

To the Chair and Members of the AUDIT COMMITTEE

**REVIEW OF PROGRESS IN IMPLEMENTING EXTERNAL INSPECTION
RECOMMENDATIONS**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. This report provides an update on the report presented to the Audit Committee meeting in July 2014, about progress made in implementing external inspection recommendations with a focus upon Children and Young People's Services.
2. In the last few months the Council's Governance Group has been putting in place arrangements for identifying and beginning, corporately, to monitor progress in implementing all external inspection recommendations that have been undertaken since 2010.
3. This report now reflects the Council's progress against external recommendations across the whole authority in terms of:
 - a) The number of external inspections broken down by directorate; and
 - b) The number of recommendations that have been completed or are outstanding for each inspection.
4. It does not include progress against external inspection recommendations made in respect of St Leger Homes; schools; or adult and children's care units not controlled by the authority.
5. Since 2010 the council received 158 recommendations from 55 external inspections. 114 of the recommendations have been completed, 23 are in progress and on time and 16 are in progress but out of the recommended timescale. Updates have not been provided for 5 of the recommendations at the time this report was produced.
6. It is expected that in due course a mechanism will be developed to provide assurance to Audit Committee that recommendations have been completed. Additional information will also be presented on the methods for monitoring the work ongoing to address external inspection recommendations (via action plans etc.), together with details of the horizon scanning undertaken to identify any external inspections that should be undertaken in the future.

RECOMMENDATIONS

7. The Audit Committee is asked to:
 - a) Note the updated position in respect of progress on external and inspection recommendations in Appendix A; and
 - b) Agree to the presentation of a further report from Internal Audit once they have validated the information provided and reviewed the governance arrangements currently in place.

BACKGROUND

8. This report provides the Audit Committee with information on the outcomes from external and inspection work and allows the Committee to discharge its responsibility for monitoring external audit and inspection activity.
9. The position on the recommendations is summarised in the table in Appendix A.
10. It should be noted that this analysis excludes St Leger Homes; schools; or adult or children's care units that are not controlled by the authority. The Council is also subject to inspections where recommendations are not issued as part of the process, these have not been included in this report.

IMPACT ON THE COUNCIL'S KEY OUTCOMES

11. Effective implementation of external inspection recommendations provides evidence that the Council is able to respond to external challenge in a timely manner and is committed to continuous improvement. Monitoring of external inspection recommendations adds value to the organisation through systematic, disciplined approach to evaluate and improve the effectiveness of the Council's services. The work undertaken to monitor our external inspection recommendations improves and strengthens governance arrangements within the Council and in some cases those with our partners.

RISKS AND ASSUMPTIONS

12. The implementation of external audit recommendations is a response to identified risks and hence is an effective risk management action.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

13. There are no legal implications from this report although some of the recommendations may carry their own legal implications detailed within the originating report

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

14. There are no specific costs arising from this report.

HUMAN RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS

15. There are no specific Human Resources implications arising from this report.

TECHNOLOGY IMPLICATIONS

16. There are no specific technology implications arising from this report.

EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

17. The Council has a legal obligation under the Public Sector Equality Duty to consider how different people will be affected by their activity and service. Equalities and Due Regard issues will be considered as part of the individual action plans developed to address external inspection recommendations and as a result a Due Regard statement has not been completed for this process.

CONSULTATION

18. There is consultation with managers at the outset, throughout and at the conclusion of individual inspections in order to ensure that the work undertaken and findings are relevant to the risks identified and that they are accurate.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

19. Audit and Inspection Reports from 2010.

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APPENDIX A

Inspection and Date	Judgement	Number of Recs	Fully Implemented	Part implemented/ In progress	In progress but late – Aug 15
Corporate Reports					
Information Commissioners Office Consensual Audit	Reasonable Assurance	34	34	0	0
Children & Young Peoples Service					
Local Authority Arrangements for Supporting School Improvement	No rating	6	1	5	0
Inspection of Safeguarding and Looked After Children (2011) (*there were 12 recommendations but 11 have transferred to the Children’s Trust)	No rating	1	0	0	1
Lord Carlile (*there were 24 recommendations but 19 have transferred to the Children’s Trust)	No rating	5	4	0	1
Fostering Service (2010) (*there were 11 recommendations and 11 have transferred to the Children’s Trust)	No rating	0			
Adoption Service (2011) (*there were 9 recommendations and 9 have transferred to the Children’s Trust)	No rating	0			
Inspection of Local Authority Arrangements for the Protection of Children (*there were 18 recommendations and 18 have transferred to the Children’s Trust)	No rating	0			
Intake Children’s Centre (2010)	Good	2			
Balby Children’s Centre (2010)	Good	2	1	0	1
Adwick Children’s Centre (2010)	Satisfactory	3	2	0	1
Rossington Children’s Centre (2011)	Good	3	3	0	0
Denaby Children’s Centre (2011)	Good	3	3	0	0
Bentley Children’s Centre (2011)	Good	2	1	0	1
Stainforth Children’s Centre (2011)	Satisfactory	3	2	0	1
Mexborough Children’s Centre (2011)	Good	3	3	0	0
Edlington Children’s Centre (2011)	Satisfactory	4	4	0	0

