

Assistant to Executive Member for Children Services (Safeguarding) and Chairman Children and Families Advisory Panel

1. Background

This position is concerned with the Authority's responsibilities towards the safeguarding of children in Hampshire and to ensuring that children in care in Hampshire achieve the best possible outcomes.

That the terms of reference of the Children and Families Advisory Panel ("the Panel") be as follows:

2. To consider and advise the Executive Lead Member for Children's Services in relation to:

(i) the development of further strategies that will enhance the safeguarding of children in Hampshire and ensure that children in care in Hampshire achieve the best possible outcomes.

(ii) the performance of the Children and Families branch of the Children's Services Department and that of its partners in relation to such national and local targets as may be set.

(iii) the outcomes of Ofsted inspection of safeguarding, children in care, children's homes, fostering services and adoption services as they may arise from time to time and any actions that are required to improve services

(iv) excellent and innovative practice in children's social care settings from which others can learn.

(v) any matters that may arise in relation to the County Council's requirement to be corporate parents for children in care.

(vi) the views of children in care about the services they receive from the County Council.

3. Membership of the Panel is proportionate and includes nine County Council Members. Also, at County Council on 17 September 2009, it was agreed that consideration would be given to the option of appointing co-opted members in due course.

4. Meetings of Children and Families Advisory Panel

The Children and Families Advisory Panel meets twice per year.