

DECISION-MAKER:	CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SCRUTINY PANEL		
SUBJECT:	THE VIEWS OF LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IN SOUTHAMPTON		
DATE OF DECISION:	7 NOVEMBER 2019		
REPORT OF:	DIRECTOR - LEGAL AND GOVERNANCE		
<u>CONTACT DETAILS</u>			
AUTHOR:	Name:	Mark Pirnie	Tel: 023 8083 3886
	E-mail:	Mark.pirnie@southampton.gov.uk	
Director	Name:	Richard Ivory	Tel: 023 8083 2794
	E-mail:	Richard.ivory@southampton.gov.uk	
STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY			
None			
BRIEF SUMMARY			
<p>The Bright Spots Programme helps local authorities better understand the well-being of their children and young people in care (aged 4-18) and care leavers.</p> <p>Each year local authorities opt into the survey. Attached as Appendix 1 is a report outlining the findings from the Bright Spot survey of the views of looked after children and young people aged 4-18yrs in Southampton.</p>			
RECOMMENDATIONS:			
	(i)	That the Panel notes the key findings from the Bright Spots survey and discusses with the Children and Families Senior Management Team the actions taken in response to the areas for improvement identified.	
REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS			
1.	To enable the Panel to develop their understanding of the views of looked after children and young people aged 4-18yrs in Southampton and the improvements planned following the publication of the findings.		
ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED			
2.	None.		
DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)			
3.	Currently official statistics provide only a partial picture of the lives of children in care. Data focuses on areas such as where children live, how many moves they have and how they are doing in terms of education and employment. None of this information tells us about the experience of care from children's own viewpoints: are they happy, safe and feel they are doing well?		
4.	The Bright Spots programme, developed by Coram Voice and the University of Bristol (now University of Oxford), directly addresses these gaps in our knowledge through the use of a set of well-being indicators to allow services		

	to design their work around what children and young people say is important to them.
5.	The Bright Spots programme aims to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve the care experience for all looked after children; • Give children a voice on their own well-being; and • Highlight the 'Bright Spots' of practice that contribute to children flourishing in care.
6.	Each year a number of local authorities opt into the surveys and commission work, commit to disseminating the results, and producing action statements on how they will respond to the feedback from their children.
7.	Attached as Appendix 1 is a report outlining the findings from the Bright Spots survey of the views of looked after children and young people aged 4-18yrs in Southampton.
RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS	
<u>Capital/Revenue</u>	
8.	None.
<u>Property/Other</u>	
9.	None.
LEGAL IMPLICATIONS	
<u>Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:</u>	
10.	The duty to undertake overview and scrutiny is set out in Part 1A Section 9 of the Local Government Act 2000.
<u>Other Legal Implications:</u>	
11.	None
RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS	
12.	None
POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS	
13.	None
KEY DECISION	
	No
WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:	
	None directly as a result of this report
<u>SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION</u>	
Appendices	
1.	Your Life, Your Care: a survey of the views of looked after children and young people aged 4-18yrs in Southampton
Documents In Members' Rooms	
1.	None

Equality Impact Assessment		
Do the implications/subject of the report require an Equality and Safety Impact Assessments (ESIA) to be carried out?		No
Data Protection Impact Assessment		
Do the implications/subject of the report require a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) to be carried out?		No
Other Background Documents		
Equality Impact Assessment and Other Background documents available for inspection at:		
Title of Background Paper(s)		Relevant Paragraph of the Access to Information Procedure Rules / Schedule 12A allowing document to be Exempt/Confidential (if applicable)
1.	None	