

Ofsted Update	South East Performance Group Meeting
Date	15 December 2016
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Please cascade this information within your local authority.

(1) Single Inspection Framework (SIF) Inspections

- The following SIF reports have been published recently:
 - September 2016** – [City of London](#), [Hackney](#), [Wakefield](#), [Wirral](#)
 - November 2016** – [Birmingham](#), [Kirklees](#), [Milton Keynes](#), [Redbridge](#)
 - December 2016** – [Havering](#), [Tameside](#)
- The forthcoming SIF notification dates are:
 - 16 January
 - 23 January
 - 27 February
 - 6 March
 - 24 April
 - 2 May
 - 12 June
 - 19 June
 - 10 July
- The SIF inspection programme is due to be completed by December 2017. To date 115 local authorities have been inspected under the SIF framework and 113 have been published.
- **Strengthening the protection of disabled children**
 - In our [Social care annual report](#), published in June 2016, we said that the protection of disabled children would be a key focus point for Ofsted in the coming year.
 - The protection of disabled children is already within the scope of the Single Inspection Framework (SIF) and we will continue to highlight the strengths and weaknesses of local practice in our reports.
 - Since September 2016, inspectors are paying more attention to how effectively the requirements of disabled children in need of protection are being met. Specifically, inspectors are looking to see what action has been taken by Local Safeguarding Children Boards (LSCBs) on the recommendations set out in our 2012 thematic report, [Protecting disabled children](#). From September 2016, reports of LSCB reviews will usually include an evaluation of this action.
- **SIF Data Annex and Adoption Timeliness tool**

Both have been shared with you recently. We hope to provide an updated version in the new year. If you have any queries please contact Judith.swindell@ofsted.gov.uk

▪ **Monitoring and re-inspection of LA Children's Services Judged Inadequate under the SIF**

- *Monitoring and re-inspecting local authority children's services judged inadequate: guidance for inspectors*, was published on 12 August 2016 and can be accessed [here](#).
- The SIF framework document has been amended to cover re-inspection
- Monitoring letters are published by Ofsted (apart from the first visit to each LA). Monitoring visits published recently:

September 2016: [Knowsley](#), [Doncaster](#), [Sunderland](#), [Buckinghamshire](#), [Surrey](#)

October 2016: [Lancashire](#), [Sandwell](#), [Leicester City](#), [Manchester](#)

November 2016: Darlington, Cumbria, Norfolk, Rotherham, Doncaster, Wandsworth

December 2016: Somerset, Slough, Sunderland, Lambeth, Coventry

(2) Joint Targeted Area Inspections (JTAI)

▪ **CSE and missing**

- The five inspection letters relating to the first deep dive theme of child sexual exploitation have been published and are available [here](#). A summary document was published on 29 September of the six inspections completed (including the pilot), [Time to listen – a joined up response to child sexual exploitation and missing children](#).

▪ **Domestic abuse**

- Since September 2016 the deep dive theme is children living with domestic abuse. Ofsted, CQC, HMIC and HMI probation will inspect six local authorities between now and March 2017 – the first two inspections have been completed: Salford, Lincolnshire and Wiltshire are published, and Hampshire completed.
- Guidance for the current deep dive (domestic abuse) was published on 10 August 2016. The guidance is made up of two key documents - an overarching framework and guidance document, with an additional guidance document that relates specifically to the 'deep dive' element only
[Joint inspection of arrangement and services for children in need of help and protection](#)
[Joint inspections of the response to children living with domestic abuse: September 2016 to March 2017](#)

▪ **Future planned deep dive themes**

- Our current plan is to change the deep dive theme after every six inspections. The next two themes will be:
 - children subject to neglect
 - children at risk of, and subject to, sexual abuse in the family.
- The decision to focus on these themes follows engagement with a range of stakeholders from across the sector, including representatives of agencies from the inspected bodies and children's representative groups. Considered together, these themes will provide an opportunity for the inspectorates to evaluate a significant range of the protective and preventative activity that local agencies undertake to keep children safe. A more targeted stakeholder group helped us to refine the scope and criteria for the theme of children living with domestic abuse.

- The guidance for the neglect deep dive will be published early April and the first inspection will be at the beginning of May.

(3) Ofsted Data Collections

▪ Fostering Datasets 2015-16

- SFR is currently being written
- SFR due to be published in February 2017.

