

**ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL**

<b>1. Meeting:</b>	<b>Audit Committee</b>
<b>2. Date:</b>	<b>17 September 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 (April 2014). A summary of these are detailed within the table in Appendix A. In summary;

- Since the last report there has been one non-compliant Care Quality Commission (CQC) inspection of the Netherfield Court Intermediate Care Service in July 2014.
- There is currently 1 action plan relating to Inspection and Audit recommendations which is still “active” in the authority (i.e. contain outstanding recommendations which are still relevant).
- Across these action plans 12 recommendations have been completed and 1 remains 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.

### **Overall Progress against Recommendations**

Since the previous report progress against recommendations is good with only 1 action outstanding. Plans are in place to ensure the outstanding action is completed by within the timescales agreed.

All recommendations have now been completed for:

- **Children’s and Young Peoples Services (CYPS) - Unannounced Inspection of Child Protection by OFSTED**  
The actions identified from the Ofsted inspection to raise awareness of and requirements in respect of managing private fostering arrangements are complete. Raising awareness with staff and partners continues
  - Education and Welfare Officers and Managers have received bespoke training.
  - Designated Safeguarding leads from all Rotherham schools and School Governors have received a presentation on Private Fostering.
- **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.  
The responsibility for the provision of this service now resides with The Rotherham Foundation Trust (TRFT) Maternity Service who are continuing the work started by RMBC to address the contributing factors to the reduction in breastfeeding rates.

## **Analysis of outstanding recommendations**

Progress against all outstanding audit and inspection recommendations of council services are monitored by Performance & Quality Teams. Currently there is 1 recommendation which needs addressing. This is being progressed and monitored within the Directorate.

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

Inspection undertaken in March 2012.

Only one action remains outstanding 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. This is scheduled for completion by the end of October 2014.

## **New Inspection Reports received**

There has been 1 new inspection since the last report:

### **Adult Social Care – Report on the Registered CQC Services 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 5 services (from 8) inspected so far 1 (Netherfield Court) has been found non-compliant in one area (with a minor impact on service users).

#### **1. Netherfield Court**

Inspection undertaken on 17<sup>th</sup> July 2014 by the CQC

An inspection of the Councils 'Netherfield Court Intermediate Care Service' in July, 2014 resulted in one area of minor non-compliance regarding Infection control and cleanliness. Actions have been completed as per the recommendations made and a re-inspection was undertaken on the 2 September which is currently awaiting an outcome but expected to be judged as compliant.

### **Lord Hardy Court – New Inspection Regime Pilot**

Inspection undertaken on 15<sup>th</sup> August by the CQC.

This inspection was carried out as part of the new inspection regime Wave 2 pilot. CQC will be implementing the new regime nationally on 1<sup>st</sup> October, Lord Hardy Court was identified to inspected as part of the pilot. The inspection framework provides a much tougher test for registered adult social care service. Lord Hardy Court was visited by three inspectors, including an 'expert by experience' for the full day. The service is awaiting a rating from the inspection however verbal feedback given on the day by CQC was positive.

## **Forthcoming Inspections**

### **OFSTED Single Inspection 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.

Following the publication of the independent inquiry into historical cases of child sexual exploitation in Rotherham, RMBC has received confirmation from the Department for Education of an early Ofsted Inspection. This could be as early as 16 September.

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.

As at the 4 September, 27 Authorities had been inspected under the new framework and received the following judgements:

<b>Good</b>	Derbyshire, Essex, East Sussex, Hartlepool, Staffordshire, Hampshire, North Yorkshire, Cambridgeshire
<b>Requires Improvement</b>	Bolton, Hillingdon, Hounslow, Sheffield, Bradford, Bexley, Nottingham, Swindon, Barking and Dagenham, Hereford, Bournemouth, Liverpool, Haringey, Newham, Barnsley
<b>Inadequate</b>	Coventry, Slough, Knowsley
<b>Awaiting Judgement</b>	Southampton (Awaiting publication of Re-inspection)

**There are no authorities who have received an Outstanding judgement.**

### **Potential Forthcoming Inspections**

#### **New – Ofsted Multi-Agency Inspection**

Ofsted along with CQC, Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) and Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Prisons (HMIP) will begin inspecting under the new joint framework from April 2015 in relation to the support provided to vulnerable children and young people from all agencies. This will run in parallel with the single agency (Ofsted) framework and authorities who have not yet been inspected under the current framework could receive either of the two.

### **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. Currently 74.7% of all schools (*Nursery, Primary, Secondary, Special & PRU*) are judged by OFSTED as good or better, this compares with 73.1% in 2013 and 64.2% in 2012. Nationally it appears that there has been an overall increase of 2% from 78% (31.08.13) to 80% (31.03.14) in schools judged good or better. Our 10 deprived neighbourhood schools are judged as 80% good or better..

OFSTED now also inspect School Improvement Services to assess the quality of support they provide to schools in the local area. Rotherham were part of the pilot for this but as yet have not received a full inspection under this new framework.

### **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. As of 30<sup>th</sup> July, 2014 of the 438 Ofsted regulated services that are under CYPS, 79.7% were assessed as Good or better.

### **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

#### **Contact Names:**

Sue Wilson, Performance and Quality Manager, ext 22511,  
[sue-cyps.wilson@rotherham.gov.uk](mailto:sue-cyps.wilson@rotherham.gov.uk)

Michelle Hill, Performance and Improvement Officer, ext. 334255,  
[michelle.hill@rotherham.gov.uk](mailto:michelle.hill@rotherham.gov.uk)

## Summary of Recommendations from “Active” Inspection & Audit action plans

With summary of progression against recommendations since the last report.

Inspection / Review (date)	External Assessor	Number of recommendations	Implemented at last report	Implemented since last report	Still outstanding	Overall Completion Date for Recommendations	STATUS
Public Health							
Addressing Health Inequalities (January 09)	AC	10	9	1	0	Complete	Responsibility transferred to TRFT
Neighbourhoods and Adults Services							
Adult Social Care – Inspection of Netherfield Court Intermediate Care Service	CQC	1	0	1	0	Aug 14	Complete
Children and Young Peoples Services							
Thematic inspection of disability services (March 12)	Ofsted	11	10	0	1	Nov 14	On-going
Unannounced inspection of child protection (July 12)	Ofsted	13	12	1	0	Aug 2014	Complete
<b>Total Recommendations in “Active” Inspection &amp; Audit action plans</b>		<b>35</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>		