

Children's Services Scrutiny Committee

Meeting to be held on Wednesday, 6 September 2017

Electoral Division affected:
(All Divisions);

Ofsted Monitoring Visit Update

(Appendix 'A' refers)

Contact for further information:

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Executive Summary

The letter at 'Appendix A' summarises the findings from the monitoring visit to Lancashire's children's services which took place on 25 and 26 July 2017.

Recommendation

The Children's Services Scrutiny Committee are requested to note and comment on the report.

Background and Advice

In autumn 2015, Ofsted carried out an unannounced inspection of children's services in Lancashire. This was the local authority's first inspection under the single inspection framework, which came into place in 2014. It focused on the experiences and progress of children in need of help and protection, children looked after and care leavers. It also included looking at the effectiveness of services and arrangements to help these children, including adoption and fostering.

The inspection took place between 14 September and 8 October and involved 12 inspectors undertaking a range of activity. They spoke to staff at all levels, to children and young people, and to representatives of a number of partner organisations. Much of their work involved reviewing documents but they also observed a small amount of frontline practice and, overall, there was significantly more emphasis on frontline care than under the previous inspection regime.

The letter at 'Appendix A' summarises the findings from the fifth monitoring visit since the local authority was judged inadequate in the autumn 2015.

Consultations

NA

Implications:

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

Risk management

There are no risk management implications arising from this item.

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 List of Background Papers

Paper	Date	Contact/Tel
https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/local-authorities/lancashire	November 2015	Ofsted

Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate

NA