



Report of the Interim Director of Children's Services

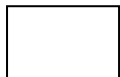
Member Management Committee

Date: 29 June 2010

Subject: Leeds Children's Trust Board

Electoral Wards Affected:

All



Ward Members consulted
(referred to in report)

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

1.0 Executive Summary

- 1.1 The report asks the Committee to consider amending Elected Member representation on the recently formed Children's Trust Board from 3 to 4 Members. This would ensure that both Executive Members with a responsibility for Children's Services are on the Children's Trust Board, alongside places previously agreed for a representative from each of the two other main political groups.

2.0 Purpose Of This Report

- 2.1 To ask the Committee to consider amending Elected Member representation on the recently formed Children's Trust Board.

3.0 Background Information

- 3.1 In line with recommendations to Executive Board, Member Management Committee was asked in April to nominate: Three Elected Members to serve on the Leeds Children's Trust Board; and, the Lead Executive Member for Children's Services to serve on the Leeds Safeguarding Children Board. This ensured that Elected Members were involved in the work of both Boards which met in late April.

4.0 Main Issues

- 4.1 Three places for Elected Members on the new Children's Trust Board were initially proposed based on discussions during the consultation period and to provide

consistency with Elected Member places on other key Leeds Initiative partnerships (such as the Leeds Initiative Executive and Healthy Leeds Partnership).

- 4.2 Having now formed the new Children's Trust Board and strengthened the Leeds Children Safeguarding Board, the Committee is asked to consider amending Elected Member involvement in the work of the Children's Trust Board.
- 4.3 This would reflect new political portfolio arrangements in the Council since May and take account of the size and complexity of the Children's Services portfolio which is currently undergoing significant and rapid change at both a local and national level. It will also reflect that a significant amount of time of the Lead Executive Member will be spent serving on the Leeds Safeguarding Children Board as well as the Leeds Children's Trust Board.
- 4.4 In view of this combination of factors, it is proposed that both Executive Members who have a responsibility for Children's Services serve on the Leeds Children's Trust Board. Along with a representative from the other two main political groups previously agreed, this would slightly increase the Elected Member places on the Board to 4 rather than 3 at present.

5.0 Implications For Council Policy And Governance

- 5.1 The Leeds Children's Trust Board comes under the Strategic and Key Partnerships category and Elected Member appointments to it are therefore part of the remit of the Member Management Committee.

6.0 Legal And Resource Implications

- 6.1 The legislative basis for the detailed proposals in the Executive Board report is contained in the Children Act 2004, as amended by the Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009. Within the Act, the City Council is defined as a children's services authority and has a requirement to establish the Children's Trust Board and Safeguarding Children Board. Recently updated statutory guidance published in March 2010 requires both the Lead Executive Member for Children's Services and Director of Children's Services to serve on the two Boards.

7.0 Recommendations

- 7.1 Member Management Committee is asked to increase Elected Member places on the Children's Trust Board from 3 to 4 to include:
- The two Executive Members with a responsibility for Children's Services
 - Places previously agreed for a representative from each of the two other main political groups

Background Papers

Reports to Executive Board and Member Management Committee, April 2010

Appointments to Outside Bodies Procedure Rules