

## **CABINET – 16 SEPTEMBER 2014**

### **Ofsted Inspection of Services for Children in Need of Help and Protection, Children Looked After and Care Leavers**

#### **Report of the Director for Children's Services**

#### **Introduction**

1. In May 2014 Ofsted undertook a comprehensive inspection of Oxfordshire County Council's provision for children in need of help and protection, children looked after and care leavers.
2. This was a very thorough and wide-ranging inspection which lasted some four weeks. Over that time the inspectors looked at about 180 individual cases across all areas of our work. The inspectors observed dozens of practice meetings, met colleagues responsible for delivering our services, 27 young people, 11 parents and 2 carers as well as representatives of a significant number of partner organisations.
3. The outcome of the inspection was published on 30 June 2014 and the report was subject to a presentation to the full Council on 01 July .
4. The outcome of the inspection was that services were judged to be good in all areas.
5. As with all inspections however, some areas were identified by Ofsted as requiring change or improvement .
6. The Action Plan (see Annex) has been prepared with staff and key partners. The plan details those areas identified by Ofsted as requiring action , the actions to be taken in response to them and the time by which they will be completed.
7. As part of our reporting arrangements we are required to report back to Ofsted, within 70 days of the publication date (ie on or before 6 October 2014), how we intend, through our action plan, to address the issues raised.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

8. Cabinet is Recommended to:
  - (a) approve the Action Plan for submission to Ofsted; and
  - (b) request the Performance Scrutiny Committee to undertake a 6 monthly review of progress.

JIM LEIVERS  
Director of Children's Services  
27 August 2014

Contact Officer:  
Lucy Butler, Deputy Director Children's Social Care & YOS; Tel: 01865 815165