

# Oxfordshire Health and Wellbeing Board

## Children's Trust

### Terms of Reference 2014/15

#### **Purpose:**

The Oxfordshire Health and Wellbeing Board is the principal structure in Oxfordshire with responsibility for promoting the health and wellbeing of the people of the county.

The Children's Trust exists to have oversight of multi-agency strategic planning and to jointly monitor improvement of children's services in Oxfordshire. It influences and supports the Health and Wellbeing Board in its purpose to improve outcomes for children and young people and their families.

#### **Responsibilities:**

To achieve its purpose, the Children's Trust has the following responsibilities:

- To demonstrate effective partnership working across Oxfordshire to improve outcomes for children and young people and to achieve effective use of resources
- To demonstrate that effective strategic partnership arrangements are in place to ensure that the lives of children and young people are improved by the delivering of better services, including their health and wellbeing.
- To actively develop and promote the vision for children, young people and families in Oxfordshire
- To have regard to the key priorities of:
  - a. ensuring children have a healthy start in life and stay healthy into adulthood
  - b. narrowing the gap for our most disadvantaged and vulnerable groups
  - c. keeping children and young people safe
  - d. raising achievement for all children and young people
- To champion the involvement of young people, parents and carers in partnership working with senior managers and politicians
- To inform the development of the priorities and objectives of the Joint Health and Wellbeing Needs Assessment (JSNA) for Oxfordshire, and to lead in ensuring the delivery those priorities and objectives.
- In particular to:

- a. *agree and recommend to the Health and Wellbeing Board, a Children and Young People's Plan for Oxfordshire, recommend where resources should be focused and report on multi-agency performance for delivering the plan to the health and Wellbeing Board..*
- b. *contribute to the overall joint health and wellbeing strategy and make specific recommendations on the key outcomes for children and young people in Oxfordshire and as they move into adulthood.*
- c. *monitor and report on the delivery of joint existing key performance targets for children and young people across all relevant stakeholders in the county to promote achievement of improvement targets, in particular the performance measures in the Health and Wellbeing Strategy and the Children and Young People's Plan.*
- d. *plan agreed services together, promoting the alignment and/or pooling of resources as appropriate to improve outcomes, working together to problem solve and find solutions collaboratively*
- e. *work in partnership with the Oxfordshire Safeguarding Children's Board (OSCB) to ensure that safeguarding concerns are fully considered in the promotion of health and wellbeing for children and young people.*
- f. *work in partnership with other strategic partnerships in the County such as the Health Improvement Board and Older People Joint Management Group, and the Community Safety Partnership to ensure that their plans, targets and performance measures work together in synergy with the plans of the Children's Trust.*

The responsibility for monitoring and evaluating safeguarding in Oxfordshire remains with the OSCB. The OSCB will provide robust, independent challenge to the safeguarding work of the Children's Trust and its partners to enable the OSCB to fulfil its scrutinising role.

### **Membership:**

The core membership of the Children's Trust is:

- The Cabinet Member for Children, Education and Families, Oxfordshire County Council
- The Cabinet Member for Public Health and the Voluntary Sector, Oxfordshire County Council
- Two Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group representatives, at least one of which should be a GP

- The Director for Children’s Services, Oxfordshire County Council
- The Deputy Director, Joint Commissioning, Oxfordshire County Council
- The Deputy Director, Children’s Social Care, Oxfordshire County Council
- The Deputy Director, Education and Early Intervention, Oxfordshire County Council
- The Deputy Director, Public Health, Oxfordshire County Council
- A District Council Member
- A representative of Thames Valley Police
- The Independent Chair of the Oxfordshire Safeguarding Children Board
- A representative from Oxford Health
- A representative from Oxford University Hospital Trust
- A representative of Oxfordshire’s schools and colleges
- A representative from the voluntary sector
- Two parent representatives and two young people, appointed by the Public Involvement Network. One parent and one young person will attend each Trust meeting.

*Chairmanship and agreeing proposals:*

The Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Children’s Trust must be either:

- The county council Cabinet Member for Children, Education and Families
- An Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group representative

as determined by the Chairman of the Health and Wellbeing Board.

Agreement will be by consensus where possible or by a show of hands if necessary (and the Chairman will have a second or casting vote as appropriate).

*Other Officers in attendance are:*

- The Lead Commissioner, Children & Young People
- A Public Health Specialist
- The Partnership Development Manager, Oxfordshire’s District Councils
- The Policy and Performance Service Manager, Oxfordshire County Council

It is proposed that a wide range of stakeholders can be invited to Trust meetings at the discretion of the Chairman. They may attend as expert witnesses and to report on the implementation of plans.

**Governance:**

The meetings of the Children's Trust will be subject to the provisions of the County Council's Constitution including the Council Procedure Rules and the Access to Information Procedure Rules, insofar as these are applicable to the Children's Trust.

The Children's Trust will also be subject to existing scrutiny arrangements with Oxfordshire's Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee providing the lead role. Members of the Group will be subject to the Code of Conduct applicable to the body which they represent.

The Health and Wellbeing Board will agree terms of reference and membership for the Children's Trust. It will also agree its priorities, proposed outcomes and performance measures.

The Children's Trust will meet six times a year and in public at least once a year. Dates, times and places of meetings will be determined by the Chairman of the Trust. The county council's Joint Commissioning Team will service the meetings of the Trust including the preparation and circulation of agendas and minutes.

The Health and Wellbeing Board will review the Terms of Reference on an annual basis.

Peter Clark  
County Solicitor and Monitoring Officer  
November 2014