

Report of the Head of Corporate Governance and Scrutiny Support

Report to Scrutiny Board (Children and Families)

Date: 15 March 2018

Subject: Ofsted - Outcome of the focused visit to Leeds City Council Children's Services, January 2018.

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

1 Purpose of this report / Main Issues

- 1.1 On the 30th of January Ofsted conducted a two day visit to look at the Local Authority's arrangements for the quality of matching, placement and decision-making for children in care, including the quality of planning and the identification and management of risk and vulnerability. Inspectors also evaluated the effectiveness of performance management, management oversight, supervision, quality assurance and the continuous professional development of the workforce.
- 1.2 A letter from Nigel Parks (HM Inspector), summarising the findings of the focused visit was issued to the Director of Children and Families on the 22nd of February 2018. This is attached as appendix 1. It states that Ofsted will take the findings from this focused visit into account when planning the next inspection or visit.
- 1.3 The Scrutiny Board has consistently monitored progress, on an annual basis, following the Ofsted inspection in 2015 and the joint Ofsted and Care Quality Commission (CQC) SEND inspection in 2016. It is recommended that the areas identified as requiring improvement during this recent visited be included in the next scrutiny review of progress.

2 Recommendations

2.1 The Scrutiny Board (Children and Families) is recommended to:

- a) Note and consider the findings of Ofsted as detailed in appendix 1, and the information presented verbally at the Scrutiny Board meeting.
- b) Make recommendations as deemed appropriate

3 Background documents¹ - None

¹ The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the Council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.