

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
30 JANUARY 2020
OFSTED INSPECTION OF CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE SERVICES
REPORT OF HEAD OF LEGAL AND GOVERNANCE

1 Purpose

- 1.1 To scrutinise action taken to address areas identified for improvement by Ofsted in its review of children's social care services and preparedness for the next inspection.

2 Action required

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to:

- a) review the extent to which the need for improvement identified by Ofsted has been met;
- b) identify whether there is further work to be done to address the issues identified by Ofsted and seek assurance regarding plans to undertake that work; and
- c) identify whether any further scrutiny of these issues is required.

3 Background information

- 3.1 Ofsted carried out an inspection of children's social care services in November 2018 and the report was published in January 2019. The report noted that there were areas of good practice across the services and a range of services had improved since the previous full inspection in 2014, but that there were also areas where improvements were required to ensure that all children get the right support at the right time. Overall, the services were found to be 'requires improvement to be good'. A briefing on the inspection and its findings, including details of areas identified as needing improvement is attached as an appendix and the inspection report can be viewed via this link <https://files.ofsted.gov.uk/v1/file/50048229>
- 3.2 The Committee has previously explored work relating to some of the areas identified as needing further improvement, including social worker capacity. This meeting is an opportunity to take an overall look at progress in responding to the issues raised by Ofsted through its inspection.
- 3.3 Given that services were found to require improvement, it is anticipated that there will be a re-inspection within the next year. It is therefore timely for the Committee consider whether it wishes to review and seek assurance in relation to any particular aspects of children's social care

services in advance of that anticipated inspection. Any issues identified could be included on the Committee's work programme.

4 List of attached information

4.1 Briefing on the Ofsted Inspection of Children's 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 Ofsted Inspection of Children's Social Care Services (January 2019)

7 Wards affected

7.1 All

8 Contact information

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