

## **Record of Decisions**

### **Children's Improvement Board and Governance Arrangements**

#### **Decision Taker**

Cabinet on 24 August 2021.

#### **Decision**

1. That Cabinet approves the Children's Continuous Improvement Board, with an independent Chair, as a permanent arrangement and beyond DfE intervention, to provide continued focus and drive for our Children's improvement journey. The Head of Governance Support be delegated authority to review the terms of reference and membership for the CCIB in consultation with the Cabinet Lead for Children's and Director of Children's Services.
2. That the Director of Children's Services, Independent Chair of the CCIB and the Director of Public Health undertake a review of the CCIBs work programme to ensure the objectives of the Children and Young People's Plan and the work of the Children's and Young People's Strategic Partnership Board are incorporated, and that an appropriate children and young people focus takes place in the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) and accordingly agree that the Children's and Young People's Strategic Partnership Board (CYPSB) be stepped down. The Monitoring Officer be requested to make any associated changes to HWB's terms of reference (in accordance with the Constitution, consulting with Group Leaders) ensuring that the Cabinet Member for Children's Services is within its membership.

#### **Reason for the Decision**

To ensure the correct level and governance structure is in place to provide accountability for continued improvement and delivery within Children's Services, whilst ensuring that meetings are not unnecessarily duplicated.

#### **Implementation**

This decision will come into force and may be implemented on 7 September 2021 unless the call-in procedure is triggered (as set out in the Standing Orders in relation to Overview and Scrutiny).

#### **Information**

The Children's Improvement Board (CIB) was established to oversee the Council's improvement plan as part of the DfE's intervention and has an independent chair. The CIB can be temporary and stepped down by the DfE when appropriate. It was proposed that the Council commits to retaining a Children's Continuous Improvement Board (CCIB) as the body to provide the focus and drive for our continuous improvement of Children's Services. The CCIB would continue with an independent chair to ensure the appropriate level of external challenge and that the CCIB oversee the Children's and Young People's Plan, rather than necessitating a separate meeting to do this. As such the Children's and Young People's Strategic Partnership Board would be stepped down.

The proposals would strengthen the Council's governance arrangements for Children's

Services and provide focus and drive for Children's improvement beyond the Department for Education's (DfE) intervention.

At the meeting Councillor Steve Darling proposed and Councillor Stockman seconded a motions that was agreed unanimously, as set out above.

**Alternative Options considered and rejected at the time of the decision**

An alternative option would be to do nothing, but the governance and accountability for children would not be strengthened.

**Is this a Key Decision?**

No

**Does the call-in procedure apply?**

Yes

**Declarations of interest** (including details of any relevant dispensations issued by the Standards Committee)

None.

**Published**

27 August 2021

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Leader of Torbay Council on behalf of the Cabinet