

meeting of the relevant forum shall be submitted to the appropriate overview and scrutiny committee.

- (d) If, at a meeting of a service user consultative forum or an area consultative forum a question or issue is raised which, in the view of the Chair or Lead Manager, should be referred to an officer to be responded to the question or issue shall be so referred.
- (e) The response of the person or body to whom any representation or recommendation from a forum is referred shall be reported back to the forum following its consideration by that person or body.
- (f) A note summarising the discussion and outcome of each meeting shall be provided to the Lead Member for Human Resources & Diversity, Local Democracy and Consultation.
- (g) The Chair or any other person representing a relevant consultative forum may address a meeting of the appropriate overview and scrutiny committee in accordance with Standing Order 60(e).

Article 11 – Other Bodies and Panels

Introduction

11.1 There are a number of panels or bodies other than those specifically mentioned elsewhere in these Articles which have links to the Council.

- Adoption and Permanency Panel
- Fostering Panel
- Local Safeguarding Children Board
- Schools Exclusions Appeal Panel
- Schools Admissions Appeal Panel
- Trading Standards Joint Advisory Board
- Schools Forum
- Admissions Forum
- Brent Housing Partnership

Adoption and Permanency Panel

11.2 (a) The Adoption and Permanency Panel (“the Panel”) fulfils the role of the statutory Adoption Panel required by the Adoption Agencies Regulations 2005 (as amended by the Adoption Agency and Independent Review of Determinations (Amendment) Regulations 2011.

(b) The purpose of the Panel is to make recommendations to the Assistant Director Family Support Social Care Assistant Director Childrens' Services as to:

- (i) whether or not the child should be placed for adoption in accordance with Regulation 18 of the Regulations
- (ii) whether any advice should be given to the agency in terms of the matters which fall to be considered under Regulation 18(3)

- (iii) suitability of prospective adopters to adopt in accordance with the terms of Regulation 26 of the Regulations
 - (iv) whether any advice should be given to the adoption agency in respect of the number of children the prospective adopter may be suitable to adopt, their age range, sex, likely needs and background in accordance with Regulation 26(3)
 - (v) whether the child should be placed for adoption with particular prospective adopters in accordance with Regulation 32 of the Regulations
 - (vi) whether any advice should be given to the adoption agency in respect of the provision of support services, the plan for contact and the exercise of parental responsibility in accordance with Regulation 32(4)
 - (vii) any other matter that it is required by law to consider.
- (c) Where recommendations are made in respect of an adoption with a foreign element then the Panel recommendations must take into account any modifications made to the Regulations by The Adoptions with a Foreign Element Regulations 2005.
- (d) The Council must maintain a list of persons who are considered by it to be suitable to be members of an adoption panel ("the Central List"), including-
- (i) one or more social workers who have at least three years' relevant post-qualifying experience, and
 - (ii) the medical adviser to the adoption agency (or at least one if more than one medical adviser is appointed).
- ~~(de)~~ The Assistant Director Childrens' Services Director of Children and Families will appoint officers and other persons to the Panel Central List and appoint members from that list to the Panel. Full Council or the General Purposes Committee will appoint elected members to be included in the Central List and appoint elected members to the Panel.
- ~~(f)~~ The Assistant Director Childrens' Services Director of Children and Families must appoint a Chair who is an independent person and who has the necessary skills and experience to chair an adoption panel and who is not a disqualified person under the Regulations. The Chair may be one of the independent persons referred to below in (g)(iv).
- ~~(g)~~ The Director of Children and Families Assistant Director Childrens' Services must also appoint a vice-chair to act in the Chair's absence
- ~~(e)~~ The Panel shall consist of no more than ten members and must include the following:
- ~~(i) Two social workers with at least three years' relevant post-qualifying experience~~
 - ~~(ii) One member of the Local Authority~~

