SW RIIA
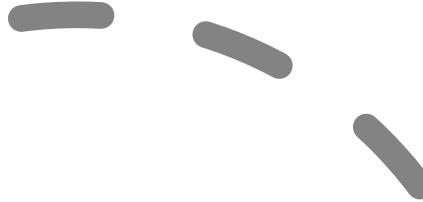
Working Together for Young People
in the South West

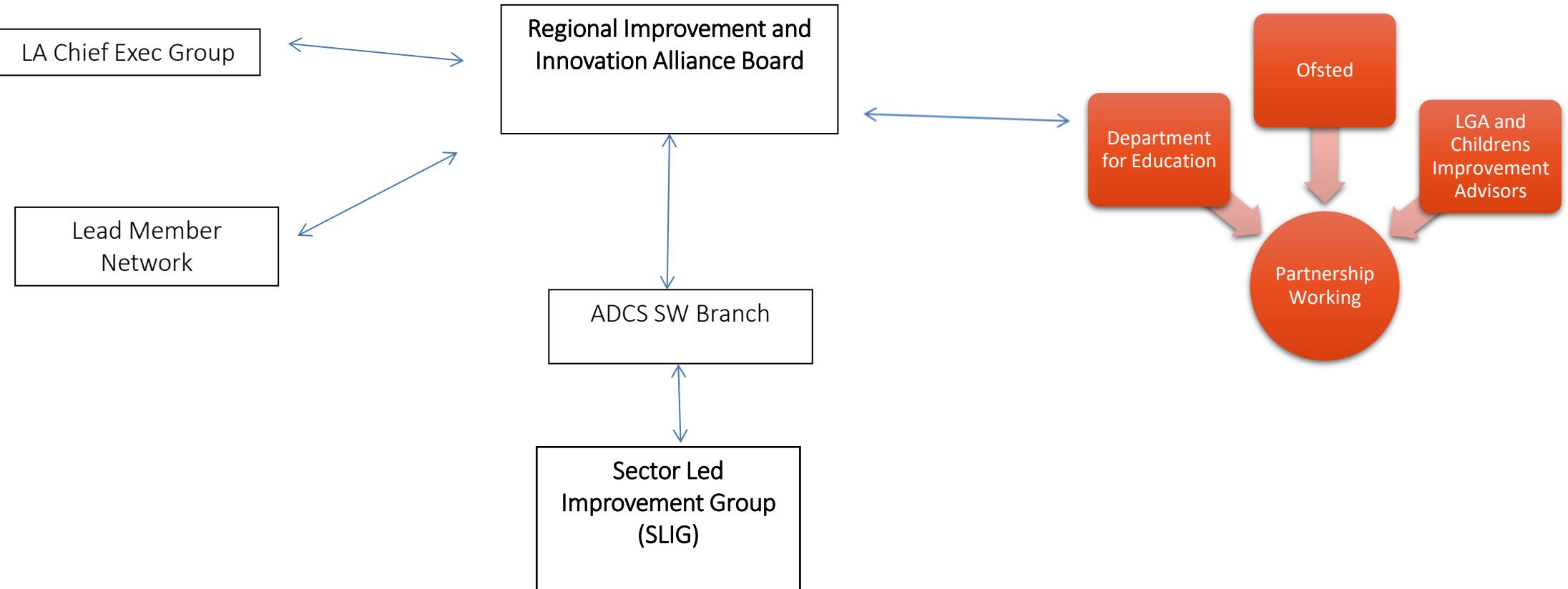The Role of Regional Improvement and Innovation Alliances

Introduction

What are RIIAs?

Regional alliances focused on improving services for Children, young people and their families across local authorities through collaboration, innovation, and shared resources.

Aims to enhance service delivery, pool expertise, and support joint problem-solving

LA Chief Exec Group

Lead Member Network

Regional Improvement and Innovation Alliance Board

ADCS SW Branch

Sector Led Improvement Group (SLIG)

Department for Education

Ofsted

LGA and Childrens Improvement Advisors

Partnership Working

SEND Steering Group and Associated Networks

South West Sufficiency Project

Education and CSC AD Networks

SW RIIA
Working Together for Young People in the South West

There are many additional regional network groups and projects of specialism sharing practice and supporting improvement work across the region that have representation from all LA's across the Southwest

Resource Allocation, Governance and Oversight

The RIIAs' Governance and Oversight Role

- Financial Oversight: The RIIA (in conjunction with the core 3) provides governance to ensure that funding for improvement projects is used efficiently and effectively.

