

<b>1. Meeting:</b>	<b>Audit Committee</b>
<b>2. Date:</b>	<b>23 April 2014</b>
<b>3. Title:</b>	<b>Audit and Inspection Recommendations Update Report</b>
<b>4. Directorate:</b>	<b>Resources</b>

**5. Summary**

This report summarises the progress against recommendations from across all key external audits and inspections of council services.

**6. Recommendations**

**That the Audit Committee:**

- **Note the progress achieved against outstanding actions**
- **Advise further actions as necessary**

## 7. Proposals and Details

It is intended that this report provides a high level analysis of progress with a particular focus on outstanding recommendations and new inspections since the date of the last report (September 2013). A summary of these are detailed within the table in Appendix A. In summary;

- Since the last report there have been three new inspections of Adult Social Care registered services:
  - Shared Lives Service - confirmed as fully compliant
  - Park Hill Lodge - confirmed as fully compliant
  - Tree Fields – awaiting report but expected to remain fully compliant.

In addition there has been a re-inspection of the Enabling Service in March 2014 by the Care Quality Commission (CQC) to review compliance against the findings and recommendations made following the inspection in June 2013. The service has been confirmed as fully compliant.

- There are currently 3 action plans relating to Inspection and Audit recommendations which are still “active” in the authority (i.e. contain outstanding recommendations which are still relevant).
- Across these action plans 39 recommendations have been completed and 3 remain outstanding.

The monitoring of Audit and Inspection recommendations provides evidence that the Council is able to respond to external challenge in a timely manner and is committed to continuous improvement. Additionally through analysing the recommendations we are demonstrating our ability to identify and rectify detrimental trends or issues and to deliver service improvement.

### **Progress against Recommendations**

Since the previous report progress against recommendations is good with clear actions identified and routes to monitor in progress in place.

All recommendations are now complete for:

- Youth Offending Service – Short Quality Screening inspection by the Youth Justice Board.
- Children’s and Young Peoples Services (CYPS) - Fostering Inspection by Ofsted.

A small number of timescales for individual improvement actions have slipped, however all plans are on track to be completed and are reviewed regularly by Directorates.

## **Analysis of outstanding recommendations**

Progress against all outstanding audit and inspection recommendations of council services are monitored by Performance & Quality Teams. Currently there are 3 recommendations which need addressing. All are currently being progressed and monitored within Directorates.

### **1. Public Health - Audit Commissions review of Health Inequalities - 2009**

In relation to the Audit Commissions review of Health Inequalities in 2009 which relates to breastfeeding. There are on-going challenges relating to performance which is below target both at initiation and continuation of breastfeeding at 6-8 weeks. Contributing factors are being explored given the major changes to NHS commissioning and strain on budgets.

The Rotherham Foundation Trust (TRFT) Maternity Service is working towards full accreditation of the Unicef Baby Friendly Initiative (BFI) to enhance the breastfeeding delivery. Currently the TRFT are at Stage 2 of the 3 stages required to achieve this quality standard for breastfeeding support nationally. The community have stalled in their progress towards this Unicef BFI accreditation, however work is underway with the commissioners of these services to push this agenda forward and to work to improve the Rotherham breastfeeding rates.

### **2. CYPS - Unannounced Inspection of Child Protection**

Inspection undertaken in July 2012.

Although the majority of actions in respect of the report have now been completed, Activities to raise awareness have been undertaken and we are now aware of more private fostering arrangements which has resulted in an increase in the number of identified private fostering arrangements.

Work is also taking place around domestic abuse referrals and the development of a Multi- Agency Safeguarding Hub will assist with the improvements of this issue further.

### **3. CYPS - Thematic Inspection of Disability Services**

Inspection undertaken in March 2012.

The majority of actions have been completed in relation to this inspection. Work is currently underway to enable the production of quality system data, needed to support the improvements required in relation to performance management arrangements and address the outstanding recommendation.

## **OFSTED Preparation for new inspection framework**

Mock inspections in preparation for the new Ofsted Single Assessment Framework and Quality Assurance activity have identified some concerns where additional remedial action has been required in respect of recommendations previously thought to be closed these continue to be part of the quality assurance and consolidation activity.

A summary of progress against all recommendations from "Active" Inspection & Audit action plans is provided in Appendix A. The Performance and Quality Team continue to work with services to ensure that the associated outstanding recommendations are

completed and ensure services are prepared for new or changing inspection and assessment regime.

### **New Inspection Reports received**

There have been 3 new inspections since the last report:

#### **Adult Social Care – Report on the Registered Enabling Service in Rotherham**

CQC Inspections are undertaken on an ongoing annual basis.

Last year April 2013 to March 2014 all 8 adult social care registered services were inspected by CQC and received judgements of fully compliant.

To date this year April 2014 to March 2015 of the 8 services 1 area has been inspected and is awaiting formal feedback following recent inspection.

##### **1. Adult Social Care - Shared Lives Service**

Inspection undertaken on 27 January 2014 by the CQC

Following the inspection a judgement of fully compliant was received.

