

Lancashire Children's Services Improvement Board

Terms of Reference

December 2015

Purpose

To ensure that vulnerable children and young people in Lancashire are safe, protected and supported so that they can achieve the best possible outcomes.

Responsibilities

- To ensure all partners contribute to promoting the welfare of children and the delivery of effective safeguarding arrangements.
- To advise, support and challenge the County Council and its partners to secure sustainable improvements and high level performance in children's services following the Ofsted Inspection
- To ensure that all recommendations set out in the Ofsted reports, and any other DFE notices are successfully implemented by the County Council and its partners
- To develop and agree the Improvement Plan and regularly monitor, review and update progress.
- To ensure a focus on the journey of the child.
- To ensure that children, young people, families and frontline staff inform the development of improvement actions and are able to assess the progress made in delivering these.
- To give assurance that a culture of improvement is embedded across all agencies and that within this there is an understanding and recognition of good social work practice
- To work alongside existing strategic governance and accountability frameworks including the Lancashire Safeguarding Children Board, the Health and Wellbeing Board, the Children and Young People's Trust, the Corporate Parenting Board and relevant scrutiny functions.

Scope

To address:

- The areas of improvement identified in the Ofsted reports
- The areas of improvement within the Improvement Plan

Further responsibilities of the Board

- To commit and deploy resources in line with decisions taken at Board.
- To ensure improvement actions are implemented in a timely and sustainable manner.
- To ensure that all relevant partners contribute to, or produce, regular reports on the progress made on actions identified and agreed in the Improvement Plan.
- To appoint task and finish groups to complete specific pieces of work and report back to the Improvement Board.
- To identify and agree key performance measures including partnership performance indicators - with achievable and measurable targets - which will demonstrate impact.
- To remove all barriers to agreed activity, pace and performance.
- To identify and agree further or different actions where necessary to accelerate improvement.
- To provide regular updates from the Board into organisational and partnership governance arrangements.
- To facilitate effective communication about improvement activity, developments and progress across the wider children's workforce.

Membership

Independent Chair

LCC Leader

LCC Cabinet Member

LCC Chief Executive

LCC Corporate Director Operation and Delivery

LCC Director of Children's Services

LCC Deputy Director of Children's Services

Lancashire Safeguarding Children Board

Children and Young People's Trust

Tony Crane

Jenny Mein

Matthew Tomlinson

Jo Turton

Louise Taylor

Bob Stott

Tony Morrissey

Jane Booth

Mark Cullinan

Lancashire Constabulary
 Health Clinical Commissioning Group
 Lancashire Care Foundation Trust
 Regional Local Government Association
 Primary School
 Secondary School
 Barnardo's
 Blackburn with Darwen, Director Children's Services
 Independent Auditor
 Social Worker
 Young people representative

Ian Critchley
 Jan Ledward
 Janet Thomas
 Deborah Brownlee
 Alison Aylott
 Sean Bullen
 Paul Wilcox
 Linda Clegg
 Steve Hart
 James Friar
 TBC

Frequency

The Improvement Board will meet monthly:

Wednesday, 20 January 2016, 2.30pm	County Hall, Preston
Wednesday, 17 February 2016, 2.30pm	County Hall, Preston
Wednesday, 16 March 2016, 2.30pm	County Hall, Preston
Wednesday, 13 April 2016, 2.30pm	County Hall, Preston
Wednesday, 11 May 2016, 2.30pm	County Hall, Preston
Wednesday, 8 June 2016, 2.30pm	County Hall, Preston
Wednesday, 6 July 2016, 2.30pm	County Hall, Preston
Wednesday, 3 August 2016, 2.30pm	County Hall, Preston
Wednesday, 14 September 2016, 2.30pm	County Hall, Preston
Wednesday, 12 October 2016, 2.30pm	County Hall, Preston
Wednesday, 9 November 2016, 2.30pm	County Hall, Preston
Wednesday, 7 December 2016, 2.30pm	County Hall, Preston

Other Matters

Quorum: There will be no quorum for the meeting

Voting: all members have equal voting rights. The Chair does not have a second or casting vote. It is expected that the Board will, as far as possible, reach decisions by consensus.

Substitutes: Each member of the Board should nominate a named substitute who may attend in their absence. Appointing bodies should notify the clerk to the meeting in advance if the substitute is to attend in place of the member. A named substitute will have the same speaking and voting rights as the member they replace.

Frequency of meetings: Meetings will be monthly, unless otherwise agreed by the Board

Venue: Meetings will be held at County Hall, Preston, unless otherwise agreed by the Board

Changes to Membership: Changes to membership can be agreed by the Board. The Board may invite anyone who it believes will be useful in achieving its aims and purpose to attend meetings or join the Board as a full member with voting rights or a co-opted member without.

Review: The Improvement Board terms of reference were reviewed in January 2016.