



People Overview Committee	<u>Item</u>
20 February 2019	<u>Public</u>

Ofsted action plan and care leaver action plan

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1.0 Summary

1.1 This report and accompanying plans provide an overview of the council's progress against recommendations following the single inspection framework Ofsted inspection that took place in September and October 2017 and a visit to Shropshire from Mark Riddell, a Department for Education national advisor for care leavers in February 2018.

2.0 Recommendations

2.1 Committee members to agree that the service:

- close down the Ofsted action plan and care leaver action plans and
- monitor on-going work as part of on-going service improvement work, with on-going oversight through quality assurance framework and Corporate Parenting Panel.

3.0 Background

3.1 The Ofsted Action Plan was put into place and agreed at People Overview Committee on 31 January 2018 following the single inspection framework Ofsted inspection that took place in September and October 2017. The Ofsted Action Plan covered all 12 recommendations made by Ofsted and included additional actions needed to address the 12 recommendations.

3.2 The Care Leavers Action Plan was produced following a visit to Shropshire from Mark Riddell, a Department for Education national advisor for care leavers in February 2018. This action plan covered all recommendations made by Mark, and also included some of the same recommendations made by Ofsted through the single inspection framework inspection. This action plan has remained under the scrutiny of the Corporate Parenting Panel to ensure progress in relation to all areas.

4.0 Progress to Date

- 4.1 The service continues to address the actions in both action plans. The two attached action plans chart progress against individual actions. Since we wrote these action plans we have been subject to a joint targeted area inspection involving Ofsted, Care Quality Commission, HMI Constabulary and HMI Probation in November 2018. Mark Riddell also carried out a return visit to Shropshire in November 2018.
- 4.2 The joint targeted area inspection evaluated progress against previous Ofsted recommendations and reported good progress in all areas. Any outstanding areas related in the whole to the service's five practice priorities:
- assessments
 - plans
 - visits
 - review meetings and
 - management oversight

These priorities are subject to on-going scrutiny through our robust quality assurance framework.

- 4.3 Mark Riddell also evaluated progress against his own recommendations. He reported that we had addressed all of them, and commented on the rapid progress we had made in all areas. Mark provided us with a new recommendation relating to the health offer, which is being considered by the Health and Well-Being Board and is being monitored by Corporate Parenting Panel. Mark Riddell will be returning to Shropshire later this year to review progress in this area.
- 4.4 As is evident from the attached action plans the majority of actions are now fully complete and fully operational. A small number of the actions remain on-going. Although work is continuing in some areas we are of the view that these few actions do not need to be part of an on-going action plan and can be managed through business-as-usual, with overview and scrutiny by our robust quality assurance framework and where appropriate by presentation at Corporate Parenting Panel for on-going oversight.
- 4.5 Inspectors through the joint targeted area inspection reported that our Quality Assurance framework is effective. We will continue to ensure that we maintain progress made to date on actions contained within the action plans, making improvements where necessary.

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

- Shropshire Council Children's Services Post-Ofsted Action Plan
- Shropshire Council Children's Services Care Leaver Action Plan

Cabinet Member (Portfolio Holder)

Portfolio Holder for Children and Young People

Local Member

All

Appendices

- Shropshire Council Children's Services Post-Ofsted Action Plan
- Shropshire Council Children's Services Care Leaver Action Plan