

**20 May 2019****Agenda Item: 9****REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, COMMISSIONING AND RESOURCES****TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE CHILDREN'S HOMES GOVERNANCE  
BOARD****Purpose of the Report**

1. The purpose of this report is to seek approval for the Terms of Reference for the Children's Homes Governance Board, attached as **Appendix 1** and for the Terms of Reference to be reviewed and any recommendation for changes presented to Committee within the next 12 months.

**Information**

2. The Local Authority operates six residential children's homes, three of which can provide specialist care for children with disabilities, and Clayfields Secure Children's Home which provides both welfare, secure and criminal justice placements.
3. The Children and Young People's Committee received a report on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2019 regarding Rota Visits by Elected Members to children's homes and approved the following:
  - the withdrawal of current guidance on Rota Visits by Elected Members and that visits in their current format cease
  - the establishment of a new Governance Board to oversee the Council's children's homes, including Clayfields House Secure Unit, led by Elected Members and with cross-party representation alongside senior professionals from multi-disciplinary backgrounds
  - the proposed Terms of Reference for the Governance Board to be produced and brought to the Committee for approval
  - that reports from the Governance Board be brought to the Committee every six months
  - that a review of the revised governance arrangements be presented to Committee in 12 months' time.
4. The proposed Terms of Reference are attached as **Appendix A**. These have been written mindful of the Council's Constitution and delegated powers. The Board does not constitute a sub-committee and does not have the decision-making powers of a committee.

## Other Options Considered

5. This course of action has been agreed by Committee and as such other options have not been considered.

## Reason for Recommendations

6. The recommendations are made to ensure the strong and effective oversight of children's homes provision by Elected Members.

## Statutory and Policy Implications

7. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

## Financial Implications

8. There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

## RECOMMENDATION/S

That:

- 1) the Committee approves the Terms of Reference for the Children's Homes Governance Board, attached as **Appendix 1**.
- 2) the Terms of Reference are reviewed and any recommendation for changes presented to Committee within the next 12 months.

**Laurence Jones**

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## Constitutional Comments (SLB 25/04/19)

9. Children and Young People's Committee is the appropriate body to consider the content of this report.

### **Financial Comments (SAS 23/04/19)**

10. There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

### **Background Papers and Published Documents**

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

Rota visits by Elected Members – report to Children and Young People’s Committee on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2019

### **Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected**

All.

C1242