


<b>Individual Mayoral Decision Proforma</b>  Decision Log No: 158	 <b>TOWER HAMLETS</b>
<b>Report of:</b> Graham White, Acting Corporate Director Governance & Debbie Jones Corporate Director Children's Services	<b>Classification:</b> Unrestricted
<b>Establishment of the Tower Hamlets Best Value Improvement Board &amp; Children's Services Improvement Board</b>	

<b>Is this a Key Decision?</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>Decision Notice Publication Date:</b>	<b>Not required</b>
<b>General Exception or Urgency Notice published?</b>	<b>Not required</b>
<b>Restrictions:</b>	None
<b>Reason for seeking an Individual Mayoral Decision:</b>	This is the Mayor's decision to formally establish the Tower Hamlets Best Value Improvement Board and Children's Services Improvement Board.

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As part of the Council's final update to the Secretary of State for Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG), it set out proposals to establish a cross party Best Value Improvement Board to drive sustainable improvements across the organisation and deliver the actions set out in the Best Value Improvement Plan 2017-18. The Board will have external representation through the Local Government Association to provide support and challenge. The Council is required under new Directions issued by the Secretary of State for DCLG dated 28<sup>th</sup> March 2017 to establish the Best Value Improvement Board and this report seeks to formally put in place arrangements to meet this requirement.

Following the Ofsted "single inspection framework" inspection of services for children in need of help and protection, children looked after and care leavers in January/February 2017, which graded children's services as "inadequate" in its overall judgement, a Children's Services Improvement Board has been established. This is as required by the draft Direction from the Secretary of State of Education dated 7<sup>th</sup> April 2017. The Tower Hamlets Children's Services Improvement Board will be chaired independently by Alan Wood, former Director Children's Services at the London Borough of Hackney. There will also be external representation in the form of a DfE Intervention Adviser and other external specialist advisers. There will also be external



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Full details of the decision sought, including setting out the reasons for the recommendations and/or all the options put forward; other options considered; background information; the comments of the Chief Finance Officer; the concurrent report of the Head of Legal Services; implications for One Tower Hamlets; Risk Assessment; Background Documents; **and other relevant matters are set out in the attached report.**

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**DECISION**

1. The Mayor agrees to the establishment of the Tower Hamlets Best Value Improvement Board to drive sustainable improvements across the Best Value areas;
2. The Mayor agrees the draft terms of reference for the Tower Hamlets Best Value Improvement Board (Appendix 1 of the attached report);
3. The Mayor agrees to the establishment of the Children's Services Improvement Board with an Independent Chair;
4. The Mayor agrees the draft terms of reference for the Children's Services Improvement Board (Appendix 2 of the attached report);

**APPROVALS**

**1. (If applicable) Corporate Director proposing the decision or his/her deputy**

I approve the attached report and proposed decision above for submission to the Mayor.

Signed [Signature] Date 07/06/17

**2. Chief Finance Officer or his/her deputy**

I have been consulted on the content of the attached report which includes my comments.

Signed [Signature] Date 6/6/17

**3. Monitoring Officer or his/her deputy**

I have been consulted on the content of the attached report which includes my comments.

Signed [Signature] Date 7/6/17

**4. Mayor**

I agree the decision proposed in paragraph above for the reasons set out in paragraph 1 in the attached report.

Signed [Signature] Date 9/6/17