

The Director of Children and Families is authorised¹ to discharge the following functions²³

1) Children's Social Work

a) Preventative Services including:-

Taking account of the benefits of prevention and early intervention and the importance of co- operating with other agencies to offer early help to children, young people and families to:-

- i) Understand local need; and
- ii) Provide and commission early help services.

b) Safeguarding and Child Protection including:-

- i) Leading on multiagency arrangements to ensure that resources are coordinated and deployed in safeguarding vulnerable children;
- ii) Provision of safeguarding training to ensure that staff are equipped to recognise and address child abuse;
- iii) Acting as corporate parents for looked after children;
- iv) Provision of placements for looked after children; and
- v) Implementing planned transition for young people leaving care.

c) Assessment and Care Management including:-

- i) Assessment of children who may have social care and/or complex needs;
- ii) Co-ordination, management and review of care packages to meet assessed needs; and
- iii) Provision and commissioning of services to meet the needs of children with complex needs.

d) Residential and Respite Care including:-

- i) Provision and commissioning of residential placements; and
- ii) Provision and commissioning of respite care.

e) Support For Carers including:-

- i) Provision or commissioning of training, advice and practical help for carers; and
- ii) Provision or commissioning of advice and practical help for young carers.

f) Youth Offending Services including:-

- i) Provision of education for children in custody; and
- ii) Safeguarding arrangements for children in custody.

¹ Save where the Leader or the relevant Portfolio Holder has directed or the Director considers that the matter should be referred to Executive Board for consideration.

² Together with similar and ancillary functions which have not been delegated to another Director.

³ In accordance with the resolution of the Executive Board 6 July 2005 the Director of Children and Families will also carry out relevant functions in relation to the Building Hope – Leeds/Sri Lanka Tsunami Appeal Charity

2) Learning

a) Early Years Provision including:-

- i) Provision of information, advice and assistance to parents and prospective parents;
- ii) Provision of children's centres;
- iii) Promotion of child care to ensure sufficient good quality child care to support working parents;
- iv) Promotion of high quality early years provision;
- v) Provision of free education for three and four year olds and all disadvantaged two year olds; and
- vi) Support to early years providers meeting requirements of Early Years Foundation Stage statutory framework.

b) Sustainable Access to education including:-

- i) Promoting a diverse supply of strong schools, including:-
 - Encouraging good schools to expand and,
 - Where there is a need for a new school, seeking proposals for an Academy or Free School
- ii) Ensuring fair access to all schools for every child, including:-
 - Provision of appropriate information to parents; and
 - Compliance with the statutory School Admissions and School Admissions Appeal Codes;
- iii) Provision of suitable home to school transport arrangements; and
- iv) Making arrangements for children outside mainstream education or missing education.

c) Special Educational Needs and Disabilities including:-

- i) Providing and commissioning education and health services to meet the needs of children with special educational needs and disabilities; and
- ii) Funding provision for children with Education, Health & Care Plans.

d) Promotion of attendance, attainment and achievement:-:-

- i) Support to maintained schools delivering national curriculum;
- ii) Development of robust school improvement strategies;
- iii) Support of school to school collaboration;
- iv) Improvement of poorly performing schools;
- v) Establishing a schools forum;
- vi) Maintaining a scheme for financing maintained schools and related provision of information; and
- vii) Improvement of school attendance.

e) 14-16 Skills Development

- i) Support the development of a diverse learning offer including University Technical Colleges, Studio Schools, Direct College enrolment and Free Schools;
- ii) Support the development of academic, technical and vocational pathways that contribute to local labour market needs;
- iii) Promote the opportunities available to young people at 14; and
- iv) Promotion of business engagement in schools and colleges through high quality Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance.

f) Development of active citizens including:-

- i) Promotion of access to educational and recreational leisure time activities for the improvement of well-being, personal and social development, raising aspirations, building resilience and enabling children and young people to make informed decisions.

3) Child Friendly City

a) Child Poverty including:

- i) Establish, implement, monitor and review arrangements to mitigate the impact of child poverty; and
- ii) Promote local co-operation arrangements to reduce the impact of child poverty.

b) Voice and Influence

- i) Promotion of children's participation in public decision making.

c) Influencing climate change and sustainability

- i) To support and enable children and young people's involvement in influencing behaviours and action to counter climate change and promote sustainability in their families, schools, communities and city.

4) Youth Service

Functions Delegated to the Director of Children and Families as Lead Officer of One Adoption Agency for West Yorkshire

The Director of Children and Families is authorised⁴ to discharge the following functions on behalf of the West Yorkshire Adoption Joint Committee ('WYAJC')

- 1) Adoption services including:-
 - a) Recruitment and approval of potential adopters;
 - b) Identification of potential matches between children and adopters⁵;
 - c) Provision of adoption panels; and
 - d) Provision of adoption support services⁶ to adopters, adoptees, birth families and relevant professionals.

⁴ Save where the Chair has directed or the Director considers that the matter should be referred to WYAJC for consideration.

⁵ One Adoption Agency for West Yorkshire shall identify potential matches and make recommendations to the relevant local authority for the matched child. The decision to match a child with an adoptive family remains a function of the Local Authority.

⁶ Including maintenance of and access to adoption records