- (iii) ~~The medical adviser to the adoption agency~~
- (iv) ~~At least three other persons who are independent, including where reasonably practicable at least two persons with personal experience of adoption. Other independent members could include specialists in education or child and adolescent mental health.~~
- (f) ~~A member of the Panel may not serve on the Panel for more than three terms and each term is not to exceed three years. This is qualified in the case of the medical adviser who may serve on the Panel for so long as he/she is medical adviser to the Adoption agency. Particular transitional provisions apply in relation to members who have transferred from the Adoption Panel constituted before 30th December 2005.~~
- (h) ~~A member of the Panel may resign from the Panel. person included on the Central List and or appointed to the Panel may at any time ask to be removed from the Central List or Panel at any time by giving one month's notice in writing to the Council/Agency.~~
- (i) ~~In accordance with the provisions of the Regulations, a list/panel member's tenure may be brought to an end by the Adoption Agency Council.~~
- (j) ~~The Panel may not conduct its business unless its meeting includes the chair or vice-chair, and at least one of the social workers, three other members, and where the Chair is not present and the vice chair is not an independent person, at least one other independent panel member, and one of the independent members and at least five of the members attend the meeting.~~
- (k) ~~The panel also carries out functions under the Fostering Regulations 2011~~02~~ and will consider the following:~~
 - (i) ~~whether long term fostering is in a child's best interest;~~
 - (ii) ~~whether a prospective long term fosterer is suitable to be a long term fosterer;~~
 - (iii) ~~whether a prospective long term fosterer is suitable to be a long term foster carer of a particular child;~~
- (l) ~~The Panel also considers and makes recommendations in respect of:~~
 - (i) ~~applications from foster carers who wish to apply for a Residence Order under section 8 of the Children Act 1989, or a Special Guardianship Order under S14A of the Children Act 1989, in respect of the child/children they are fostering; and~~
 - (ii) ~~applications for Residence Order or Special Guardianship allowances, both as to whether an allowance should be paid and at what level.~~

Fostering Panel

- 11.3 (a) The functions of the Fostering Panel are to consider issues relating to the fostering of children generally and specifically;

- to consider each application for approval and to recommend to the appropriate officer whether or not a person is suitable to act as a foster parent;
- where it recommends approval of an application, to recommend the terms on which the approval is to be given;
- to recommend whether or not a person remains suitable to act as a foster parent and whether or not the terms of his or her approval remain appropriate;
- to advise on the procedures under which reviews are carried out by the Council and periodically monitor their effectiveness; oversee the conduct of assessments carried out by the fostering service provider; and
- give advice and make recommendations on such other matters or cases as the fostering service provider may refer to it.

(b) The Assistant Director Childrens' Services must maintain a list of persons who are considered by it to be suitable to be members of a Fostering Panel ("the central list"), including one or more social workers who have at least three years' relevant post-qualifying experience. Full Council or the General Purposes Committee will appoint elected members to be included in the Central List and appoint elected members to the Panel.

(c) The Assistant Director Childrens' Services must appoint an Independent Chair and a Vice Chair.

(d) To be quorate the Fostering Panel The membership of the Fostering Panel must include an Independent Chair or a Vice Chair, a social worker and three other members. Where the Chair is not present and the Vice Chair is not independent of the Council at least one other Panel member must be independent.

is:

- ~~a chair who is either a senior member of staff of the Local Authority who is not responsible for the day to day management of the social workers carrying out the assessments or someone who is independent of the Local Authority who has the necessary skills for chairing.~~
- ~~Two social workers in the employment of the adoption agency; one with child care experience and one with experience regarding fostering.~~
- ~~At least one member of the authority's Executive or Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee.~~
- At least four other persons who are independent.

Local Safeguarding Children Board

- 11.4 (a) The Children Act 2004 requires each Local Authority to establish a Local Safeguarding Children Board, to be made up of representatives from the agencies and bodies which have regular contact with children or responsibilities for services to them in the local area.