

Children and Young People Board - Terms of reference, Membership and Appointments to Outside Bodies for 2023/24

Purpose of Report

For information.

Summary

This report outlines the terms of reference and membership for the LGA's Children and Young People Board for the 2023/24 meeting cycle. The report also identifies outside bodies to which the Board is asked appoint for the 2023/24 meeting cycle.

LGA Plan Theme: One politically led organisation

Recommendation(s)

That the Board:

- i. agree its Terms of Reference (Appendix A);**
- ii. formally notes the membership for 2023/24 (Appendix B);**
- iii. notes the dates of the future meetings (Appendix C);**
- iv. note the Outside Bodies for 2023/24 and register your interest with your Lead Members (Appendix D).**

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Children and Young People Board - Membership and Terms of reference and Appointments for Outside Bodies for 2023/24

Background

1. The LGA's Boards seek to lead the agenda for local government on the key challenges and issues within their remit and support the overall objectives of the organisation as set out in the [LGA Plan 2022–2025](#).
2. They take an active role in helping to shape the LGA's plan through extensive engagement with councils and oversight of the programmes of work that deliver these strategic priorities.

Terms of reference and membership 2023/24

3. The Children and Young People's Board's Terms of Reference, Membership and future meetings dates are set out at **Appendixes A, B and C** respectively for agreement and noting.

Children and Young Board Lead Members

4. The LGA seeks where possible to work on the basis of consensus across all four groups. The Children and Young People Board is politically balanced, and led by the Chair and three Vice/Deputy Chairs, drawn from each of the four political groups. This grouping of members – known as Lead Members – meet in between Board meetings, shape future meeting agendas, provide clearance on time sensitive matters, represent the Board at external events, meetings and in the media, as well as engaging with the wider Board to ensure your views are represented.
5. The Lead Members for 2023/24 are:
 - 5.1. Cllr Louise Gittins, Chair
 - 5.2. Cllr Patricia Bradwell, Vice-Chairman
 - 5.3. Cllr Gerald Vernon-Jackson, Deputy Chair
 - 5.4. Cllr Jon Hubbard, Deputy Chair

The Children and Young People team

6. The Board is supported by a cross cutting team of LGA officers, with policy colleagues and a designated Member Services Officer being those who you are likely to have regular contact with.

7. The Children and Young People (CYP) team work within the wider Children, Equalities, Welfare and Democracy team. The CYP team supports the LGA's work on the Board's priorities, and also a number of other issues which are within the Board's remit. The team works with Board Members, the LGA media team and political groups to maintain local government's reputation on the issues facing, in the media; conducts our lobbying work (according to Members' steer) in conjunction with the Parliamentary affairs team, and works collaboratively with other Boards across relevant cross cutting policy and improvement issues.
8. The team supports Members in person or by briefing when they represent the LGA on external speaking platforms or at Ministerial or Whitehall events. We will provide briefing notes and/or suggested speaking notes as required in advance of each engagement.
9. The team also participate in a number of officer working groups and programme boards, representing the sector's interests and putting forward the LGA's agreed policy positions.

Communications and Events

10. There are a number of internal and external communications channels available to help the Children and Young People Board promote the work it is doing and to seek views from our member authorities.
11. The LGA, working in partnership with the Association of Directors of Children's Services (ADCS) and the Association of Directors of Adult Social Services (ADASS) to deliver the annual National Children and Adult Services Conference. The conference is the annual opportunity for those with an interest in social care, children's services, education, health and related fields to network with peers and hear the very latest thinking on key policy and improvement agendas.
12. The team also arranges regular conferences (currently in webinar format), which reflect the Board work programme and priorities of member councils.
13. Alongside this, the team arranges training and learning events in partnership with the LGA's improvement team.
14. We also have a dedicated section on the LGA website, monthly e-bulletins, outside speaking engagements and interviews, advisory networks, features and news items in First magazine.

Children and Young People Board outside body appointments

15. The LGA benefits from a wide network of member representatives on outside bodies. These appointments are reviewed on an annual basis across the

Association to ensure that the aims and objectives of the outside bodies remain pertinent to the LGA and accurately reflect its priorities. Appointments should as far as possible be made in proportion with political representation across the LGA; as an LGA representative, members appointed to these roles should speak for the Association, and not one particular political Group.

16. Further details regarding the outside bodies can be found in the table at **Appendix D**, which lists the organisations to which the Board will appoint member representatives for the 2022/23 meeting cycle.

17. The 2022/23 Board was represented by members on the below outside bodies:

| Current outside bodies | 2022/23 post holder |
|--|---|
| Children’s Improvement Board | Cllr Louise Gittins (recommended it is the Board Chair) |
| National Youth Agency | Cllr Mili Patel |
| LGA’s Asylum, Migration and Refugee Task Group | Cllr Julie Fallon |

Members are invited to express any interest in serving on the outside bodies to their relevant Lead Member.

18. In the event that a Board member is required to represent the LGA on any other outside bodies, officers will liaise with lead members to ensure a nominee from the Board is identified. In these circumstances, Members appointed to represent the LGA on an outside body are asked to provide regular feedback, either through the Board meetings, or alternative mechanisms.

19. Equalities Advocate for the Board will be appointed by the Political Groups.

Implications for Wales

20. None

Financial Implications

21. There are no substantial financial implications arising directly from this report. Reasonable travel and subsistence costs will be paid by the LGA for expenses incurred by a member appointee, whilst carrying out a representative role on an outside body on behalf of the LGA.

Equalities implications

22. There are no equalities implications arising from this paper.

Next steps

23. Members to note the content of this report and the proceeding appendices.