- Transparency and Accountability: By offering a framework for financial oversight, the RIIA ensures that all stakeholders—local authorities, DCS, chief executives, and multi-agency partners—are held accountable for spending decisions and project outcomes.

- Risk Management: The RIIA helps identify financial risks early in projects and provide strategic interventions to mitigate those risks, ensuring sustainable financial planning.

- Regional Coordination of Funds: By overseeing how resources are distributed across the region, the RIIA ensures that funding is fairly allocated, while supporting collaborative initiatives that pool resources for greater impact

Infrastructure - The core 3

SW ADCS Network

Provides the core base knowledge with the level of seniority and strategic working needed to develop, innovate and implement change. Effectively this group is the CPU of the network.

Chair is Mary Kearney Knowles

RIIA

Chaired by Jo Walker and Anne Marie Bond, chief executives at North Somerset and Torbay respectively

This group provides governance, financial and strategic oversight. Members include Chief Executives, Lead Members, DCS and partners such as Childrens Improvement Partners and DfE

Sector Led improvement

The operational group. Members include DCS', chairs from wider network groups and Childrens Improvement Advisors.

Chair is Ann James

RIIA's and Improvement

Key Aims of RIIAs

- Collaboration: Facilitating cooperation between local authorities for consistency and high standards.

- Resource Pooling: Combining funding, staff, and expertise to address sector challenges.

- Innovation: Promoting innovative practices and technology in service delivery.

- Coordinated Improvement Plans: Aligning strategies across regions for cohesive action.

- Peer Learning: Supporting knowledge exchange and joint training for continuous improvement.

- Stakeholder Engagement: Ensuring Networks, families and young people influence service design and improvement

Multi-Agency Collaboration and Linking with Existing Networks

Working Together Across Multi Agencies

- Holistic Approach: RIIAs can help coordinate efforts between education, health, social care, and other agencies to deliver a comprehensive service for children.

- Shared Responsibility: Promotes shared accountability among agencies and departments, ensuring that all parties work together toward common improvement goals.

- Integrated Services: Streamlines communication and reduces fragmentation in service delivery, ensuring better outcomes for children and families.

Linking with Existing Networks and Projects

- Leveraging Existing Resources: RIIAs can connect with existing local and regional projects, avoiding duplication of efforts and maximising the impact of ongoing initiatives.

- Knowledge Sharing: Builds on lessons learned from other networks and improvement projects, scaling successful practices across regions.

- Cross-Sector Collaboration: Encourages engagement with voluntary and community sectors, housing, mental health services, and employment support, enriching the support framework for SEND

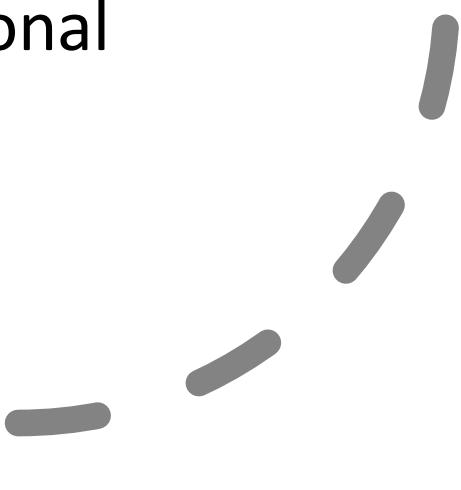# Accountability and Performance Monitoring

- The RIIA provides the regions quarterly data (non-statutory) and connects with D2I this provides with performance insights, fostering a culture of accountability.
- Enables identification of areas needing support and drives improvement efforts across regions.

RIIAs link SEND Improvement with Chief Executives

The Role of Chief Executives in SEND Improvement

- Chief executives are critical for setting priorities, influencing resource allocation, and ensuring cross-departmental collaboration.

- Their involvement brings strategic leadership and enhances the impact of regional improvement efforts.

Political Influence and Advocacy

- The RIIA links in with Lead Members and developing this will enable them to champion CYP needs
- They can be a conduit for advocating for CYP service improvements at a regional and national level.
- Ensures sustained political support for CSC and SEND services.
- Joint responses to regional challenges strengthen leadership capacity across local authorities

Next Steps?

1. Network links
2. Involvement in project(s)
3. National and regional sharing
4. Practise sharing and expertise