

EMBARGOED UNTIL 00.01 HOURS ON 30 MAY 2002



2nd Floor
John Rothchild House
Castle Quay
Castle Boulevard
Nottingham, NG7 1FW

Tel: 0115 959 7500
Fax: 0115 959 7501

Our Ref: Star Ratings 2001-02/Letter – Derby City/KG

May 2002

Ms Margaret McGlade
Director of Social Services
Derby City Council
Middleton House
27 St Mary's Gate
Derby
DE1 3NS

Dear Director

Social Services Performance Ratings 2001-02

This e-mail letter is to inform you that your social services performance rating for 2001-02 is 2 (**) stars.

The judgements underlying the star rating were as follows:

Services for children

Serving people well?	(Most)
Prospects?	(Excellent)

Services for adults

Serving people well?	(Some)
Prospects?	(Promising)

The Performance Letter written to you by SSI following the Annual Review Meeting sets out a summary of the performance issues as agreed by you and SSI.

The star ratings range from zero to three stars. The categories for "serving people well?" are no, some, most and yes. The categories for "prospects?" are poor, uncertain, promising and excellent.

The star ratings are based on judgements made by SSI using the available performance evidence from inspections, joint reviews, monitoring and performance indicators, as set out in the guidance at www.doh.gov.uk/pssratings. The final decisions on star ratings were made by the Chief Inspector.

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The star ratings and the underlying judgements will be published on Thursday 30 May. The Performance Letters will also be made available on the DH star ratings web-site (except for councils that have not yet discussed the letter in committee). We will send you an e-mail containing the star ratings for all councils on Tuesday 28 May. Both this e-mail and the e-mail setting out all the star ratings are to allow you to prepare local briefing, for example to handle press queries. **Please note that this information is provided under an embargo of 00.01 am 30 May 2002.**

SSI's policy on star ratings is that they will be published each year, and for the most part will not be changed in-year. However, where significant evidence of performance improvement becomes available during the year, a star rating higher than zero may be awarded. Conversely, where serious concerns about performance come to light during the year, a council's ratings may be adjusted to zero stars, and special monitoring arrangements put in place.

Later this year, during the autumn, the social services performance ratings for all councils will be updated and re-published, using the latest PAF PI data (for 2001-02), and the evidence from inspections and joint reviews that have taken place since the present ratings were determined. The number of councils whose ratings may be changed in this process is expected to be small.

This updating will enable the social services ratings to contribute directly to the Comprehensive Performance Assessment of all council services, due later in the year, using the most up-to-date information available.

Any queries about your star rating which are not answered by the guidance or by the contents of your Performance Letter should be addressed in the first instance to your business link inspector or me.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'G. Mason'.

Glen Mason
Director
SSI East Midlands