



People Overview Committee

1 March 2018

10.00am

Item

6

Public

Action Plan following the Ofsted Inspection of services for children in need of help and protection, children looked after and care leavers.

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1. Summary

- 1.1 This report sets out the action plan required by Ofsted in response to the Inspection of Services for Children in Need of Help and Protection, Children Looked After and Care Leavers in 2017. A Review of the Effectiveness of the Local Safeguarding Children Board was also undertaken by Ofsted as part of the inspection, and the Safeguarding Board's separate action plan will be tabled at the meeting.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That Scrutiny consider the attached action plan, and confirm that it adequately addresses the required improvements.

REPORT

3. Risk Assessment and Opportunities Appraisal

(NB this will include the following: Risk Management, Human Rights, Equalities, Community, Environmental consequences and other Consultation)

- 3.1 Ofsted inspects services provided to children in need of care and protection, looked after children and care leavers. It provides information to the local authority about how they are performing in this regard, and identifies areas for improvement. In responding to these identified areas for improvement, it will impact positively on the outcomes for some of our most vulnerable children and their families, improve their lived experience and life chances.

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1 Some of the responses will require financial injection, although this is largely on an “invest to save” basis.

5. Background

- 5.1 In September 2017 Shropshire Council’s services for children in need of help and protection, children looked after and care leavers were inspected by Ofsted. The Council was rated as good overall, one of only three local authorities rated as good in the West Midlands, and placing Shropshire amongst the highest performing local authorities nationally.
- 5.2 A detailed report was provided by Ofsted which sets out the key findings of the inspection including overall strengths and areas for improvement. The report contained a number of recommendations for improvement and the Council is required to provide Ofsted with an Action Plan which sets out our responses to these recommendations. Children’s Social Care has achieved significant progress over the last few years, and is keen to strive for even better outcomes for children and their families.
- 5.3 The report has been circulated to all Members.

List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)

Ofsted report 4th November 2017

Cabinet Member (Portfolio Holder)

Cllr Nick Bardsley

Local Member

All Members

Appendices

Appendix 1 Draft Action Plan