

ADSS ASYLUM TASK FORCE REVISED TERMS OF REFERENCE

All local authorities are moving to a separation of Children's Services and Adult Services, in relation to social care. The ADSS is itself changing into two separate organisations. Asylum crosses both services and to ensure that the taskforce is able to represent both of these there will be two co-chairs, Pauline Newman for the 'Directors of Children's Services' and Peter Hay for the 'Director's of Adult Services'.

1. To provide an interface between central, regional and local government on issues around the statutory responsibilities of Directors of Children's and Adult Services, for adult, family and unaccompanied children who are subject to immigration legislation.
2. To inform and contribute to the European debate on migration issues.
3. To promote the views of Director's of Children and Adult Services with regard to those people who are subject to immigration legislation in order to influence central government policy.
4. To disseminate relevant information to Directors of Children and Adult Services.
5. To identify key issues where agency joint working may prove valuable and to support this when needed.
6. To identify key stakeholders and work with them in order to achieve best practice.
7. To meet as a policy sounding board on key issues relating to unaccompanied asylum seeking children.
8. To ensure a coherent voice on national policy and to promote a uniform and equitable approach across local authorities.
8. To promote and disseminate best practice.

Membership

The taskforce is open to any Director across England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Other relevant stakeholders –
A representative from
LGA
ALG
Home Office
Dept. for Education and Skills

There may be times when some of these representatives are asked to absent themselves from part of the meeting.

Substitutes

A member of the ADSS taskforce may at any time nominate a substitute senior manager to attend a meeting

Chairs

The task force will have two co-chairs. Representing the Directors of Children's Services and the Directors of Adult Services. They will chair alternate meetings. The two Directors will work closely together, but they will mainly assume responsibility for their own directorates.

Meetings – Frequency and Venue

The meetings will be held bi-monthly

The meeting venue will be rotated between London, Birmingham and Manchester.

Subgroups

The task force may at any time create sub groups. The chair of any subgroup will be fixed as will the purpose, terms of reference and longevity of the subgroup.

September 2006