

## Appendix D

### Terms of Reference of Consultative and other Bodies

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## **Corporate Parenting Group Terms of Reference**

Understanding and championing the needs and ambitions of Looked After Children and Care Leavers across the Merton Partnership.

Ensuring joined up pathways in education, health, employability, leisure and recreation, for Merton LAC, LAC children overseen by the Virtual School and Merton Care Leavers.

Receiving direct feedback from Merton Children in Care Council and the wider Looked After Children/care leaver population, to improve council and partner service development and delivery.

Providing mutual challenge within and across the partnership to prioritise continuous improvement for services and outcomes.

Giving conspicuous care and attention to particularly vulnerable Looked After Children and Care Leavers such as young offenders, substance misusers and pregnant teenagers, to ensure effective risk assessment and appropriate service support.

### **Membership**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Job Title</b>
Ged Curran (Chair)	Chief Executive
TBA	Lead member Children Services
TBA	Opposition Lead Member
Rachael Wardell	Director of Children, Schools and Families
Paul Angeli	Assistant Director of Children's Social Care & Youth Inclusion
Elsie McQueen	Head of , LAC, Permanency & Placements
Kathy Goodman	Head of Virtual School
TBA	Merton CAMHS at South West London and St Georges Mental Health NHS Trust
Stuart Hill	Quality Assurance Manager IRO, Chairs and LADO
Kathy Goodman	Head of Virtual School
Lin Graham-Ray	Designated Nurse Looked After Children, Merton and Wandsworth
Lynn Street	Director of Quality, Merton CCG
Allison Jones	Service Manager, Early Years
Steve Langley	Head of Housing Needs and Strategy
Lynne Doyle	Deputy Research & Information Manager
Elsbeth Millington	Named Nurse for Looked After Children
Other officers on request according to the agenda	

## **Heritage Forum – Terms of Reference**

The Heritage Forum meets two to three times a year to review progress against the borough's Heritage Strategy and to discuss wider heritage matters pertaining to the London Borough of Merton. It is facilitated by the Library & Heritage Service and is chaired by the Cabinet Member for Community and Culture. It is an open meeting that can be attended by any resident with an interest in heritage.

Agenda items can be submitted by all members with a short supporting note or update paper if required. No formal reports will be prepared but notes of the meetings will be taken and made available on the Council's website.

The remit of the forum is to:

- Facilitate joint working within the council and with external bodies in order to achieve excellence in heritage related projects
- To coordinate funding opportunities and establish project teams to take bids forward and support partner bids
- To provide Heritage input into statutory planning policy documents
- To improve partnership working and communication between the various heritage providers in the borough
- To champion initiatives to raise standards of design and heritage provision within the borough
- To increase awareness of and public access to heritage resources and facilities in the borough
- To maintain an ongoing work programme for the group to be updated at each meeting

**Joint Consultative Committee with Ethnic Minority Organisations**

**Membership: 5 Merton Councillors and representatives of Community Organisations**

**Constituted by: Council**

**Powers and Duties determined by: Council**

**Authority: Equality Act 2010 and Article 10 of the Constitution**

**Functions**

- a) To advise and make recommendations upon strategic policy issues relating to:
  - (i) Issues of local concern to the ethnic minority communities
  - (ii) Provision of Council services and resources, with reference to the needs of local ethnic minority communities
  - (iii) The elimination of discriminatory practices and racial prejudice in the delivery of Council services
  - (iv) The promotion of equal opportunities and good relations between different groups
  - (v) Applications for financial grant from Merton Council, Central Government, EC and other external funding organisations in aid of projects affecting local ethnic minority people.
  
- b) To contribute to and monitor the Council's Equality and Diversity Statement and Policy and the Race Equality commitments of the Corporate Equality Scheme

**New Terms of Reference as set out in Appendix G to be inserted here.**

**New Rules of Procedure as set out in Appendix G to be inserted here.**

## LONDON BOROUGH OF MERTON PENSIONS BOARD

### TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Local Pension Board (hereafter referred to as 'the Board') is established in accordance with Section 5 of the Public Service Pensions Act 2013 and under regulation 106 of the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013 (as amended). The Board is not a committee constituted under Section 101 of the Local Government Act 1972.

