

# Lancashire County Council Improvement Board

## Terms of Reference

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### **Aims and Purpose**

To address the findings from the Ofsted inspection of Children's Services and to ensure delivery of improvements against those findings.

To achieve this aim, the Board will:

1. Ensure services for children and families in Lancashire are fit for purpose and subject to continuous improvement to ensure that children and young people are safe, healthy, aspiring and achieving.
2. Take ownership of the Improvement Plan with clear accountability, scrutiny and reporting lines.
3. Work on a multi-agency basis to co-ordinate activities and responsibilities.
4. Challenge the delivery and direction of the actions contained within the Improvement Plan to ensure that improvements are timely and sustainable.
5. Monitor the delivery of the Improvement Plan to agreed quality standards and timescales.
6. Give assurance that improvements can be evidenced and monitored to maintain high standards of performance across all agencies.
7. Give assurance that the culture of improvement is embedded across all those agencies beyond the life and work of the Improvement Plan. Closely monitor the Improvement Plan.
8. Report progress against the Improvement Plan to the Cabinet committee on Performance Improvement and the Department for Education Improvement team and the Secretary of State.
9. Engage frontline staff, children, young people and families in developing and monitoring improvement activity to ensure that children and young people's voices are heard.
10. Work within the existing strategic governance, accountability and challenge framework, including the Local Safeguarding Children Board, Health and Wellbeing Board, Children and Young People's Partnership, Corporate Parenting Board and relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee(s), and seek to complement and enhance the work done by these bodies.

## Membership

The membership of the Board will be:

Chair:

- Independent chair (to be appointed)

Lancashire County Council:

- Leader of the Council (Chair in first instance)
- Cabinet Member with responsibility for children's services
- One nomination from each of the two largest opposition groups
- Chief Executive
- Corporate Director Operations and Delivery
- Director of Children's Services
- Deputy Director of Children's Services
- Head of Service, Safeguarding, Inspection and Audit

Other members:

- Representative from the NHS CCGs
- Representative from the NHS Acute Trusts
- Representative from the regional LGA
- Director of Children's Services from another Local Authority
- 3 representatives from schools, representing the primary, secondary and special sectors (LASSHTA)
- 2 representatives from the HE and FE sectors
- Chair of the Lancashire Local Safeguarding Children Board
- Chair of the Children and Young Peoples Trust
- Representative of Lancashire Constabulary
- Chief Exec from another LA
- Representative from the VCFS
- Representative from Business
- Representative from Department for Education
- Representative from Housing

## 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.