

## **TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR ADVISORY GROUPS AND FORUMS**

### **CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD**

#### **1. Purpose**

- 1.1 The Corporate Parenting Board reports to the Policy and Resources Committee. It acts as an advisory Board to the Council, its partners and its Committees on matters related to the Council's looked after children. Its role is to ensure that the Council and its partner agencies have a joint commitment to:-
- (a) Achieving improved outcomes for children in care and care leavers;
  - (b) Developing and overseeing implementation of the Corporate Parenting Strategy to drive improved outcomes;
  - (c) Providing challenge to ensure that the Council's duties as Corporate Parent are carried out effectively and consistently.

#### **2. Objectives and Terms of Reference**

- 2.1 To assist in the development, operation, monitoring and review of the Council's policies and strategies as they affect children in care and care leavers.
- 2.2 To develop, monitor and review a Corporate Parenting Strategy and work plan.
- 2.3 To promote a co-ordinated and partnership approach to the delivery of Council services as they affect children in care and care leavers and to challenge services where this is not evidenced or effective.
- 2.4 To advise the Council and its Committees on issues relevant to children in care and care leavers and to ensure that policies implemented by the Council which affect these children and young people are effective and appropriate.
- 2.5 To review and monitor outcomes for looked after children and care leavers, including data from the Corporate Parenting Report Card and feedback from the Standards & Complaints and Quality Assurance Framework officers in respect of children in care and care leavers.
- 2.6 To ensure that clear and accessible information is readily available to children in care and care leavers on the corporate parenting they can expect from the council.

- 2.7 To ensure that systems are in place which mean that the views of children and young people are represented in the development of services that affect them.
- 2.8 To ensure arrangements are made for the training and development of Councillors (and others as appropriate) on the Corporate Parenting role.
- 2.9 To receive reports on the discharge of the Council's functions regarding the provision of accommodation for looked after children and care leavers, and to make recommendations to the appropriate body of the Council.

### **3. Reporting**

- 3.1 To report to the Council's Policy and Resources Committee and Council on a twice yearly basis.
- 3.2 To make recommendations to the relevant Committee where responsibility for a particular function rests with that Committee.

### **4. Membership**

- 4.1 Membership of the Board will consist of:-
  - 5 elected Members
  - 4 nominated co-optees
- 4.2 Invitations to attend the Corporate Parenting Board may be extended to representatives of interested groups and to additional elected Members and Officers from across Council services
- 4.3 The membership of the Board is subject to review by the Policy and Resources Committee
- 4.4 The Chair of the Board is an elected Member

### **5. Review**

- 5.1 The work of the Board is subject to bi-annual review by the Policy and Resources Committee