

# Reform of Children's Trusts

**Sarah Breton, Strategic Lead and Head of  
Joint Commissioning  
Oxfordshire County Council and PCT**

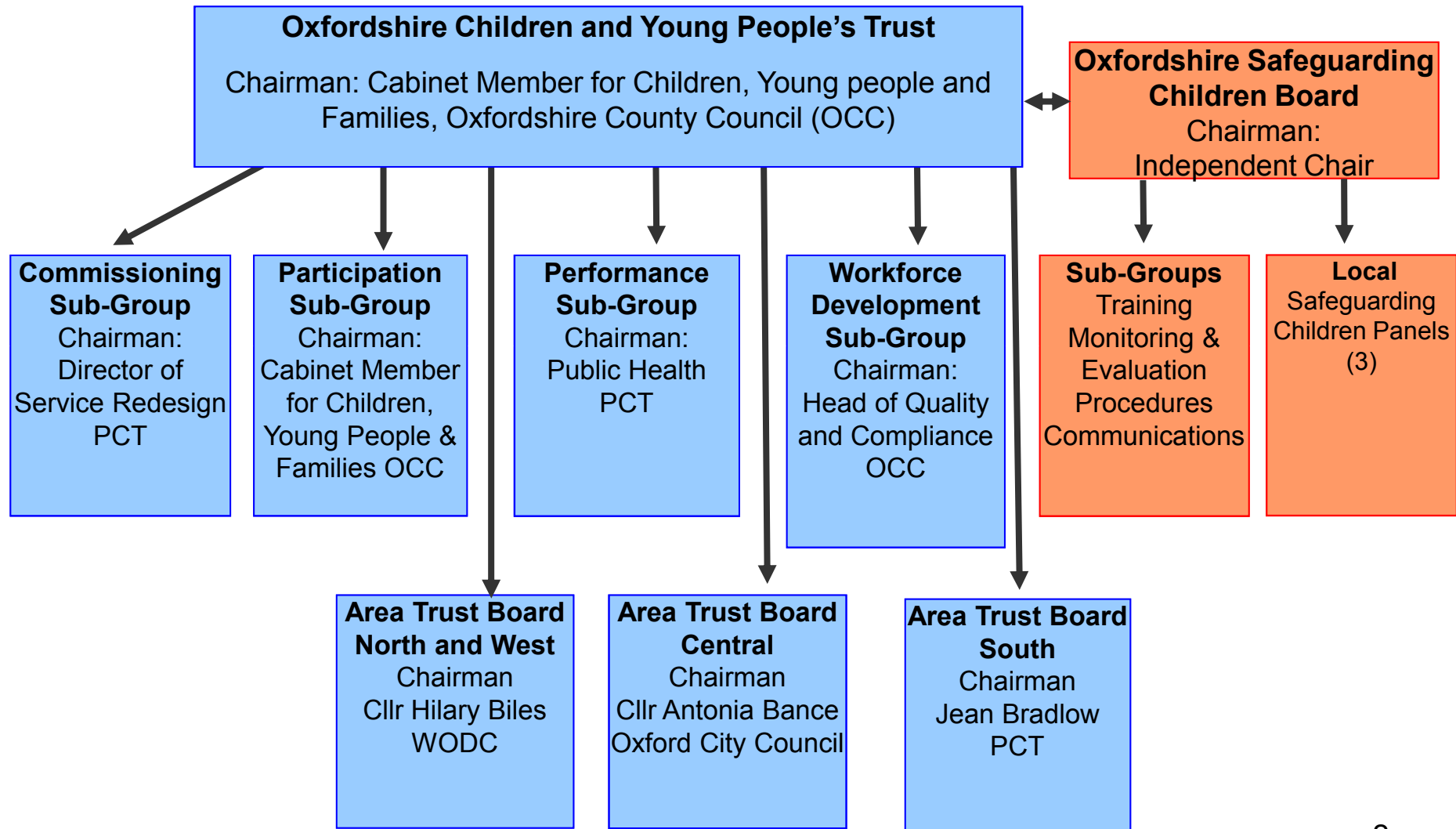
Working for you



**OXFORDSHIRE  
COUNTY COUNCIL**

[www.oxfordshire.gov.uk](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk)

# OCYPT – Structure (1 September 2010)



# **Government reform of Children's Trusts**

**(22<sup>nd</sup> July)**

- ✓ **The government intends to remove the duty on schools to co-operate through Children's Trusts (via Education Bill)**
- ✓ **It will remove the requirement on local authorities to set up Children's Trust Boards**
- ✓ **It will remove the requirement for the Boards to prepare and publish a CYPP**
- ✓ **Regulations underpinning the CYPP will be revoked**
- ✓ **Statutory guidance on Children's Trusts will be withdrawn in the autumn**

# What does this mean?

- ✓ **Government clearly supporting effective partnerships: reform not removal**
- ✓ **The basic duty to co-operate will continue but the list of statutory partners will be reviewed**
- ✓ **There will be a wider programme of measures affecting schools in the autumn**
- ✓ **Although the new CYPP will no longer be required, local areas can decide if, how and when a Plan is agreed and what it should contain**

# **“Equity and Excellence: Liberating the NHS” (July 2010)**

- **Better patient information and choice “*No decision about me without me*”.**
- **More unified approach to social care, health care and health improvement for more coherent and co-ordinated local commissioning eg mental health, children’s services.**
- **Spending to increase in real terms but still need to achieve efficiency gains of £20 billion by 2014 in part by reducing management costs by 45 per cent over the next four years.**
- **SHAs and PCTs will be abolished by 2013.**
- **GP Commissioning Consortia will be established.**
- **National Commissioning Board will be accountable body (and will commission directly some services e.g. maternity).**
- **Local and national HealthWatch groups (borne from LINKs) will safeguard patient interests.**

# What this means for the Children's Trust

- ✓ **PCT responsibilities for health improvement will transfer to local authorities**
- ✓ **A new Public Health Service will be created and Directors of Public Health will be jointly appointed with LAs**
- ✓ **New statutory arrangements within local authorities – established as *“health and wellbeing boards”***
- ✓ **Health and Wellbeing Boards will be responsible for:**
  - ✓ **Needs assessment and the JSNA**
  - ✓ **Promoting integration and partnership including joined up commissioning**
  - ✓ **Supporting joint commissioning and pooled budget arrangements where this makes sense locally**
  - ✓ **Undertake a scrutiny role in terms of major service redesign**

# Feedback from the OCYPT Board

- **Concern about the removal of school's duty to cooperate – need Children's Trust to 'hold the ring'.**
- **Fundamental changes to the landscape but needs of children and young people remain the same – Children's Trust to continue raising profile of needs.**
- **Existing mechanisms for getting involvement of children and parents need to be protected in the transition to new arrangements.**
- **There is a need to 'keep the foot on the accelerator' in terms of work already underway and Children's Trust needs to maintain 'strategic overview'.**
- **Trust members need to be involved in the establishment of future arrangements.**

# Way forward

- **Maintain existing Trust Board to provide leadership and strategic overview to priorities for children and young people.**
- **Members to collaborate from own organisational perspective to champion the agenda for children and young people.**
- **Exploit the opportunities offered through the proposed new structures (Health and Wellbeing Board) to ensure children and young people are actively represented.**