

TAMESIDE CHILDREN'S SERVICES IMPROVEMENT BOARD – TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Tameside Children's Services Improvement Board will provide the strategic direction for delivering the required improvements in Tameside Council's Children's Services and the Tameside Safeguarding Children Board. It will provide challenge and rigour to the process whilst ensuring collaboration to achieve and sustain continuous improvement with a focus on core standards, performance, quality, impact and effectiveness of improvement activity.

The Independent Chair of the Board will oversee the effective functioning of the Board, providing appropriate external challenge and rigour to drive improvement at pace and scale. The Chair is not accountable for improvement; that responsibility lies with Tameside Council through the Director of Children's Services and the Tameside Safeguarding Children Board through the Chair of that Board (and with the new Local Safeguarding Arrangements once introduced and the leadership agreed for those arrangements by the Council, CCG and Police).

Scope and objectives:

The scope and objectives of the Tameside Children's Services Improvement Board are:

- Provide oversight and challenge of the Improvement Plans (both Tameside Council and Tameside Safeguarding Children Board) with a particular focus on the pace and scale of progress and impact of activity.
- Receive reports from the Director of Children's Service and the Chair of the Tameside Safeguarding Children Board (and subsequent leadership of local safeguarding arrangements) on progress against their respective Improvement Plans.
- Use performance and quality data to assess the effectiveness of the services provided by Tameside Council and Tameside Safeguarding Children Board for those children in need of help and protection.
- Commission and consider reports from bespoke reviews and challenge processes that assist in understanding root causes and thus informing progress against the Improvement Plan.
- Ensure that the improvement process is informed by the views of front-line practitioners and children, young people and carers.

Membership:

The core membership of the Tameside Children's Services Improvement Board is:

- Independent Chair
- Executive Leader of Tameside Council
- Executive Member for Children's Services

- Director of Children's Services
- Assistant Executive Director for Children's Services
- Chair of the Tameside Safeguarding Children Board
- Chief Executive of Tameside Council
- NHS Tameside & Glossop CCG representative
- Pennine Care NHS Foundation Trust representative
- Greater Manchester Police representative
- Tameside Integrated Care NHS Foundation Trust representative

Variations to core membership may be determined by the Executive Leader and Chief Executive of Tameside Council.

In Attendance:

The following representatives will also be in attendance to support the Improvement Board in an advisory capacity:

- Practitioners Improvement Group representative
- Greater Manchester Health and Social Care Partnership representative
- Local Government Association representative
- Department for Education representative

Others may be invited to attend specific meetings or parts of meetings in order to contribute. The Chair of the Improvement Board and the Director of Children's Services will be responsible for determining where this will be helpful, and for ensuring communication and engagement with the wider network of agencies who have an important contribution to make to the delivery of improved services to Tameside's children and families.

Frequency:

The Tameside Children's Services Improvement Board (TCSIB) will meet six weekly, until such time as there is sufficient confidence in the progress of improvement that the frequency can be further reduced. When the Council's service is no longer judged inadequate, then there should be consideration to terminate the Improvement Board.

Changes to frequency may be determined by the Executive Leader and Chief Executive of Tameside Council.

Format:

The agenda and papers will be made available 5 working days in advance of each meeting.

Ways of working:

The Improvement Board will use the ways of working outlined below in guiding its work.

- Clarity of view – ensuring that progress or lack of progress can be clearly understood, and that the welfare of Tameside’s children remains as the central focus of the Board’s work – there will be consistent reporting of performance data and quality assurance findings
- Challenge – effective challenge leading to effective action and impact
- Rigour – to show persistence in not letting go of an issue until it is resolved
- Collaboration – demonstrating shared responsibility for improvement

Review:

The terms of reference, membership and frequency of meetings of the Tameside Children’s

Services Improvement Board (TCSIB) will be reviewed six monthly by the Improvement Board. Any changes other than those specified above in respect of membership and frequency must be agreed by the Executive Cabinet of Tameside Council.