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By email: saleem.tariq@leeds.gov.uk

Yvette Stanley
National Director, Regulation and Social Care

Mr Saleem Tariq
Leeds City Council
Director of Children and Families Services
PO Box 837
Children's Services
Leeds LS1 9PZ

Dear Sal

Inspection of Leeds local authority children's services

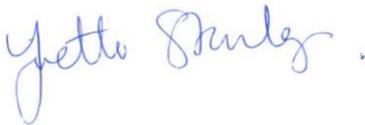
I am writing to personally congratulate you on the outcome of your ILACS inspection which yet again rated children's services as outstanding overall. This is a magnificent achievement and one which I wanted to personally acknowledge today as your report is published.

Your "outstanding" inspection outcome reflects the continued determination of yourself and your leadership team, managers and frontline staff, as well as the wider council and your safeguarding partners. You should all be proud of the positive difference you have made for the children and families of Leeds. It was lovely to read that *"Children benefit from consistently strong and creative social work delivered to an exceptionally high standard. Senior leaders and council members are unstinting in their efforts and ambitions for children to achieve their full potential. They harness highly effective partnership working and promote a culture across the city where children and young people are at its heart."*

We know that you continue to have high ambitions for your children and services, and that you will be working hard to address the two areas for improvement. Please pass on my congratulations to all the colleagues in Leeds who have contributed to this achievement, as well as extending my personal thanks to all the staff, children, foster carers and wider stakeholders who participated in the inspection process.

I know that this outcome will not diminish your ambition for or culture of embracing improvement in services and outcomes for children, and I extend my very best wishes for the next phases of your continuous improvement journey.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Yvette Stanley". The signature is written in a cursive style with a period at the end.

Yvette Stanley
National Director Regulation and Social Care