

## **Annex 2**

### **EARLY HELP ADVISORY BOARD**

#### **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

These terms of reference are intended to provide some direction for Local Early Help Advisory Boards recognising they will evolve in slightly different ways but with a core defined purpose. These terms of reference are currently draft and will be agreed by the end of July, following initial meetings of Local Early Help Advisory Boards.

#### **Scope**

The scope of the Local Early Help Advisory Board is the local implementation of the early help delivery model.

#### **Purpose**

To bring together a partnership in each borough or district invested in developing a coherent local early help offer and manage the successful delivery of this offer. By coming together the partners will hold a collective responsibility for decisions and support the successful delivery of this offer.

#### **Key responsibilities**

- Have strategic oversight of the co-ordination and effectiveness of the local early help offer.
- Provide support and challenge to the development of the local early help offer
- Support the development of a joined up local plan which prioritises early help needs and outcomes
- Work collectively with local operational networks to implement a local plan
- Maintain an oversight of the development and effectiveness of the Local Family Partnership
- Support the development of local early help commissioning plans and participate in commissioning processes to deliver a local joined up early help offer
- Work locally to identify gaps in provision regarding early help and to identify and mitigate against risks
- Support the practitioners' networks including co-ordinating training and development opportunities in accordance with local need
- Help capture the voice of families, children and young people
- Communicate with key local stakeholders outside of the meeting to raise awareness of the local early help offer and developments.
- Update the Early Help Transformation Programme Delivery Group via the Strategic Leads for Young People and Families, escalating any risks as required.
- Provide an annual report to the local or joint committee on early help.

#### **Chair**

Each Local Early Help Advisory Board will appoint an appropriate chair from their membership.

#### **Ways of working**

- Meeting agendas will be agreed by the Chair and the Families Service Manager
- Agendas will be circulated to members of the Local Early Help Advisory Board prior to the meeting
- If it is not possible for a member to attend, they should nominate a substitute representative to attend with delegated authority to make decisions on behalf of their organisation.

- Minutes of this meeting will be kept by the Families Service Manager and agreed by members of the group
- Members will provide updates to the board on actions and key developments in their area

### **Frequency of Meetings and Venues**

Meetings will be held at least quarterly at suitable venues across the borough or district.

### **Meeting Membership**

The membership of boards will vary across boroughs and districts, however there are some core principles for the membership of each board:

- Membership should be as local as possible and key local partners should be represented to ensure they can be consulted with and are involved in making decisions.
- Members need to be able to represent the broad views of the key delivery groups and be able to speak on their behalf about good practice and local need.
- Members need to impact on the establishment and delivery of early help rather than measure accountability
- With any Surrey County Council representation it should be considered whether they are required as a core member or if discussions could take place outside of the meeting (e.g. Families Service representation should be limited to the borough Families Service Manager)
- There should not be more than 15 members to allow for effective discussion and decision making

Representation should consider:

- Borough or district council
- Secondary education
- Primary education
- Children's Centre
- Two elected representatives from the local/joint committee
- Police
- Health
- Job Centre Plus
- Housing
- Voluntary, Community, Faith Sector
- Young people
- Parent groups

This should not be seen as exhaustive