

# **WIRRAL CHILDREN'S TRUST**

## **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

### **DRAFT**

#### **Background**

Section 10 of the Children Act 2004 sets out the duty for local authorities and partners to co-operate to improve children and young people's well-being. The withdrawal of statutory guidance means that local authorities have the flexibility to ensure that the Children's Trust sits securely within the local Health and Well Being Board and Strategic Partnership arrangements. In Wirral, these arrangements oversee and drive the delivery of the Wirral Plan 2020.

Wirral's Strategy for Children, Young People and Families aims to deliver three of the Wirral Plan Pledges:

- Children are ready for school
- Young people are ready for work and adulthood
- Vulnerable children reach their potential

The Children, Young People and Families Strategy commits all partners to a shared set of outcomes for children and young people, to maximise the joint use of budgets, people, buildings and any other resources to achieve these common goals.

#### **Role and Purpose**

Wirral Children's Trust is a multiagency network of key leaders who will work together to ensure that the development and implementation of services for children, young people and families across Wirral leads to measurable improvement in outcomes.

Wirral Children's Trust will:

- Be outcomes-focused
- Provide support and challenge to ensure safe, stable and sustainable change that leads to measurable improvements
- Focus on narrowing the gaps in well-being, health and educational attainment

Through partnership working Wirral Children's Trust will:

- Act as a champion for the voice of children, young people and families, and as critical friend on their behalf to ensure value for money at a time of competing priorities;

- Scrutinise and challenge the progress and impact of partners' actions set out in the Children's Joint Strategic Commissioning Framework through taking a 'deep dive' approach to themed topics or areas;
- Inform and influence the joint commissioning intentions of Wirral Council and its partners in health and the police, holding them to account for the impact of these on outcomes for children, young people and families;
- Identify opportunities for joint working to reduce health, educational and life inequalities and intervene earlier to prevent problems escalating;
- Identify and challenge duplication or the ineffective use of resources to ensure maximum impact for the public pound across Wirral;
- Ensure the engagement of the voluntary, community and faith sector in improving outcomes for children, young people and their families;
- Provide opportunities for meaningful dialogue between commissioners and providers of services in Wirral, to inform service development through sharing best practice and to stimulate the local market;
- Lead 2 'deep dives' and an annual event to address key issues, bringing a solution-focused, problem-solving approach where there is a need to improve outcomes for children, young people and families and share best practice;

## Membership

The core members of the Children's Trust will be supplemented by other relevant members as appropriate. Members sit on the Children's Trust because of their specialist knowledge, expertise and skills. Members will be expected to engage service users and key partners within their own organisation or sector to achieve the purpose of Wirral Children's Trust

Chair	Lead Member for Children's Services.
Vice Chair	CEO, Community Action Wirral

Elected members from across the Council  
 Director of Children's Services  
 Assistant Director, Early Help and Prevention  
 Head of Children's Services  
 Borough Commander  
 Children's Commissioning Lead, Wirral CCG  
 Health providers – Head of Service level from each provider organisation/sector  
 Consultant headteachers primary, secondary  
 6<sup>th</sup> Form College Principal  
 FE College Principle  
 GP representative  
 Children's Centre representative

Job Centre Plus senior manager  
Community Action Wirral Development Officer, Children & Young Person Lead

Meeting frequency and administration

The Wirral Children's Trust will meet three times a year, holding two 'deep dives' and one annual event to which a wide range of multi-agency partners and providers and users of services will be invited.

A small planning group convened by the Chair of the Trust will meet bi-monthly to review and agree the outline agenda for meetings.

Minutes, agenda and supporting papers will be published on the Council's website at least one week before the scheduled meetings, and will be agreed by the chair.