##### **2. Adult Social Care - Parkhill Lodge Residential Care Home**

Inspection undertaken on 17 January 2014

Following the inspection a judgement of fully compliant was received.

##### **3. Adult Social Care – Tree Fields Residential Care Home**

Inspection undertaken by the CQC on 8 April 2014 by the CQC, currently awaiting outcome but expected to remain compliant.

The 'Enabling Service' has now been re-inspected on 20<sup>th</sup> February, 2014 and has received a judgement of fully compliant. The service received positive feedback from the CQC inspector that the issues documented below, have been successfully addressed.

An inspection of the Councils 'Enabling Service' in June 2013 resulted in one area of minor non-compliance regarding Quality Assurance (outcome 16). This related to the inspectors not being satisfied by the QA arrangements put in place by the registered manager. This service has now fully implemented an agreed CQC action plan under the management of a new registered manager.

### **New OFSTED Single Assessment Framework**

The new Ofsted inspection framework to inspect services for 'children in need of help and protection, children looked after and care leavers' came into effect in November 2013. This replaces 4 former frameworks.

In addition it proposes three key judgements with a judgement of 'inadequate' in any of these three judgements leading to 'inadequate' in overall effectiveness.

As at the 9 April eleven Authorities had been inspected under the new framework and received the following judgements:

- Derbyshire, East Sussex, Essex, Hartlepool, Staffordshire – Good
- Bolton, Hillingdon, Hounslow and Sheffield – Requires Improvement
- Coventry and Slough - Inadequate

Work is underway within CYPS to ensure that should inspectors arrive plans and evidence are in place to meet their requirements and to facilitate their needs. The Performance and Quality Team are working with operational managers to ensure that a robust evidence

bank is in place, that Annex A ( the key document which is required on Day 1 of the inspection) is fully populated ready for the commencement of the inspection.

### **Standards of Education**

There is an expectation from OFSTED and the Department for Education that Local Authorities support schools to ensure that they provide a good or better standard of education to the pupils in the area. There are 451 regulated inspections in CYPS, of which currently 71.3% of schools (Nursery, Primary, Secondary, Special & PRU) are judged by OFSTED as good or better, this compares with 67.2% in 2013 and 65.4% in 2012. Nationally it appears that there has been an overall increase of 8% from 70% (31.08.12) to 78% (31.08.13) in schools judged good or outstanding.

A new framework has recently been introduced by OFSTED which looks at the effectiveness of School Improvement Services in supporting schools around their OFSTED inspections. Preparation is underway by our School Effectiveness Service with a self-assessment being undertaken, although Rotherham were part of an early pilot last year and had received positive feedback from the OFSTED inspectors who were on site.

### **Other Routine Inspections**

Routine inspections undertaken in relation to children's homes, schools, children's centres and residential care homes are reported to the relevant cabinet member/portfolio holders for each service and therefore do not form part of this report.

### **8. Risks and uncertainties**

Any risks and uncertainties are highlighted in the report above and should be noted as a matter of interest in light of the potential impact on other aspects of Council performance.

It is essential that in this time of uncertainty and in the absence of any national performance regime (other than children and adult services) that we continue to be able to demonstrate continuous improvement and self regulation through the implementation of any previously recommended actions.

### **9. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications**

Approaches to inspection and assessment of local authorities are being developed across Government in the light of the decentralisation and localism agenda. In future any central inspection will be focused on the most vulnerable i.e. help to maintain high standards in children's services and adult social care. Intervention will focus on cases of serious risk or failure.

### **10. Background Papers and Consultation**

- All inspectorates' reports, letters and action plans since mid 2007.
- All new and follow up audit reports.
- All inspectorate frameworks, arrangements and guidance documents
- Ofsted Schools Inspection Reports

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## Summary of Recommendations from “Active” Inspection & Audit action plans (which took place from 2007 to Present)

With summary of progression against recommendations since the last report and in total

Inspection / Review (date)	External Assessor	Number of recommendations	Implemented at last report	Implemented since last report	Still outstanding	Overall Completion Date for Recommendations	STATUS
<b>Public Health</b>							
Addressing Health Inequalities (January 09)	AC	10	9	0	1	On-going	On-going
<b>Neighbourhoods and Adults Services</b>							
Adult Social Care – Report on the Registered Enabling Service in Rotherham	CQC	1	0	1	0	Jan 14	Complete
<b>Children and Young Peoples Services</b>							
Thematic inspection of disability services (March 12)	Ofsted	11	10	0	1	Apr 14	On-going
Unannounced inspection of child protection (July 12)	Ofsted	13	12	0	1	Apr 14	On-going
Youth Offending Service – Short Quality Screening (Nov 12)	Youth Justice Board	5	2	3	0	Feb 14	Complete
Fostering Inspection (July 13)	Ofsted	2	0	2	0	Mar 14	Complete
<b>Total Recommendations in “Active” Inspection &amp; Audit action plans</b>		<b>42</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>		