#### Functions of the Local Pension Board

The purpose of the Board is to assist the Council in its role as a scheme manager of the Scheme. Such assistance is to:

1. (a) To secure compliance with:
  - i.) Regulations made under the Public Service Pensions Act 2013 that apply to the matters referred to in sections 5 and 6 of that Act.
  - ii.) Any other legislation relating to the governance and administration of the Scheme and any connected scheme
  - iii.) Any requirements imposed by the Pensions Regulator in relation to the Scheme. These areas include but are not restricted to:
    - *Review regular compliance monitoring reports which shall include reports to and decisions made under the Regulations.*
    - *Review management, administrative and governance processes and procedures in order to ensure they remain compliant with the Regulations, relevant legislation and in particular the Code*
    - *Assist with the development of and continually review such documentation as is required by the Regulations including Governance Compliance Statement, Funding Strategy Statement and Statement of Investment Principles.*
    - *Assist with the development of and continually review scheme member and employer communications as required by the Regulations and relevant legislation.*
    - *Review the implementation of revised policies and procedures following changes to the Scheme.*
    - *Review the compliance of particular cases, projects or process on request of the Committee.*
    - *Any other area within the statement of purpose (i.e. assisting the Administering Authority) the Board deems appropriate.*
- (b) To ensure the effective and efficient and effective governance and administration of the Scheme. Including but not restricted to:
  - *Assist with the development of improved customer services.*
  - *Assist with the development of improved management, administration and governance structures and policies.*
  - *Assist in the development and monitoring of process improvements on request of Committee*

- *Assist in the development of asset voting and engagement processes and compliance with the UK Stewardship Code.*
- *Any other area within the statement of purpose (i.e. ensuring effective and efficient governance of the scheme) the Board deems appropriate.*

In support of its functions the Board may make recommendations to the General Purpose Committee and a response made to the Board on the outcome within a reasonable period of time.

## **Membership**

The Board shall consist of 4 voting members made of:

2 Member Representatives,

2 Employer Representatives; and

1 Further representative without voting rights to be appointed at the discretion of the Council

A chair to be appointed by the employer and member representatives of the Board on a rotating basis with the term of office shared between an employer and a member representative on an equal basis. In the event of a tied vote, the Chair will have the casting vote.

The Director of Corporate Services will determine an appropriate selection and appointment process for Board Members

### ***Termination of Membership***

Non-attendance at 2 consecutive meetings would result in a replacement representative being sought. The ability of members to seek re-appointment for further term will be considered to ensure continuity.

## **Voting Rights**

Voting rights only apply to members of a Board who are either an employer or a member representative. In the even to of a tied vote, the Chair will have the casting vote.

## **Terms of Office**

The term of office for Board members shall be co-terminus with Council's term of office. i.e. to the date of the next Council election. Extensions may be made by the Council with the agreement of the Board.



## **Conflicts of interest**

The Administering Authority must be satisfied that any person appointed to the Board and from time to time that any member of the Board does not have a conflict of interest, as defined under Section 5(5) of the Public Service Pensions Act 2013.

All members of the Board must declare to the Administering Authority on appointment and at any such time as their circumstances change, any potential conflict of interest arising as a result of their position on the Board.

## **Knowledge and understanding (including Training)**

Board members shall attend and participate in training arranged in order to meet and maintain the requirements set out in the Board's knowledge and understanding policy and framework.

## **Meetings**

The Board shall at a minimum meet twice each year and will be set in conjunction with Democratic Services.

Substitutes will not be allowed where members are unable to attend meetings.

Meetings will be services by Democratic Services and subject to the same publication rules as with a Scrutiny Committee.

Attendance requirements

Non-attendance at 2 consecutive meetings would result in a replacement representative being sought

## **Quorum**

The quorum for any meeting shall be 2 members comprising at least one employer and one member representative.

A meeting that becomes inquorate may continue but any decisions will be non-binding.

## **Reporting**

1. The Board in the first instance report its requests, recommendations or concerns to PFAC.
2. On receipt of a report PFAC should, within a reasonable period, consider and respond to the Board.
3. The appropriate internal route for escalation is to the Section 151 Officer.
4. The Board may report concerns to the LGPS Scheme Advisory Board for consideration subsequent to, but not instead of, using the appropriate internal route for escalation.
5. Board members are also subject to the requirements to report breaches of law under the Act and the Code [and the whistleblowing provisions set out in the Council's whistle blowing policy].

