

Terms of Reference – Enfield Corporate Parenting Board 2021

1. Purpose of the Board

The Corporate Parenting Board has delegated authority on behalf of the full Council to act in the best interest of:

- Children who are looked after by the local authority pursuant to **section 22 (Children Act 1989 (CA 1989))**
- Relevant children (**section 23A, CA 1989**)
- Young people under the age of 25 who are relevant children (**section 23C(1), CA 1989**)

The purpose of the Board is to ensure that the Council fulfils its role as corporate parent to the above and that Members, partner agencies, officers and the children in care council work together to provide, review and improve the effectiveness of services to looked after children.

2. Principles

The Children and Social Work Act 2017 places a legal duty on all local authorities to have regard to a set of seven corporate parenting principles when exercising their functions. These principles are with the overriding principle ‘is this good enough for my child’

- To act in the best interests and promote physical and mental health and wellbeing of the children and young people
- To encourage the children and young people to express their views, wishes and feelings
- To take into account the views, wishes and feelings of the children and young people
- To help the children and young people to gain access to, and make the best use of, services provided by the local authority and its relevant partners
- To promote high aspirations and seek to secure the best outcomes for the children and young people
- For the children and young people to be safe and have stability in their home lives, relationships, education or work
- To prepare the children and young people for adulthood and independent living.

3. Membership

3.1 Cabinet Member for Children’s Services
Shadow Cabinet Member for Children’s Services
One additional Elected Member – Labour
One additional Elected Member – Conservative
KRATOS (Children in Care Council)

Chief Executive
Executive Director: People
Director of Children and Family Services
Director of Education
Head of Corporate Parenting
Head of Service for Children and Young People Commissioning for CCG NCL
Foster Carer

The Board will be supported by officers from local authority and wider partnership as required. The Head of Service for Looked After Children and Care Leavers or designated deputy is required to attend the board every quarter.

3.2 It is the role of the Head of Corporate Parenting to produce an annual report and work plan to focus on the key priorities for children in care and care leavers.

4. Meetings

4.1 The Board shall meet at least 4 times a year with additional meetings to be arranged as agreed by members. KRATOS will take over the chairing of one of the meeting every year.

4.2 The Board will be chaired by the Cabinet Member for Children's Services and deputised by one of the other Councillors on the Board

4.3 Administrative support with the head of COP will be provided to:

- Co-ordinate agenda preparation
- Support the convening of meetings
- Circulate agendas and papers prior to meeting
- Monitor and progress actions agreed by the Board with the head of COP.

5. Scrutiny

5.1 The activities of the Corporate Parenting Board will be subject to scrutiny by KRATOS

6. Review

These Terms of Reference will be reviewed annually by the Corporate Parenting Board.