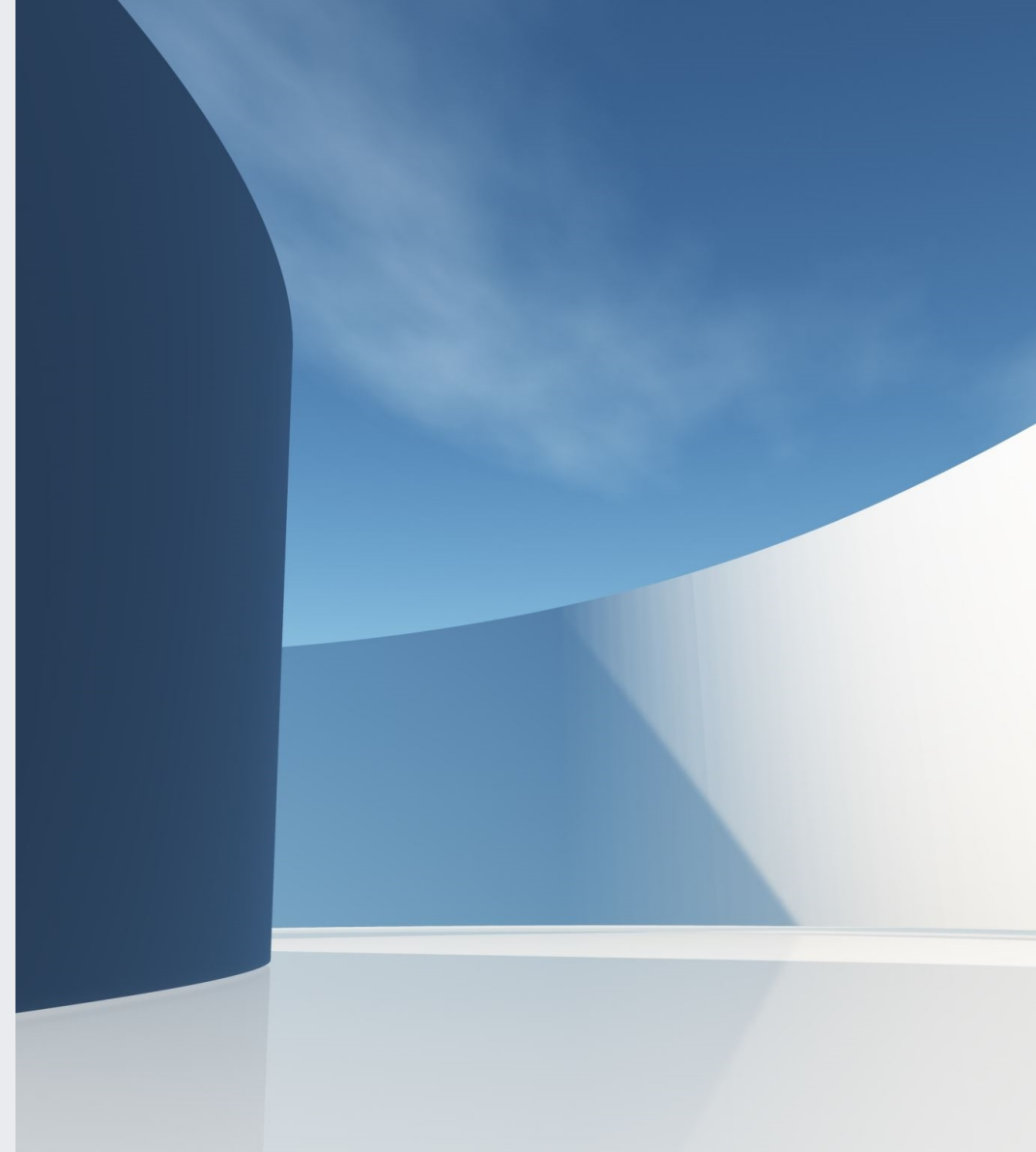


# Corporate Parenting Peer Diagnostic

LGA Peer Review March 23



# The Review process

- Jane Ivory (previous DCS BWD); Fiona Venner (Member CF Leeds); and Andrew Winfield (LGA Associate)
- ‘Critical friend’ approach to a diagnostic of where we are at – not an inspection and we know we aren’t where we should be!
- Interviews with Leaders, Senior Managers and frontline staff
- We asked them to support with a ‘what next’ and development plan

# Focus areas

1. What are the levels of understanding and ownership of corporate parenting across the council
2. Partner understanding of their role as corporate parents and how to promote their engagement
3. How effectively are we hearing the collective voice of care experienced young people and children we care for and how can we improve this?

# Strengths

- The (then) Lead Member is energetic and committed
- Chief Executive of the Council and the DCS are keen advocates
- Some good examples in the local offer – Council Tax exemption, gym membership and leisure pass
- Celebration Event established – consider more of these events!
- Virtual School is a strength – positive advocate for our children
- Good Fostering Service
- Positive results form health navigator role

# Areas for development

- Corporate Parenting reset and a focus on a small number of priority areas with laser like focus – including Housing
- Whole council prioritisation of Children's Services is needed
- Updating sufficiency strategy – including edge of care as an invest to save.
- Senior Leader and Members need to engage with children and young people
- Update Corporate Parenting Strategy
- Participation urgently needs to be strengthened
- Performance information at CPP needs to be focused – including stability of staff, caseloads etc.
- High support and high challenge needed

# The Corporate Parenting Panel

- Discuss and agree what would help the meeting to be more engaging
- Needs to meet more often to have impact. Items presented should have a clear purpose with an outcome identified and followed through.
- Strengthen the Membership – key strategic partners!
- Voice of children and young people through a variety of means
- Change the Pledge to a Promise (feedback from young people) and deliver!
- Development session needed – what is our responsibility as a Member or Officer?

# Offer of LGA support

- Learning from other local authorities
- Facilitated workshops
  - Governance and impact of the panel
  - Induction and training for new Members, staff and partners
  - Improving the agenda, reports and participation