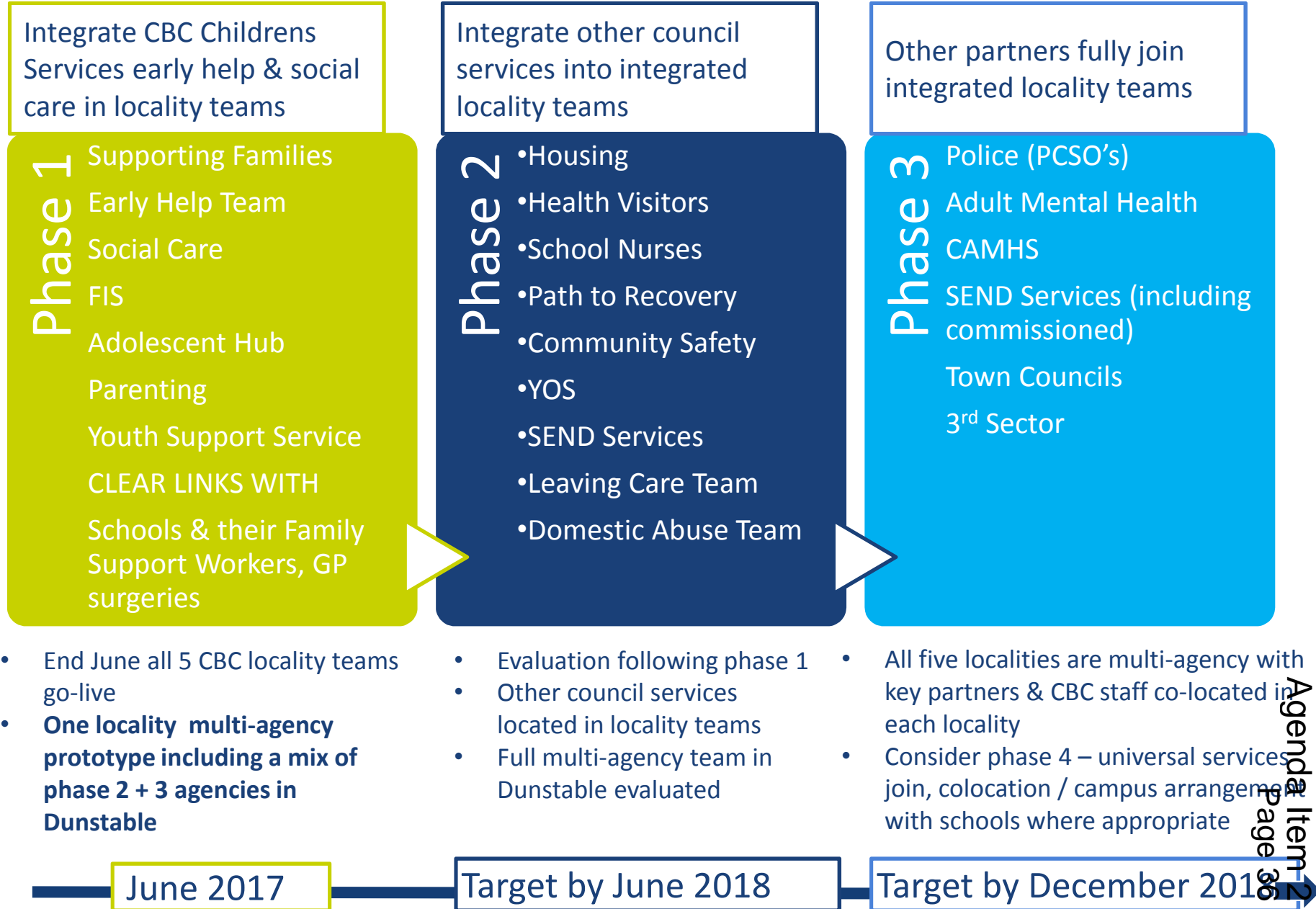
These workers will have a number of key roles over time

The role of workers in the locality teams is multi-faceted and includes: -

- Providing direct case work support to families
- Ensuring a clear understanding of locality provision
- Working with universal services to develop their capacity
- Potentially commissioning on an individual or local scale



The 'Transformation' Journey - The Planned Timetable



- End June all 5 CBC locality teams go-live
- **One locality multi-agency prototype including a mix of phase 2 + 3 agencies in Dunstable**

- Evaluation following phase 1
- Other council services located in locality teams
- Full multi-agency team in Dunstable evaluated

- All five localities are multi-agency with key partners & CBC staff co-located in each locality
- Consider phase 4 – universal services join, colocation / campus arrangements with schools where appropriate

SUMMARY

- We are a well performing Council and good Corporate Parents to our Children in Care and Care Leavers.
- It is clear that by working more closely with key partners we can do even better and use our resources more efficiently.
- The Transformation Programme is key to the Medium Term Financial Plan over the next 4 years.
- New leadership arrangements are in place in Children's Services including a new multi –agency Children's Leadership Board.

SUMMARY

- The first stage of implementing the programme commences in June 2017 with Locality Early Help Teams and a multi agency Domestic Violence pilot in Dunstable.
- We will develop an 'Adolescents Hub' to target support on young people most at risk of care, custody and School exclusion.
- We will target better support and interventions to very young children whose parents are affected by Domestic Abuse, Mental Health, Substance Misuse, Learning Disability and Criminality.
- New services will be closely linked to School Clusters and based in the communities they support.