6. The Board will produce an annual report of its work, findings and recommendations.

**Payment of Board Members**

An allowance will be paid to the non London Borough of Merton employees. The Council will set an allowance for these members based upon a sum of £100 per meeting, multiplied by the total number of meetings expected in each year.

**Code of Conduct**

Members of the Board will be subject to the same Code of Conduct as members of the Council's Scrutiny Committee

## **Pension Fund Investment Advisory Panel**

**Membership: Voting - 3 Councillors. Non-voting - Chief Finance Officer (or delegate), Treasury Services Manager, Staff Side Representative, Pensioner Representative)**

**Constituted by: Council**

**Powers and Duties determined by: Council**

**Authority: (Section 102(4) Local Government Act 1972)**

### **Functions**

- a) To establish, in consultation with relevant advisors, appropriate investment policy for the Pension Fund, and to advise General Purposes Committee accordingly
- b) To advise officers on the exercise of their delegated powers concerning the management and investment strategy of the Pension Fund and to report to and advise the Standards and General Purposes Committee as appropriate.
- c) To monitor the performance of the Pension Fund relative to its objectives, benchmarks and targets, and to prompt remedial action as necessary
- d) To review the draft Annual Report and Accounts for the Pension Fund, and provide comments to the Standards and General Purposes Committee and Audit Committee in respect of the investment matters reported therein.

## **Members' School Standards Panel**

**Membership: 3 members one of whom shall be Chair**

**Constituted by: Council**

**Powers and Duties determined by: Council**

**Authority: Article 10 of the Constitution**

### **Functions**

The Panel will meet half termly

OFSTED Inspection Reports

- (i) Receive all OFSTED Inspection reports and discuss the outcomes with up to 2 schools per School Standards Panel. The Head teacher and chair of the governing body of the 2 schools will be invited to attend the meeting and members of the panel will visit each school prior to the meeting.
- (ii) Discuss with the Head and chair of the governing body the action plan developed in response to the inspection report.

Support and Monitoring Framework

- (iii) Receive a termly oral report from the Assistant Director of Education of the outcomes of the half-termly school review meetings, including confidential lists of the performance levels of all schools.
- (iv) Receive feedback the AD Education concerning schools undergoing Support and Challenge meetings.

National initiatives and their impact on Merton schools

- (v) Receive reports and updates on national and regional changes to policy and practice in order to understand the impact on Merton schools and responses that may be needed
- (vi) Receive reports on changes to assessment and curriculum across all phases and the responses needed to ensure that implementation leads to improved standards across Merton schools

## **Standing Advisory Council On Religious Education**

### **Membership:**

See section 3 below

### **Constituted by: Council**

### **Powers and Duties determined by: Section 390 of the Education Act 1996**

### **Authority: Section 390 of the Education Act 1996**

The Council shall be called the Merton SACRE (Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education).

It is established under Section 3.90 – 3.97 of the Education Act 1996 as amended.

## **1. Role and functions**

- a) To advise the LA on such matters concerned with school worship and with Religious Education according to an Agreed Syllabus as the LA may request or as the SACRE may see fit.
- b) These matters might include methods of teaching and choice of materials to deliver the Agreed Syllabus.
- c) To evaluate how well the Agreed Syllabus supports the provision of Religious Education provision in schools.
- d) To receive, and determine whether an application from a Head Teacher to vary the requirement for worship of a broadly or mainly Christian character, is appropriate for the whole school or for groups of pupils.
- e) To publish an annual report on the work of SACRE and to circulate this to Headteachers, to QCDA and to the appropriate Council Committee and senior officers in Children Schools and Families Department.
- f) To set up a Statutory Conference at any time if, in the opinion of SACRE, it becomes necessary to review the Authority's agreed syllabus and to do so at least every five years.
- g) To advise, if requested, on matters arising from the Authority's Complaints Procedures under Section 23 of the Education Reform Act 1988.

## **2. Officers**

- a) The Director of Merton's Children, Schools and Families Department, or such other senior officer/s as s/he may designate, shall attend and participate in discussions in the SACRE as professional adviser/s and make appropriate arrangements to support the administration of the SACRE and its meetings.

