



# EXECUTIVE BOARD DECISION

<b>REPORT OF:</b>	Executive Member for Children's Services
<b>LEAD OFFICERS:</b>	Director of Children's Services
<b>DATE:</b>	8 March 2018

<b>PORTFOLIO/S AFFECTED:</b>	Children's Services
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<b>WARD/S AFFECTED:</b>	All
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<b>KEY DECISION:</b>	YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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<b>SUBJECT:</b>	Ofsted Inspection Action Plan
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## 1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As reported to Full Council on 25<sup>th</sup> January 2018, the Council's recent Ofsted inspection resulted in nine recommendations being made with a further 3 recommendations in respect of the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB).

The action plan has been submitted to Ofsted in line with their inspection framework and will continue to be monitored by Ofsted, with the next meeting between the Director of Children's Services (DCS) and Ofsted scheduled to take place in March 2018. The LSCB is not under any requirement to share its plan with Ofsted nor is it subject to the same ongoing discussions with Ofsted with regard to progress.

The version of the action plan shared with this report is the original plan submitted to Ofsted; this plan is monitored by the Children's Services Senior Leadership Team (SLT) and updated on a regular basis.

## 2. RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Executive Board:

- Note the contents of the action plan
- Note that progress against the action plan will be overseen by the Children's Overview & Scrutiny Committee, who may choose to delegate relevant aspects of this responsibility to the Corporate Parenting Specialist Advisory Group as appropriate.
- Note that a further update report on progress will be shared with the Executive Board later in the year.

## 3. BACKGROUND

The Council's recent Ofsted inspection, completed as part of Ofsted's Single Inspection Framework (SIF), took place between 25<sup>th</sup> September and 19<sup>th</sup> October 2017 and was published on 8<sup>th</sup> December

2017.

Inspectors judged the following areas:

- Children's Services overall **(good)**
- The experiences and progress of children who need help and protection **(requires improvement)**
- The experiences and progress of children looked after and achieving permanence **(good)**
  - Adoption performance **(good)**
  - The experience and progress of care leavers **(good)**
- Leadership, management and governance **(good)**

There is a separate judgement for the Local Safeguarding Children Board, which was also judged to be good.

Following the publication of the report, the Local Authority is expected to produce an action plan in response to their recommendations and share this with Ofsted and the Secretary of State. Progress against the action plan will be monitored externally through meetings between Ofsted and the Director of Children's Services, and through any other Ofsted inspections that subsequently take place.

#### **4. KEY ISSUES & RISKS**

The attached plan shows the proposed actions that will be taken in respect of each recommendation, along with the title of the responsible Lead Officer, the anticipated completion date and comments as to progress.

Some of the actions have already been completed. The version of the action plan provided is that submitted to Ofsted; further progress has been made and detail on progress against the action plan will be overseen over the coming year by the Children's Overview & Scrutiny Committee, with delegation of the relevant aspects of this responsibility to the Corporate Parenting Specialist Advisory Group as appropriate.

A further update report on progress will be shared with the Executive Board later in the year.

#### **5. POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

A number of policies will be reviewed as part of our response and policy changes will be approved appropriately.

#### **6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no direct immediate financial implications arising from this report, however as the work in response to the inspection continues, any impact on resource and/or financial implications will be discussed and approved appropriately.

#### **7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no legal implications arising from publication of this report.

## 8. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Implementation of the recommendations will impact on resource, however the detail will be scoped out separately with the appropriate approvals gained before implementation.

## 9. EQUALITY AND HEALTH IMPLICATIONS

Please select one of the options below. Where appropriate please include the hyperlink to the EIA.

Option 1  Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) not required – the EIA checklist has been completed.

Option 2  In determining this matter the Executive Member needs to consider the EIA associated with this item in advance of making the decision. *(insert EIA link here)*

Option 3  In determining this matter the Executive Board Members need to consider the EIA associated with this item in advance of making the decision. *(insert EIA attachment)*

## 10. CONSULTATIONS

Consultation sessions have been held with staff throughout January to ensure that they are fully briefed on the inspection and our response.

## 11. STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

The recommendations are made further to advice from the Monitoring Officer and the Section 151 Officer has confirmed that they do not incur unlawful expenditure. They are also compliant with equality legislation and an equality analysis and impact assessment has been considered. The recommendations reflect the core principles of good governance set out in the Council's Code of Corporate Governance.

## 12. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

All Declarations of Interest of any Executive Member consulted and note of any dispensation granted by the Chief Executive will be recorded in the Summary of Decisions published on the day following the meeting.

<b>VERSION:</b>	<b>3</b>
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<b>CONTACT OFFICER:</b>	Beth Speak, Service Lead – Quality Assurance, Inspections, Systems & Sector Led Improvement
<b>DATE:</b>	09/02/2018
<b>BACKGROUND PAPER:</b>	Ofsted SIF Inspection Action Plan (attached)