Central Bedfordshire Council

Corporate Parenting Panel

Monday, 3 July 2017

Work Programme

Advising Officer:

Leslie Manning, Committee Services Officer
(leslie.manning@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk)

Purpose of this report

The purpose of this report is to assist the Corporate Parenting Panel in discharging its responsibilities by providing a proposed work programme for consideration.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Panel considers the proposed work programme attached at Appendix A.

1. To assist the Corporate Parenting Panel a work programme is attached at Appendix A to this report. The work programme contains the known agenda items that the Panel will need to consider.
2. Additional items will be identified as the municipal year progresses. The work programme is therefore subject to change.

Council Priorities

3. The activities of the Corporate Parenting Panel are crucial to ensuring that the Council effectively discharges its role as Corporate Parent of Looked After Children. By considering, approving and following its work programme the Panel helps support the Council's priorities of providing improving education and skills, protecting the vulnerable; improving wellbeing and being a more efficient and responsive Council.

Corporate Implications

Legal Implications

4. There are no legal implications.

Financial and Risk Implications

5. There are no financial and risk implications.

Equalities Implications

6. Central Bedfordshire Council has a statutory duty to promote equality of opportunity, eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and foster good relations in respect of nine protected characteristics; age disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.
7. Report authors will be encouraged to work with the Corporate Policy Advisor (Equality & Diversity) in order to ensure that relevant equality implications are identified.

Conclusion and next Steps

8. This report will assist the Corporate Parenting Panel in discharging its responsibilities. Any amendments approved by the Panel will be incorporated in the work programme.

Appendices

The following Appendix is attached:

Appendix A – Corporate Parenting Panel Work Programme

Background Papers

None

Appendix A

Corporate Parenting Panel Work Programme

2016/17 Municipal Year	
6 March 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CiCC and Participation Annual Report 2016/17 (inc. Pledge update) (MS/CiCC) • Update of the Adoption Fund (NP) • Fostering Service Q3 Report (AC) • Virtual School for LAC Interim Report (JE) • LAC Health Report – Six Monthly Update NHS Bedfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group (TMcD) • Work Programme (LM) • CiCC Presentation (MS/CiCC) EXEMPT ITEM
8 May 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adoption Agency Statement of Purpose 2017/18 (RB) • Fostering Agency Statement of Purpose 2017/18 (RB) • Peer Review and Action Plan (GJ) • Update on Transformation Plan (GJ) • Work Programme (LM)
2017/18 Municipal Year	
3 July 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Independent Reviewing Officers' Annual Report 2016/17 (SK) • Fostering Recruitment and Retention Strategy 2017/18 (AC) • Investigating Concerns and Complaints against Foster Carers (AC) • Fostering Agency Q4 Performance Report (AC) • Fostering Agency Annual Report 2016/17 (AC) • Adoption Recruitment Strategy 2017/18 (NP) • Adoption Agency Annual Report 2016/17 (NP) • Work Programme (LM)
4 September 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LAC Annual (Health) Report (NHS – Bedfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group) (TMcD) • Leaving Care Housing (spotlight report) (TK) • Fostering Service Q1 Report (AC) • Chairman of Adoption Panel – Annual Report (NP/GF) • Work Programme (LM)
13 November 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fostering Service Q2 Report (AC) • Adoption Agency Interim Report (NP) • Virtual School for LAC Interim Report (JE) • Work Programme (LM)

Unscheduled reports:

- Options for the funding of long term family care (GJ)

Appendix A

- Challenges experienced with the adoption process – discussion with carers (GJ)
- The appointment of a lay member/parent and the appointment of a substitute elected Member to the Joint Adoption Panel (author to be determined)
- Video presentation on the work of the CiCC (GJ)
- Foster care leavers be invited to attend and describe their experiences in care and raise any issues (GJ)
- Looked After Children’s Health Care Provision ‘Deep Dive’ Report (by March 2016) (GJ)
- ‘Spotlight Report’ on the current process which applies to young people as they move into adult social care and what additional action can be taken to improve support for them during this phase (young people to be invited to attend and talk about their experiences) (GJ)
- ‘Spotlight Report’ on how the adoption process works and how people become adopters (GJ)
- ‘Spotlight Reports’ on the following issues:
 - a. LAC with disabilities
 - b. Unaccompanied asylum seekers as LAC
 - c. The Virtual School
 - d. The reason for, and the impact of, the movement of LAC between different foster carers
(authors to be determined)
- A report by the foster carer representatives (Central Bedfordshire branch of the FCA) setting out feedback on various issues of their choice
- Corporate Apprenticeship Scheme and LAC (EW)
- ‘Spotlight Report’ providing examples of young people in different types of accommodation situations and what their experiences and outcomes were (18.01.16)
- Statistical information be provided on the number of young people, how they move on and what type of housing offers they receive (18.01.16)
- Given the perceived demand for foyer type accommodation, information be supplied on what is currently available within Central Bedfordshire and what the aspiration is for future provision (18.01.16)
- The impact of the government’s policies towards the adoption process, including the changes to the family court system (18.01.16)
- Proposal on how to co-ordinate information relating to the Council’s role as corporate parent (18.01.16)
- Accuracy of Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire (SDQ) (EW) (14.03.16)
- Academic progress made by children since becoming Looked After (14.03.16)
- Personal Advisor to attend Panel to explain measures taken to raise LAC expectations (JE) (14.03.16)

Appendix A

- Regular Update reports on the establishment of a regional adoption agency (GJ) (09.05.16)
- 'Spotlight Report' on youth support and help for adolescents in gaining further education, apprenticeships or employment (GJ) (09.05.16)
- Corporate Parenting Action Plan – Annual Review
- 'Deep Dive Report' with presentation on care leavers' employment (including Aspirations Wish List) (GJ) (08.05.17)

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