

Report of Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

Report to Scrutiny Board (Children's Services)

Date: 18th June 2015

Subject: Scrutiny Board Terms of Reference

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Summary of main issues

1. This report presents the terms of reference for Scrutiny Board (Children's Services) for Members' information.

Recommendation

2. Members are requested to note the Scrutiny Board's terms of reference.

1.0 Purpose of this report

1.1 This report presents the terms of reference for Scrutiny Board (Children's Services).

2.0 Background information

Scrutiny Board's terms of reference

- 2.1 Each year, the Scrutiny Officer conducts a review of scrutiny arrangements to ensure that they are fit for purpose. This year, the focus of the review has been to consider the Board's terms of reference.
- 2.2 In the light of changes to the Council's key partnerships Council resolved that the terms of reference for Scrutiny Boards be drafted to mirror the executive functions of the Council's directorates. This would provide clarity over the respective remit of each Scrutiny Board.
- 2.3 This Board's terms of reference are related to functions delegated to the Director of Children's Services. The terms of reference are shown as Appendix 1 and the relevant officer delegations as Appendix 2.
- 2.4 In terms of Executive Members, the Scrutiny Board's role encompasses the areas of responsibility assigned to;

Cllr Yeadon - Executive Member for Children and Families

- Children's services
- Social services, so far as those functions relate to
 - i. Children, or
 - ii. Young people leaving care;
- Education in so far as those functions relate to children of compulsory school age;
- School places
- Provision of services so far as they relate to information, advice and guidance under the Learning and Skills Act 2000; and
- Operational responsibilities for the Youth Offending Service so far as they relate to the Local Authority.
- Child poverty;

Cllr M Rafique – Executive Member for Employment Enterprise and Opportunity

- Education so far as those functions relate to young people aged 16-19
- provision of information, advice and guidance in both community and school settings.
- Activities to reduce and remove barriers to learning and employment in both community and school settings
- Apprenticeships
- vocational training and allied services for persons over compulsory school age so far as those functions relate to;
 - commissioning and delivery of adult (19 plus) community learning
 - influencing learning and training providers to ensure provision meets employers' needs; and

- working with learning and training providers to develop and deliver provision to meet emerging labour market needs.
- Employment support services so far as those functions relate to;
 - the promotion of arrangements to assist persons to obtain employment
 - the promotion of arrangements to enable employers to meet their workforce needs; and
 - the promotion of arrangements to support citizens in disadvantaged communities to enter and remain in employment

2.5 Cross directorate working is encouraged and there will potentially be occasions when other directors or Executive Members may be asked to contribute to a Scrutiny inquiry should their portfolio responsibilities be relevant.

3.0 Corporate Considerations

Consultation and Engagement

3.1 These terms of reference were formally considered and approved by Council on 21st May 2015.

Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration.

3.2 In line with the Scrutiny Board Procedure Rules, the Scrutiny Boards will continue to ensure through service review that equality and diversity/cohesion and integration issues are considered in decision making and policy formulation.

Council Policies and the Best Council Plan

3.3 The terms of reference of the Scrutiny Board will continue to promote a strategic and outward looking Scrutiny function that focuses on the Best Council Plan.

Resources and Value for Money

3.4 This report has no specific resource and value for money implications.

Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

3.5 This report has no specific legal implications.

Risk Management

3.6 This report has no risk management implications.

4.0 Recommendation

4.1 Members are requested to note the Scrutiny Board's terms of reference.

5.0 Background documents¹

5.1 None

¹ The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the Council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.