

SCRUTINY REPORT



MEETING:	Overview and Scrutiny
DATE:	11 January 2017
SUBJECT:	Ofsted Action Plan
REPORT FROM:	Jackie Gower Assistant Director Social Care and Safeguarding
CONTACT OFFICER:	Jackie Gower

1.0 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 In 2016 Bury Children's Services were subject of an Ofsted Inspection of services for children in need of help and protection, children looked after and care leavers (22 February – 17 March 2016).
- 1.2 The inspection report was published 16 May 2016. The overall judgement of effectiveness was that children's services in Bury require improvement to be good.
 - i) Services to children who need help and protection were 'Good'.
 - ii) Services to children looked after and achieving permanence 'Require Improvement'. (Adoption services were 'Good'; Experiences and Progress of Care Leavers - Require Improvement).
 - iii) Leadership, management and governance was Good
- 1.3 Ofsted made 11 recommendations as to areas for development. These were predominantly in respect of practice and services for looked after children and care leavers. An action plan was put in place in June/July 2016. Ofsted will undertake a follow up visit to assess progress against the action plan sometime in the spring 2017.
- 1.4. There has been positive progress against the action plan. The Council has supported progress enabling recruitment to vacant posts, agreeing additional capacity where necessary and supporting an 'invest to save' proposal to progress the redesign of services to care leavers. It is anticipated that the action plan will be complete by April 2017 and thereafter the quality of services to 'looked after' children and care leavers will be the subject of monitoring and routine scrutiny by the Strategic Lead (Performance and Quality), through the monthly performance monitoring meetings chaired by the DCS and by the Corporate Parenting Board

2.0 ISSUES

N/A

3.0 CONCLUSION

The committee are asked to note the progress against the Ofsted Action Plan.

List of Background Papers:-

Ofsted Action Plan – January 2017

Contact Details:-

Jackie Gower
Assistant Director (Safeguarding and Social Care)