

## **Children's Services Improvement Board**

### **Terms of Reference**

#### Underpinning Principles

Understanding where the key risks and issues are across the whole system of support and protection for children.

Understand the journey of a Rutland child from the first point they need help, care and protection, and through all the different stages after that.

Understanding what difference we are making and focusing our improvements where we can have most impact.

#### 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 Rutland 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. Challenge the delivery and direction of the actions contained within the Improvement Plan to ensure that improvements are timely and sustainable.
4. Monitor the delivery of the Improvement Plan to agreed quality standards and timescales.
5. Give assurance that improvements can be evidenced and monitored to maintain high standards of performance across all agencies.
6. 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.
7. Report progress against the Improvement Plan to Cabinet, Chief Executive and the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee.

8. 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.
9. Work within the existing strategic governance, accountability and challenge framework, including the Safeguarding Children Partnership, Health and Wellbeing Board, Children and Young People's Partnership, Corporate Parenting Board and relevant Scrutiny Committee(s), and seek to complement and enhance the work done by these bodies.

### Membership

Chair: Portfolio Holder for Lifelong Learning, Early Years, SEND, Inclusion, Safeguarding Children & Young People

The membership of the Board will be:

- Elected Member - Children in Care and Care Leavers Champion
- Strategic Director for People and Deputy Chief Executive
- Deputy Director of Children's Services
- Deputy Director, Resources
- Head of Service, Children's Social Care

### 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.

**Frequency of Meetings:** Meetings will be monthly, 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.

**Appendix A – Governance Structure**