Inspection and Date	Judgement	Number of Recs	Fully Implemented	Part implemented/ In progress	In progress but late – Aug 15
Cantley & Bessacarr Children's Centre (2012)	Satisfactory	3			
Askern Children's Centre (2012)	Good	3	2	0	1
Wheatley Children's Centre (2012)	Good	3	3	0	0
Thorne Children's Centre (2012)	Satisfactory	2	0	0	2
Armthorpe Children's Centre (2012)	Outstanding	2	2	0	0
Beak Children's Centre (2012)	Outstanding	1	0	0	1
Central Children's Centre (2012)	Good	2	1	0	1
Dunscroft Children's Centre (2012)	Good	2	0	0	2
GNR Children's Centre (2012)	Good	2	1	0	1
Sprotbrough Children's Centre (2012)	Satisfactory	5	3	0	2
Moorends Children's Centre (2015)	Inadequate	13	4	9	0
Regeneration and Environment					
SFA Funding for Adult, Family & Community Learning & Apprenticeships	Good - 2	4	0	4	0
Matrix – focus on Adult, Family & Community Learning Service	Retained Matrix Quality Mark	5	0	5	0
Food Standards Agency Audit (2012)	No rating	18	18	0	0
White Rose Way Phase 1 Article 13	Satisfied and Complete	n/a			
White Rose Way Phase 1 Article 16	Satisfied and Complete	n/a			
White Rose Way Phase 2 Article 13	Satisfied and Complete	n/a			
Holmes Market Project Engagement Visit	Satisfied and Complete	n/a			
Holmes Market Project Article 13	Satisfied and Complete	n/a			
White Rose Way Phase 1 + 2 Article 16	Satisfied and Complete	n/a			
White Rose Way Phase 2 ECA Visit	On Going Audit Process	n/a			
White Rose Way Phase 1 Article 16	Satisfied and Complete	n/a			

Inspection and Date	Judgement	Number of Recs	Fully Implemented	Part implemented/ In progress	In progress but late – Aug 15
White Rose Way Phase 2 Article 13	Satisfied and Complete	n/a			
White Rose Way Phase 1 + 2 Project Completion	Satisfied and Complete	n/a			
Holmes Market Project Procurement Check	Satisfied and Complete	n/a			
White Rose Way Phase 1 + 2 Procurement Check	Satisfied and Complete	n/a			
White Rose Way Phase 1 + 2 Closure Audit	On Going Audit Process	n/a			
South Yorkshire Sector Growth Enhancement Programme	No further action	2	2	0	0
Doncaster CCQ Enabling Infrastructure - Article 13	Satisfied & Complete	n/a			
Doncaster CCQ Enabling Infrastructure - Enhanced Article 13	Satisfied & Complete	n/a			
Doncaster CCQ Enabling Infrastructure - Enhanced Article 13 Review	Satisfied & Complete	n/a			
Doncaster CCQ Enabling Infrastructure - Article 16	Satisfied & Complete	n/a			
Doncaster CCQ Enabling Infrastructure - Final Progress & Verification	Satisfied & Complete	n/a			
Doncaster CCQ Enabling Infrastructure - ECA Visit	Satisfied in the main. Now Complete	n/a			
Information Commissioner inspection	No rating	8	8	0	0
National Measurement Office Audit	No rating	1	1	0	0
Measuring Instruments Directive	No rating	6	6	0	0
DVLA Vehicle Keeper Service Audit	Pass	1	1	0	0
Adults, Health and Well being					
NONE					
Finance and Corporate Services					
Regulation of Investigatory Powers Acts (R.I.P.A)		4	4	0	0
Total Recommendations		158	114	23	16