

CONSTITUTION OF THE LONDON BOROUGH OF CROYDON

Part 6.E - Terms of reference for the Corporate Parenting Board

Purpose and objectives

The Corporate Parenting Board is an advisory body. It has two main aims:

1. To support and make recommendations to the Corporate Director Children Young People and Education, Croydon's Safeguarding Children's Partnership, Health and Wellbeing Board and other Partnership Boards on matters related to corporate parenting as appropriate.
2. To advise, guide and provide leadership to Croydon Council on issues relating to looked after children, care experienced young people and its corporate parenting responsibility.

To meet this purpose, the Corporate Parenting Board will ensure that the following objectives are achieved:

- To ensure that there is a 'Whole Council and partnership approach' to driving excellent standards of corporate parenting for Looked After Children and Care Experienced Young People.
- To promote a Co-parenting approach when considering children and young people's needs and actions to improve their lives. Respecting birth families and carers co-parenting of children and young people when they are looked after and into early adulthood.
- To set high expectations and promote stable relationships and homes for all children in care and care experienced young people.
- To focus on improved impact of activity that supports the four priority areas for children in care, care experienced young people and their families. Ensuring children and young people are happy, experience well-being; educational success; positive pathways into adulthood and the opportunities to realise their ambition and aspirations.
- To ensure that the voice of children and young people in care and leaving care informs and shapes services that they receive. and that they can be involved in developments which impact upon improvements.
- To develop data and quality assurance information that effectively measures the key performance indicators for children looked after and care experienced young people. The Board will closely monitor, challenge, and ensure the strategic priority areas are able to be driven with key objectives realised.
- To consider the outcomes of regulatory visits and inspection reports on provision for children in care and care experienced young people; to receive regular reports as they relate to the strategy and as requested.
- To ensure that relevant key plans, strategies, and associated resources identify and make explicit the contribution that they make to targets agreed for improvement.
- To celebrate the achievements of children looked after and care experienced young people with their carer's and family members as informed by children and young people.
- To develop an informed view of Croydon Council provision for children in care and care experienced people both inhouse and commissioned through a programme of well-planned visits and feedback from Board members.
- To ensure that Board members are committed and actively involved in subgroups to drive the priority strategic areas.

The Board does not have decision making powers and is not established as a committee of the Council or as a committee of Cabinet.

Membership

The Corporate Parenting Board will be chaired by the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People. References to the Chair therefore are to the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People.

There will be a Deputy Chair who will act in the Chair's absence.

There will also be a care experienced young person who will act as Co-Chair and support the Chair in their role.

The Council Members will be appointed by Full Council annually or in-year if a vacancy arises. All other members of the Corporate Parenting Board will be appointed by the Board who will determine the period of office and may make changes to the appointments at any time.

The Board will comprise of at least the following core members, but the Board may appoint additional core members at their discretion:

Core Members	Tenure
Co-Chair, Care Experienced Young Person (voting)	12 or 6 months
Council Members x 8 (4 Conservative and 4 Labour) including the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People (voting)	Review yearly
Children Looked After/Care Experienced Young People living in and out of Croydon Borough (non-voting)	2 children/young people are invited to attend each Board meeting with support from the participation team.
Carer representatives x2 (voting)	1 year
Parent/Grandparent representative x 2 (voting)	1 year
Director of Education	Review yearly. Non voting.
Director of Housing Management.	Review yearly. Non voting.
Director of Adult Social Care	Review yearly. Non voting.
NHS Commissioner (voting)	Review yearly

Core members are required to give notice of non-attendance and in the event, they are unable to attend must inform the Chair and Co-Chair of who will attend in their place.

Additional Members	Tenure
Health representative including CAMHS	1 year
Department of Works and Pensions	1 year
Police representative	1 year
Safeguarding Board representative	1 year
Local Employer	1 year
Local College provider	1 year
Head Teacher	1 year
Youth Justice Service	1 year
Refugee Council	1 year
Voluntary Section	1 year

All the additional members of the Board will be non-voting.

The Board can make changes to the additional membership of the Board at any time.

Meetings and access to information

The quorum is three core voting members, two of whom must be elected members of the council.

The Corporate Director Children Young People and Education may attend all or specific meetings in consultation with the Chair.

The Head of Service for Children in Care & Care Leavers and the Director of Children's Social Care will also attend all meetings to advise and support the Board.

Councillors that are not members of the Board are permitted to attend meetings at the discretion of the Chair. The Executive Mayor may attend meetings as of right.

The Board will meet bi-monthly or as otherwise agreed. The frequency of meetings can be changed by resolution of the Board or by the Chair in consultation with the Lead Officer.

Due to the nature of work of the Board and its membership, the Board will meet in private.

Subject to rules on confidential and exempt information set out in Part 4.B – Access to Information Procedure Rules of this Constitution which will apply to Board meetings, copies of the agenda and minutes will be published on the Council's website. Agendas will be published five clear working days in advance of Board meetings.

Review

These Terms of Reference will be reviewed by the Board at least annually and any material changes will be reported to Full Council for noting.