## **3. Membership**

- a) In accordance with the provisions of the Education Reform Act 1988 (Section 11(4)): The SACRE is to comprise four groups representing:

### Committee A

Such religions and belief groups as, in the opinion of the Council, will appropriately reflect the principal religious and belief traditions in the Borough of Merton.

### Committee B

The Church of England.

### Committee C

## **South London Partnership - Terms of Reference**

### 1. Role and Purpose of the Joint Committee:

- (a) To form collaborative South London views on issues affecting economic growth, regeneration and competitiveness
- (b) To undertake activities which promote and improve economic growth and wellbeing in the South London area
- (c) To determine strategic objectives and barriers to growth for the local area and develop solutions
- (d) To take on additional responsibilities and funding delegated from Government where the Committee judges this to be in the area's best interests.

*\*The aim of the Joint Committee will be collaboration and the Terms of Reference would not prohibit any of the Member Councils from promoting economic wellbeing in their own areas either in addition to, or independently, from the Joint Committee*

### 2. Terms of Reference

1. To act as a strategic body, setting and reviewing objectives for strategic growth, regeneration and investment across South London including:
  - Providing a coherent single position on the City Deal and Growth Deal issues
  - Coordinating the contribution of all Councils to the Strategic Economic Plan
  - Agreeing allocation of spending as required
  - Agreeing major priorities
  - Considering and determining any issues made by the Advisory Officer Board to the Joint Committee
2. To formulate and agree appropriate agreements with Government, ensuring their delivery
3. To influence and align government investment in South London in order to boost economic growth locally.
4. To jointly review as appropriate consultations on plans, strategies and programmes affecting South London, encouraging alignment with the London Enterprise Partnership Plan.
5. To agree, review and amend options at any time for City Deal and Growth Deal Governance which is fit for purpose.
6. To agree and approve any additional governance structures as related to the Joint Committee. (e.g. setting up sub committees etc)

## **Membership**

It is proposed that each Council appoint its Leader to sit on the Joint Committee.

Each Council could also appoint a named substitute (to be an Executive Member for those operating Executive Governance arrangements) to attend in the Leader's absence.

Continuity of attendance would be encouraged.

## **Support Arrangements**

In its work the Joint Committee would be supported by an advisory Board comprising each Council's Chief Executive working alongside and giving direction to the existing officer groups on Growth and Transport, respectively.

Local officers can be brought in to support the advisory arrangements based on the expertise and technical knowledge required at a particular point in time.

Each Council could, as required, through its Leader and Chief Executive, put in place any local processes for other Elected Members to input in an advisory capacity into the work of the Joint Committee.

## **Procedure Rules**

In order that meetings of the Joint Committee are conducted properly and that the business is carried out openly and transparently a new set of Procedure Rules for its operation will be prepared.

These will cover all procedural matters, Access to Information regulations and voting rights.

The following key principles are proposed for consideration and inclusion in the document:

1. The Chairman of the Joint Committee will be appointed on an annual basis.
2. No business of the Joint Committee will be transacted unless a minimum of 4 of the 5 appointed members are present (Quorum) The Joint Committee's decision making will operate on the basis of mutual co-operation and consent.
2. Any authority can withdraw on the basis of a six month notice period

Support for governance matters and meeting support will be provided in turn by constituent Member authorities. Richmond has offered to take this on initially and if it passes on annually then each authority takes its turn in a reasonable time period and we might avoid complicated charging processes.

4. The development and approval of a Memorandum of Understanding with the London Enterprise Partnership Board.

The role of the Officer Advisory Board would not form part of the formal governance arrangements of the Joint Committee but would have its role, operation and purpose defined in a separate document.

**South West London Joint Waste Management Committee**

**Membership: 2 – (Substitutes allowed)**

**Constituted by: Cabinet**

**Powers and Duties determined by: Cabinet**

**Authority: Cabinet**

**Functions:**

To advise the Cabinet on the South London Joint Waste Committee whose primary function is to make arrangements for the disposal of waste, provide places for the deposit and disposal of waste and to advise the Participating Councils on the delivery and separation of waste. The Participating Councils are the London Boroughs of Merton, Croydon and Sutton and the Royal Borough of Kingston. The specific functions of the Committee are set out in Schedule 1 of the Constitution of the Committee operating under the name of the South London Waste Partnership.

Each Council has two seats on the Committee with only one vote per borough.