

## **Hull Safeguarding Children Board – Press Statement**

The Hull Safeguarding Children Board has welcomed the findings of an inspection, led by Ofsted, which has concluded that it 'requires improvement'.

The Hull Safeguarding Children Board (HSCB), and local partner agencies, were part of an integrated inspection by OFSTED, HMIC, HMIP and CQC of services to children in need of help and protection, looked after children and care leavers, and of the effectiveness of the Board itself.

Paul Dyson, Hull Safeguarding Children Board (HSCB) Independent Chair, said:

“We welcomed the opportunity presented by the pilot for a deeper scrutiny of the Board by the four inspectorates and we are pleased that the report describes an improving Board and one which meets all statutory requirements.

“The Hull Safeguarding Children Board is determined to become ‘good’ (or better) in all aspects of our work and we are confident that this inspection outcome and feedback provides a helpful springboard towards achieving that ambition.

The report describes a range of functions which the Board undertakes well, including our work on multi-agency policies and procedures, safeguarding children training, serious case reviews and reviews of child deaths.

The report also confirms a number of aspects of our work, identified in our own Annual Report 2014/15, which we acknowledge need to be improved further before they can be assessed as ‘good’. These include a need to:

- continue to strengthen coordinated action in relation to children who go missing and children at risk of sexual exploitation;
- ensure that all partners provide the Board with comprehensive performance information, so that the Board can consistently help them to improve;
- ensure that the views and experiences of children, young people and families are more consistently used by the Board to help improve local services.

The inspectorates found that some progress is already being made in respect of each of these.”

**-ENDS-**

### **Notes for Editors**

Currently, Local Safeguarding Children Boards (LSCBs) are reviewed by Ofsted as part of a single inspection of local authority services. This pilot

integrated inspection, with four inspectorates, took place between 17 November and 10 December.

1. The acronyms stand for: Ofsted (Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills); HMIC (Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary); HMIP (Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Probation); CQC (The Care Quality Commission)
2. The Children Act 2004 requires each local authority to establish a Local Safeguarding Children Board for their area and specifies the organisations and individuals that should be represented on the LSCB.
3. The statutory objectives of LSCBs are to:
  - a. Coordinate what is done by each person or body represented on the Board for the purposes of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children; and
  - b. Ensure the effectiveness of what is done by each such person or body for those purposes.
4. The Hull Safeguarding Children Board is made up of senior representatives of Hull City Council (including Housing & Adult Social Care), Humberside Police, National Probation Service (Humberside), Community Rehabilitation Company, NHS Hull Clinical Commissioning Group, City Health Care Partnership, Hull and East Yorkshire Hospitals Trust, Humber NHS Trust, local Primary, Secondary and Special Schools, the Voluntary and Community Sector.
5. The HSCB is independently chaired. It also has one Lay member (one lay position currently vacant). The local authority Lead Member (Portfolio Holder for Learning, Skills and Safeguarding Children) is also a member of the Board.