

13 January 2017

## **LGA Task Group: The Future of Children's Social Care Improvement - Terms of Reference**

### **Purpose**

For information.

### **Summary**

This paper updates members on the terms of reference for the Board's task group on the future of children's social care improvement.

### **Recommendation**

Members of the Children & Young People Board are asked to note the task group terms of reference.

### **Action**

Officers to take action as directed by members.

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## **LGA Task Group: The Future of Children's Social Care Improvement - Terms of Reference**

### **Overview**

1. This task group was established by the LGA Children and Young People Board to develop a coherent, evidence-based narrative of the current state of children's social care improvement support in England, and a clear vision for how this support should be designed and delivered in future.

### **Core activity**

2. In order to undertake this task, the group will:
  - 2.1. Review the range of children's social care improvement activity currently taking place across local and central government.
    - 2.1.1. This strand will include analysis of the DfE's Innovation Programme and Partners in Practice initiatives, intervention support provided to areas judged inadequate by Ofsted (including the development of new delivery models such as children's trusts), proposed legislative changes such as the power to innovate and the introduction of greater flexibility in the design of multi-agency safeguarding partnerships, and sector-led improvement programmes led by the LGA and ADCS.
  - 2.2. Collate and analyse existing evidence on the impact and effectiveness of this activity.
    - 2.2.1. This strand will include recent studies from the National Audit Office (*Children in need of help and protection*) and the Rees Centre (*Evaluation of the Children's Social Care Innovation Programme*), published LGA research from iMPower (*A brave new world: is inspection improving children's services?*) and the Isos Partnership (*Action research into the enablers of improvement in children's services*), and ongoing LGA research from the Early Intervention Foundation (*Improving the effectiveness of the child protection system*) and the Isos Partnership (*Improvement in children's service: models of improvement support*).
  - 2.3. Commission and oversee new research to fill any identified gaps in this evidence base.

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**Membership and ways of working**

3. The task group will consist of:
  - 3.1. Cllr Dick Madden (Essex, Conservative) - Chairman
  - 3.2. Cllr Anntoinette Bramble (Hackney, Labour)
  - 3.3. Cllr Jon Hubbard (Wiltshire, Liberal Democrat)
  - 3.4. Cllr Gillian Ford (Havering, Independent)
  - 3.5. Ian Dean, Clive Harris and Louise Smith (LGA)
4. The group will meet six times until September 2017, with the first meeting scheduled for 13 January 2017.
5. The task group is accountable to the full LGA Children and Young People Board. The Task Group Chair will provide regular updates at future CYP Board meetings, and a final report will be presented to the Board in September 2017.