

Terms of Reference

Young Lives Bradford Core Strategic Group

1. Aims of the Young Lives Bradford Core Strategic Group (CSG)

The primary aim of the CSG shall be to oversee the strategic engagement of the children and young people's voluntary & community sector with statutory, voluntary and private sector stakeholder groups and agencies, including the Bradford Council, the Bradford Children's Trust, the Bradford Safeguarding Children Board, the Health & Well-Being Board, and the Bradford VCS Assembly among others. It will ensure a unity of purpose and coherent engagement of voluntary and community organisations involved in providing services for children, young people and their families. The CSG will uphold the aims and objectives of the Young Lives Bradford (YLB) network.

2. Responsibilities of the Core Strategic Group

The Core Strategic Group will:

- a) provide a forum for raising and responding to issues of wider importance relating to children & young people's services within Bradford District and beyond;
- b) strive to reflect diverse opinions and views whilst reaching a consensual or majority perspective where necessary;
- c) ensure that the voice of the voluntary and community sector is heard wherever appropriate and necessary;
- d) contribute to the effective implementation of locally and nationally agreed strategies to improve outcomes for children, young people and families;
- e) approve nominations for Young Lives Bradford representation on local, regional and national stakeholder bodies;
- f) contribute to the effective governance of local partnership bodies of which YLB is a member;
- g) maintain an overview of information to be circulated to the Young Lives Bradford network;
- h) make recommendations for the ongoing operation and development of the Young Lives Bradford network.

3. Membership of the Core Strategic Group

Membership of the group is open to managers and practitioners from organisations registered on the Young Lives Bradford network, conditional on a commitment by each member to attend scheduled meetings of the CSG and any related task groups.

The extent of membership shall reflect as far as possible the diverse range of service areas within the YLB network and the children and young people's voluntary and community sector in general.

If the Group recognise the need for contributions on a specific area then the Group shall seek individuals from within YLB registered organisations to fill the vacancy on a temporary or permanent basis.

The tenure of membership shall be indefinite subject to the aforementioned commitment. Membership shall be voluntary and without payment although individuals asked to represent the CSG will be entitled to, subject to availability, a representation fee and travel expenses from Young Lives Bradford resources.

Resignation from the CSG will be assumed if a member is absent for more than two consecutive meetings in any twelve month period without notifying the Chair of any extenuating circumstances.

4. Governance and Operating Arrangements

The Core Strategic Group will be responsible to the annual conference of the Young Lives Bradford network.

The meetings will be chaired on a rotating basis by members. The quorum for the meeting shall be five members. Resolutions put to meetings shall be decided by a simple majority of those present. The CSG may create task and finish groups as required and they shall report to the CSG on a regular basis.

The underlying ethos of the CSG is to strive to involve the wider YLB network in consultation over issues of importance but recognises that external constraints may require the Group to reach a conclusion where appropriate.

5. Support for the Core Strategic Group

Administrative and communications support will be provided by the Children & Young People's Team at Bradford CVS subject to adequate resources being available.

6. Meeting Schedule

The Core Strategic Group will meet bi-monthly on dates to be agreed in advance. At least seven clear days' notice shall be required to convene a meeting of the Group. Task and finish groups shall meet as required.

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