

Appendix A - Ofsted Post Inspection - Verbal Update

Post Ofsted Inspection Update

In February, we had our final monitoring inspection of children's services by Ofsted. On the 4 June 2018, we were notified of the inspection of Children's Services in Lancashire, which we have been anticipating. The inspection is to evaluate the effectiveness of services for children in need of help and protection, children looked after and care leavers. It also includes evaluating the effectiveness of our services and arrangements to help these children, including adoption and fostering. The Inspection Team will be working in Lancashire for a 4 week period, until 29 June 2018. The Cabinet Committee on Performance Improvement will be provided with an update on progress and the key emerging issues at the meeting on 27 June.

Special Educational Needs and Disability Inspection Update

The main findings and areas for development following the OFSTED/Care Quality Commission inspection of Special Educational Needs and Disabilities services in November 2017 have been accepted and partnership action has been taken to respond to the twelve significant concerns that were identified. A formal Written Statement of Action was submitted to Ofsted on 17 April, setting out the collective response and agreed actions to secure long term change. A governance structure for the delivery of Special Educational Needs and Disabilities services in the area has been agreed; with accountability to the Health and Wellbeing Board through an Executive Director for Lancashire County Council and Accountable Officer on behalf of the six Clinical Commissioning Groups.

A Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Partnership Board is in place, with five thematic working groups established to implement the Written Statement of Action through more detailed action plans. The Board includes representation from parents/carers, young people and professionals from health, education and Special Educational Needs and Disabilities services and action to ensure wider engagement is also taking place. Meetings have been held with education leaders from all sectors; an open feedback survey and an instant feedback option as part of the Local Offer have been provided, in addition to the Annual Survey for parents/carers/young people which has received over a thousand responses to date.

The Education, Health and Care Plan conversions have all been completed, and a detailed audit of plans for vulnerable groups including Children Looked After, Children in Need and Child Protection cases undertaken. The outcomes from the audit are being used to ensure compliance, improve individual case planning and inform staff development requirements.

Draft feedback from the first monitoring visit states that: 'significant progress has been made in establishing new frameworks and agreements between the relevant Clinical Commissioning Groups and the two unitary Clinical Commissioning Groups have been included in all discussions. The profile of Special Educational Needs and Disabilities work across the county council has been significantly raised. Commitment from

partners is recognised in the significant level of resources both have committed to the improvement process.

The published Written Statement of Action and Ofsted/Care Quality Commission letter of response are included as Appendix B and C respectively.