

## Children's Strategic Partnership Board – Terms of Reference:

The Children's Strategic Partnership Board (the Board) will support the Council of Ministers to set the vision and/or mission and ensuring all activities, either directly or indirectly, contribute towards it; long-term capability and horizon scanning, ensuring strategic decisions are based on a collective understanding of policy issues (including legislation); using outside perspectives to ensure that departments are challenged on the outcomes.

### 1. Board Objectives

- Ministerial oversight for the achievement and progress of the Children's Plan against the outcomes identified in the Plan.
- To narrow the gap between the most deprived by applying the insights from analysis and review of data to inform the decision-making process and tackle identified areas of disadvantage.
- To support, promote and encourage a local environment which enables all children should have the opportunity to be safe, flourish and fulfil their potential.
- Reduce duplication and unnecessary bureaucracy; making it easier for partners, including those outside the statutory sector, to get involved.

### 2. Board Member Roles

The Board will operate according to the following principles of good corporate governance:

- **Leadership** – articulating a clear vision for the Children's Plan and giving clarity about how policy activities contribute to achieving this vision, including setting risk appetite and managing risk;
- **Effectiveness** – bringing a wide range of relevant experience to bear, including offering rigorous challenge and scrutinising performance;
- **Accountability** – promoting transparency through clear and fair reporting;
- **Sustainability** – taking a long-term view about what the government is trying to achieve and what it is doing to get there.

### 3. Board Membership:

<b>Board Members</b>	
Minister for Children and Education (Chair)	
Minister for Health and Social Services	
Minister for Justice and Home Affairs	
<b>Ex-Officio Members</b>	
Director General Children Young People Education and Skills	
Chair of Grow Up Safely Outcome Delivery Forum	
Chair of Learn and Achieve Outcome Delivery Forum	
Chair of Health and Wellbeing Outcome Delivery Forum	
Chair of Policy Reference Group	
Head of Communication CYPES	
Head of Corporate Performance and Planning, SPPP	
Group Director CYPES	
Children's Voluntary Sector Cluster	
Chief Executive Officer Family Nursing and Home Care	
<b>Participant Observers</b>	
Children's Commissioner	
Chair, Safeguarding Partnership Board	
Chair, Care Commission (Minutes Only)	
<b>Board Support</b>	
Executive Officer Support	
Administration	

### 4. Chair of the Children's Strategic Partnership Board

- The Minister for Children and Education will chair the Children's Strategic Partnership Board.

### 5. How the Board will work

- The Board will work together to:
  - i. Understanding the local profile through the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment
  - ii. Reviewing the evidence base and describing the scope of opportunity for change and improvement
  - iii. Providing oversight to ensure successful service redesign and delivery across the 'children's system'

- Coordinating ongoing review and evaluation of progress towards priorities identified in the Children's Plan will inform the focus of future strategic government planning cycles.
- The work of the Board must be informed by the views and experiences of children and young people. The approaches that will proactively seek their views will be defined and agreed by the Board
- Quorum – No business shall be transacted at a meeting of the Children's Strategic Partnership Board unless at least two Ministers are present.
- Decisions taken by the Board will be on a consensus basis where possible.

## **6. Frequency of Meetings**

- Board meetings will take place three times per year during the Spring, Summer and Autumn term.
- The Chair may call additional meetings of the Board. Any Board member may also call an additional meeting of the Board provided that the purpose of the meeting is supported by at least four other Board members and the Chair.

## **7. Administration**

- The Private Secretary to the Children's Minister will provide administrative support for the Children's Strategic Partnership Board and act as the responsible body.
- The agenda and accompanying papers for Board meetings will be sent to Board members a minimum of three working days prior to the meeting. Late items may be accepted at the discretion of the Chair.
- Minutes of the meeting will be drawn up and circulated to all representatives and will be presented for approval at the next meeting.

## **8. Reporting Arrangements**

- Agendas, Minutes and Papers presented at Board meetings will be placed on Government of Jersey website for reference
- Progress updates to the wider stakeholders will take place in the form of news releases, and an annual progress report
- School Councils will receive a child friendly version summarising each Board meeting's discussions, actions and decisions

- The Board will ensure the Government of Jersey Annual Report and Accounts describes the progress made on Children Plan outcomes and identified in the Government Plan.

## **9. Key Relationships with Independent Bodies**

### Safeguarding Partnership Board – Children

The Independent Chair of the Safeguarding Partnership Board will receive minutes and papers from each of the Board's quarterly meetings in a timely manner.

The Chair of the Safeguarding Partnership Board Office will be invited to attend the Board as an observer. This will support effective communication between the Boards.

If required, information sharing agreements will be established to support an appropriate structure and process that allows each Board to exchange information in a timely and secure manner.

The Independent Chair of the Safeguarding Partnership Board will continue to assess whether Safeguarding Partnership Board partners are fulfilling their statutory obligations and quality assuring practice, through joint audits of case files involving practitioners and identifying lessons to be learned.

### Children's Commissioner's Office

The Children's Commissioner will receive minutes and papers from each of the Board's quarterly meetings in a timely manner.

The Children's Commissioner will be invited to attend the Board as an observer. This will support effective communication between the Board and the Children's Commissioners Office.

If required information sharing agreements will be established to support an appropriate structure and process that allows each Board to exchange information in a timely and secure manner.

The Children's Commissioner will continue to be an Independent advocate for Children's Rights as set out in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and will pursue that mandate through the Children's Commissioners Office as set out in the Commissioner for Children and Young People (Jersey) Law 2019.

## **10. Review of Terms of Reference**

These Terms of Reference will be formally reviewed by the Strategic Partnership Board in January 2022.