

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
4 NOVEMBER 2015
UPDATE ON COUNCIL PROGRESS FOLLOWING THE OFSTED INSPECTION IN 2014
REPORT OF HEAD OF DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

1. Purpose

- 1.1 To consider and review progress of the action plan in response to the Ofsted inspection in 2014.

2. Action required

- 2.1 To scrutinise the Council's performance in meeting actions arising from the Ofsted inspection in 2014.
- 2.2 In the future, the Committee might consider referring progress reports to the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee.

3. Background information

- 3.1 In the January 2015, Overview and Scrutiny reviewed progress made by Nottingham City Council in its action plan developed in response to the Ofsted inspection in 2014.
- 3.2 In March 2014 Ofsted inspected Nottingham City Council's services for children in need of help and protection; children looked after and care leavers (also known as the Single Inspection). The inspection was unannounced and lasted for four weeks; inspectors met with managers, frontline workers and partners and they sampled a large number of case files to judge the quality of safeguarding practice in the City. The inspection also included a review of the Nottingham City Safeguarding Children's Board (NCSCB).
- 3.3 Their main findings were that, across all elements of the inspection framework, we 'required improvement' but they found no children to be 'unsafe' in the City. The inspection did not find any areas for priority and immediate action; however key areas for improvement were identified. The full Ofsted report is available here <http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/local-authorities/nottingham>.
- 3.4 In response to the key findings Nottingham City Council was asked to produce an Improvement Action Plan identifying each action and detailing what will be done to address it and by whom. This Improvement Action Plan was submitted to Ofsted in August 2014. Since the inspection Nottingham City Council has actively engaged with Ofsted

and we have worked with them to pilot 'Challenge Seminars' designed to help local authorities develop their improvement plans.

- 3.5 Since April 2014 we have worked to put in place strong qualitative and quantitative monitoring of the Improvement Action Plan and its impact on frontline practice.

4. **List of attached information**

None.

5. **Background papers, other than published works or those disclosing exempt or confidential information**

None.

6. **Published documents referred to in compiling this report**

Overview and Scrutiny Committee minutes 7 January 2015.

7. **Wards affected**

City-wide.

8. **Contact information**

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