

## **WIRRAL CHILDREN'S TRUST BOARD – 15<sup>th</sup> JULY 2011**

### **WIRRAL CHILDREN'S TRUST MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING AND BOARD MEMBERSHIP ANNUAL REVIEW**

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#### **1.0 Background**

A Memorandum of Understanding was developed for Wirral Children's Trust in June 2009 to ensure that the structure and governance arrangements provide an effective and transparent framework and clarity of roles and responsibilities for partner organisations. The original memorandum was developed using Wirral Council Partnership Governance Framework, Audit Commission Children's Trusts tools and good practice in other areas. As defined in the memorandum the membership of the board and the memorandum itself are reviewed on an annual basis.

#### **2.0 Annual Review**

In light of this annual review initial discussions have been held regarding the establishment of the proposed new Health and Wellbeing Boards and their relationship to the Children's Trust Board. The new board is in the development stage with a 'shadow' board due to be formed in April 2012. As the Board develops and identified workstreams emerge a full evaluation of the implications of this to the work of the Children's Trust will be carried out to ensure a co-ordinated approach and optimisation of integration of health and children's services.

Fiona Johnstone, The Director of Public Health who has responsibility for the new Health and Wellbeing Board and David Armstrong, Interim Director for Children's Services hold the same view that at this stage of the development of the new board that the Children's Trust Board should continue in its current format and remit and that this should be reviewed as the new Board develops.

The memorandum has been refreshed in light of national guidance and local changes. The protocol between the Trust and the Local Safeguarding Children Board remains embedded within the memorandum. The refreshed memorandum is now presented for endorsement by the board.

The membership of the Board is reviewed on an annual basis to ensure the membership remains relevant in line with local and national changes. The membership of the board has been reviewed as requiring no necessary change at this time.

#### **3.0 Recommendations:**

3.1 That Wirral Children's Trust Board endorses the refreshed memorandum.

3.2 That Wirral Children's Trust Board consider the membership and make proposals if any changes are deemed necessary.

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**Appendices:**

**Appendix 1 Wirral Children's Trust Memorandum of Understanding**