

COUNCIL MEETING – 14TH SEPTEMBER 2021

NOTICE OF:	Reference No:	Date Received:	Date Forwarded:
White Paper	WP1	03/09/2021	06/09/2021

Submitted by: Councillor Ryan Stephenson
 Relevant Board/Regulatory Panel: Executive Board
 Executive Member/Chair: Executive Member for Adult and Children’s Social Care and Health Partnerships
 Relevant Director: Director of Children and Families

This Council notes the outcome of Ofsted’s focussed visit to Leeds children’s services on 20 and 21 July 2021.

Her Majesty’s Inspectors found that the front door is well resourced, observing that continued investment in early help services means there are a wide range of effective help services available to children and families.

Regrettably, Ofsted also found that social work practice is not consistently strong; decision making is not always timely where a child protection risk is not clear; the cumulative impact of domestic abuse is not always considered in the assessment of risk and decision-making; and audits do not provide sufficient evidence to drive forward practice.

Council calls on the Executive Member for Adult and Children’s Social Care and Health Partnerships to implement an urgent three-point plan to monitor progress of the improvement plan:

1. Call-in best practice advice from local authorities that are making good progress in areas we are not.
2. Ask the Children & Families Scrutiny Board to establish ‘monitoring workshops’ to track progress on the quality and consistency of assessments, the quality and impact of management oversight and supervision, and the quality and independence of audits.
3. Publish recent informal peer reviews and commit to a further peer review within six months to monitor progress of the improvement plan.

Councillor Ryan Stephenson

Deadlines for submission

White Papers - 10.00 am on the day before the issue of the Summons
 Questions - 10.00 am on Monday before the meeting
 Amendments - 10.00 am on the day before the meeting
 (including references back)

(All submissions should be made to Governance Services for receipt to be recorded and distribution made)

