

**THE GOVERNMENT'S EXPECTATIONS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY AS CORPORATE PARENT**

The Government expects Social Services and Education authorities to:

Provide care, a home, and access to health and education and other public services to which all children are entitled according to their needs.

Provide a mixture of care and firmness to support the child's development, and be the tolerant, dependable and available partner in the adult/child relationship even in the face of disagreements.

Protect and educate the child against the perils and risks of life by encouraging constructive - and appropriate friendships, and discouraging destructive and harmful relationships.

Celebrate and share their children's achievements, supporting them when they are down. Recognise and respect their growth to independence, being tolerant and supportive if they make mistakes.

Provide consistent support and be available to provide advice and practical help when needed.

Advocate their cause and trouble-shoot on their behalf when necessary  
Be ambitious for them and encourage and support their efforts to get on and reach their potential, whether through education, training or employment.

Provide occasional financial support, remember birthdays and Christmas or annual celebrations within the individual child's religion and culture

Encourage and enable appropriate contact with family members - parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles and brothers and sisters.

Help them feel part of the local community through contact with neighbours and local groups

Be proactive, not passive, when there are known or suspected serious difficulties.