



**CORPORATE PARENTING SUB
COMMISSION
27 MARCH 2012**

ITEM 6

Report of the Strategic Director of Children and
Young People

Safeguarding and Looked After Children Inspection Improvement Action Plan

SUMMARY

- 1.1 An inspection of safeguarding and looked after children services took place in May 2011. The findings report was published jointly by Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission (CQC) on 27 June 2011.
- 1.2 An action plan detailing the 24 recommendations and actions required to address areas of improvement was developed and is shown in **Appendix 2**.
- 1.3 The improvement action plan was reviewed by the Children and Young People (CYP) Commission in September 2011 and Corporate Parenting Board in January 2012. This report presents an updated position as requested by the Chair.

RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 To note the updated Improvement Plan.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 Local authorities and their partners have a duty to provide appropriate services that protect children in need. They are also required to respond to recommendations made by inspectorates such as Ofsted and CQC.
- 3.2 During any future inspection the Council would need to demonstrate that they have responded and acted upon the recommendations made by Ofsted in an effective and efficient manner.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 4.1 Local authorities are subject to regular inspections by Ofsted and CQC on services focused on safeguarding and looked after children. The last inspection took place in May 2011.
- 4.2 The overall effectiveness of safeguarding services in Derby was rated as 'adequate', with capacity for improvement assessed as 'adequate'. Services for looked after children were also rated as 'adequate'.
- 4.3 The report highlighted some areas of good performance, including 'staying safe' and 'economic well-being' outcomes for looked after children and care leavers. The report included 24 recommendations for improvement.
- 4.4 Derby City Council and its partners have responded to the inspection report by developing an improvement action plan as shown in **Appendix 2**. Consultation on the plan has involved all stakeholders included and responsible for delivering the actions contained within the plan. The plan included actions and outcomes to be achieved, timescales, lead officers and progress to be made.
- 4.5 The process for delivering and monitoring the improvement plan was led by the Director of Children and Young People, with approval from the Children's Trust and Derby Children's Safeguarding Board.
- 4.6 The improvement plan has been monitored regularly and Corporate Parenting have received regular updates.

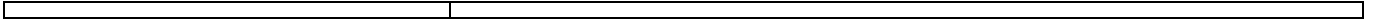
OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 5.1 No other options have been considered.

This report has been approved by the following officers:

Legal officer Financial officer Human Resources officer Service Director(s)	Jacqui Jensen – Director of Early Intervention and Integrated Safeguarding Mark Barratt – Director of Specialist Services Lynda Poole – Director of Learning and Inclusion
Other(s)	Heather Greenan – Head of Performance and Improvement

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Background papers: List of appendices:	Appendix 1 – Implications Appendix 2 – Improvement Action Plan



IMPLICATIONS

Financial and Value for Money

- 1.1 Initial costs of the actions contained within the inspection improvement plan have been prepared and detailed costs are being finalised. These need to reflect any budget considerations that arise from the Star Chamber process in September 2011. Costs will be included in the improvement plan when they are finalised and reported on.

Legal

- 2.1 The Council and its partners have a statutory duty to respond to recommendations made by inspectorates such as Ofsted and CQC. Failure to address issues adequately could result in intervention.

Personnel

- 3.1 Some of the Ofsted recommendations have implications for personnel. These will be addressed through the improvement planning process.

Equalities Impact

- 4.1 Some of the recommendations relate to fully addressing the needs of different equality groups. These will be considered through the improvement plan.

Health and Safety

- 5.1 There are no issues arising.

Environmental Sustainability

- 6.1 There are no issues arising.

Asset Management

- 7.1 There are no issues arising.

Risk Management

- 8.1 Risks will be considered as part of the improvement planning process.

Corporate objectives and priorities for change

- 9.1 Improving services for children in need directly supports a number of the priority outcomes in the Council Plan, including 'Being safe and feeling safe' and 'Achieving

their learning potential'.