**London Children’s Innovation and Improvement Board**

**Terms of Reference**

Introduction

The London Children’s Innovation and Improvement Board has been created to fulfil the governance requirements for children services’ sector-led improvement activity and specifically for the London Innovation and Improvement Alliance (LIIA). Regional Innovation and Improvement Alliances (RIIA) have been developed by the Association of Directors of Children’s Services and the Department of Education with the intention of complementing the Ofsted Inspecting Local Authority Children’s Services (ILACS) framework and supporting local authorities to build a self-improving system. All of England’s children service regions have a RIIA and the London governance arrangements reflect those that have been established elsewhere in the country while also responding to the unique London context.

The pan-London RIIA programme has been developed with the shared aims of:

* Securing a journey of continuous improvement to achieve the best possible outcomes for children and young people
* Building on existing capability in children’s services, corporately and with partners to identify good practice, diagnose improvement challenges and identify risks to performance
* Systematically sharing knowledge about what works across the sector, providing a platform for innovation and ensuring that there is systematic identification and dissemination of best practice

As the governance forum for the RIIA arrangements the London Children’s Innovation and Improvement Board (LCIIB) brings together London directors of children’s services with London chief executives and treasurers in order to provide shared oversight of children’s improvement and innovation activity across the capital.

Activity and Responsibilities of the Children’s Innovation and Improvement Board

* Agreement and oversight of the RIA Programme of activity and RIA support for individual authorities
* Oversight of RIA budget
* Oversight of ADCS London data-set to support the identification of systemic gaps, trends and future risks
* Communication and reciprocal links to London’s membership bodies and national bodies including: Society of London Treasurers (SLT), Chief Executives London Committee (CELC), Lead Members for Children’s Services, London local authority Leaders, London Councils and the Local Government Association
* Authorising body for RIIA memorandum of understanding and formal agreements between DfE and LIIA

Membership

The LCIIB will be chaired by a Chief Executive with membership comprising:

* A local authority chief executive representing the Chief Executives London Committee
* Chair or deputy chair Society of London Treasurers
* Chair or deputy chair Association of London Directors of Children’s Services
* DCS chairs of London sub-regions and ALDCS sector-led improvement lead
* Chair or deputy chair of London Financial Advisory Committee
* An officer from London Councils

Subject to the agreement of the board DCS leads for London’s priority themes will be co-opted to attend as required. At least one of the DCS representatives on the board should also be a director of adult services. The RIIA programme lead will attend meetings and the DfE Regional Improvement Lead and Local Government Association children’s lead will be regularly invited. The board will have recourse to appropriate legal advice to support its work.

Board Support and Logistics

The LCIIB will meet four times a year. Secretariat support for the Board will be provided by the LIIA programme team with London Councils.

Review

A review of the Board’s effectiveness in fulfilling its functions should be undertaken after twelve months and these terms of reference should be reviewed as part of this process.

**July 2019**