

Engagement & Participation Sub Group Terms of Reference

Introduction:

The LSCB Business Plan sets out a number of key priorities that build on the progress made since the Ofsted inspection (January 2015). At the heart of the plan is the voice of children, especially those who are the most vulnerable. The Plan aims to ensure that children and young people of Leicester are safeguarded and that services designed to support them are coordinated well and are effective in preventing harm and in keeping them safe.

The key objectives and tasks of the Sub Group are:

- a) To support the LSCB partners to listen to and act upon the views of children and young people and their families who use our services; involving them wherever possible in setting priorities, planning, developing and improving policy and training;
- b) To work with the Young Advisors Shadow Board to deliver agreed priorities;
- c) To share examples of good practice between partner agencies and across Leicester;
- d) To develop an organisational culture of valuing children and young people's views and being proactive in facilitating their participation;
- e) To grow the number of children in our services who report that they have had opportunities to participate in decisions about their own lives and that they are satisfied with the process and the effect of their participation;
- f) To expand opportunities for children and young people to have a say about the nature and delivery of services to themselves and their peers;
- g) To ensure that structures are in place to embed best practice relating to engagement and participation in all the LSCB's work;
- h) To provide a framework for organisations to effectively involve children and young people in the development, delivery and evaluation of services that affect their lives;
- i) To make services more responsive to issues affecting children and young people;
- j) To promote a joined up approach to participation between all partner organisations;
- k) To encourage practitioners to develop and embed participation in their service area, department or organisation;
- l) To develop and embed a simple framework for monitoring and evaluating participation within the LSCB governance and within LSCB Member agencies.

Governance and accountability:

The Engagement & Participation Sub Group reports to the Executive Chairs Group (ECG) which reports directly to the Strategic Board and is responsible for ensuring that partners are meeting the statutory requirements as set out in Working Together 2015.

The ECG will do this by directing and overseeing progression of work undertaken by the LSCB sub groups in delivering the Board's key strategies and plans including the LSCB Participation and Engagement Strategy.

Membership:

The membership of the sub group comprise of statutory and non-statutory partners across the LSCB and/or, are key stakeholders who hold a strategic role in relation to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children within their organisation. As part of this role, the member has authority to commit their organisation on policy and practice matters and can hold their organisation to account.

The Engagement & Participation Sub Group will be chaired by David Thrussell LSCB Member and Head of Service Early Help and YOS. The Chair will be supported by a Vice chair of appropriate seniority and accountability who is agreed by the sub group.

Representatives from the following partners nominated by the relevant LSCB Board Member

Leicester City Council Children & Young Peoples Services
Leicester City Council Adult Services
Leicester City Schools & College
Leicester City Youth Council Youth Service Youth Involvement Team
Leicestershire Police
Leicester City CCG
Leicester Partnership Trust
Leicester Safeguarding Children Board Office
Leicester City Federation
Leicester City Public Health
National Probation Service
Shadow Board Young Advisors
University Hospital Leicester
Voluntary & Community Sector

Frequency of meetings:

Meetings are to be held monthly and at no more than six weekly intervals.

Role and Commitment of the Chair:

- Chair meetings and produce agendas and minutes in conjunction with the LSCB Business Manager.
- Liaise with ECG members and LSCB Business Manager to produce reports for Strategic Board meetings.
- Maintain momentum and implement the work plan of the group as determined by the Board and the identified priorities within the Business Plan.

Role and Commitment of the Vice Chair

- To deputise all of the above responsibilities in the absence of the Chair.
- Support the Chair to carry out responsibilities.

Role of the Group Members

- Attend all meetings, providing consistent agency representation wherever possible
- Ensure a representative is sent with relevant knowledge when cover is required
- Contribute to the development, engagement and participation of the shadow board
- Support implementation and delivery of the key objectives of the sub group
- Undertake delegated tasks and feedback to their own agency on actions and outcomes
- Progress work within agencies between meetings
- Feedback within own agency on the work of the group and practice development

END.