

Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee
26 January 2023

Children's Integrated Services Improvement

Report of the Statutory Scrutiny Officer

1 Purpose

- 1.1 To review the Council's response to the Ofsted Inspection of Children's Services, including the refreshed Children's Integrated Services Improvement Plan.

2 Action required

- 2.1 The Committee is asked:
- a) if it wishes to make any comments or recommendations regarding the approach to, or progress in improvement of Children's Integrated Services; and
 - b) how it wishes to approach future scrutiny of improvement, including focus and timescales.

3 Background information

- 3.1 In November 2022 the Committee considered the findings of the Ofsted inspection of children's services and the action being taken and proposed to be taken to address the arising issues. The Council had been judged to be 'Requires improvement to be good' in the domains of the impact of leaders on social work practice with children and families and the experiences and progress of children in care and care leavers, and 'Inadequate' in the domain of experiences and progress of children who need help and protection. As a result, the overall outcome of the inspection judgement was 'Inadequate' and Ofsted identified eight specific areas for improvement. The Committee was informed that the Service was reviewing its pre-existing Improvement Plan, which had to be submitted to Ofsted in mid-December, and that the Plan would reflect the wider development of the Service in addition to the specific areas identified for improvement by Ofsted. The Committee was assured that while the Improvement Plan was going through the period of revision, work had already started on addressing the issues raised by Ofsted.
- 3.2 The Committee requested sight of the refreshed Improvement Plan and agreed to review improvement in January and, at that point, agree an approach to ongoing scrutiny.
- 3.3 A paper updating on the Council's response to the Ofsted inspection has been submitted by the Portfolio Holder for Children, Young People and

Schools, Corporate Director for People and Director for Children's Integrated Services. They will be attending the meeting to answer questions about the approach to improvement, and progress being made; and to discuss with the Committee its approach to future scrutiny on this matter.

4 List of attached information

- 4.1 'Nottingham City Council's response to the Ofsted ILAC's inspection' paper submitted by the Portfolio Holder for Children, Young People and Schools, Corporate Director for People and Director for Children's Integrated Services

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

- 5.1 None

6 Published documents referred to in compiling this report

- 6.1 Report to, and minutes of the meeting of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee held on 3 November 2022
- 6.2 Ofsted Inspection of Nottingham City local authority children's services July 2022

7 Wards affected

- 7.1 All

8 Contact information

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