▪ Fostering Datasets 2016-17

- The *draft* form including changes, additions and removals was released 30 September 2016.
- This can now be accessed [here](#).
- We will be looking for a small group of local authorities to test the new form and the error codes - if you would like to be part of this please contact: SocialCareData@ofsted.gov.uk

▪ Children's and non-children's homes lists

- These are sent out every month to local authority contacts.
- If your authority does not already receive this information, please contact enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk marking the subject of the email 'Attn. Thomas Mungovan: Children's Home List', and we will make arrangements to include your nominated person(s) in future. We will send the information to up to four separate contacts in each local authority. Please note this information must be shared in a secure manner, and therefore we can only send it to email addresses that are on the following systems: .gsi, .gsx, .gcsx or .csjm.net.

▪ ALB

- Though not an Ofsted data set, we have been working with the ALB to ensure more robust quality assurance in the quarterly collection form, so that errors will be identified prior to submission and can be corrected then. The format of the form has not been changed.

(4) Local area SEND inspection

- Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission (CQC) are jointly inspecting local areas to see how effectively they fulfil their responsibilities for children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities- the outcomes letters are being drafted.
- The framework was published 27 April 2016, [here](#) and the guidance [here](#).
- There is also an information leaflet which explains how Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission (CQC) jointly inspect local areas to see how effectively they fulfil their responsibilities for children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities [here](#).
- All local authorities will be inspected at least once during a five-year period.
- Notice will be five working days before the inspection and will take place during usual school term time. Inspections last five days.

- The aim of these joint inspections is to see all children and young people with SEND do well in education, be more independent, find employment and realise their full potential. They also focus on the contribution of health and care services to their well-being.
- Report will be by letter and judgements will be in a narrative form.
- There have been eight inspections in the summer term and 12 during the autumn term. 13 have been [published](#), so far.

Children's homes inspections

Placing children and young people in children's homes

- Sir Martin Narey's recent [independent review of children's residential care in England](#) recommended that 'commissioners should abandon blanket policies that rule out placements in homes which, essentially, are satisfactory'.
- Ofsted does not expect children and young people to be only placed in children's homes judged either good or outstanding. It is overly simplistic to think that decisions about where a child should live should be influenced solely by inspection judgments. We are clear that decisions about where children and young people should live are complex and should take into account a range of factors. We expect such decisions to be based on what is in the child's best interests, including their need to maintain contact with family and friends, to access the best schools and to access the services that they need to help them to progress and have positive experiences.

(5) Waltham Forest, Hackney and Ofsted collaborate on intelligence project

- A one year intelligence project started this month. We are working with Waltham Forest and Hackney local authorities to improve performance management.
- One of the initial outputs will be a tool using Ofsted Annex A data (child-level data provided by local authorities) in highly visual dashboards. This tool will be available to all local authorities and could support areas of work, including the single inspection framework (SIF), monitoring visits, SIF re-inspection, and joint targeted area inspections, as well as LA performance management generally.

(6) The Future of Social Care Inspection

- Feedback from the consultation on the future of social care inspection consultation which closed in mid-September 2016 is currently being reviewed. Headlines from emerging analysis will be publicised through DCS updates later in the autumn and at our regular engagement opportunities. The final report will be published in February 2017.
- Pilot inspections under the Social Care Common inspection framework (SCCIF) are ongoing. This relates to inspections of regulatory settings.
- Responses have also informed proposals for future inspections of local authority children's services (ILACS). Volunteers to participate in a series of pilot inspections of the new ILACS arrangements that will take place in 2017 are being sought. We hope that all DCSs will consider whether they are able to volunteer their participation in this stage of the development to ensure that the inspections from 2018 are fit for purpose and fully support local authorities in delivering good services for children and young people.

Social Care Data & Analysis Team, Data and Insight, Ofsted

- New ILACS arrangements include a menu of inspection types:
 - Full judgement
 - Short judgement
 - Modular
 - Full SIF or Post Monitoring SIF (for those who remain inadequate as at 1 January 2018)
 - Joint Targeted Area Inspection
 - LA Special Educational Needs and Disability inspections
 - Inspections will involve less time on site than current SIF for example. Many inspections will be one week only
 - Greater use of ongoing intelligence to decide where/when to inspect.
 - Greater focus on those requiring improvement.
 - Self-assessment process owned by the sector very likely to form part of new arrangements. Annual submission on a voluntary basis at an agreed time yet to be decided.
 - Pilot LA identified for a 'full judgement' inspection to take place in early 2017. More pilots planned throughout 2017.

(8) Publications

- Guidance: [Quarterly management information: Ofsted's children's homes inspection outcomes](#) - 15 September 2016
- [Serious incident notifications from local authority children's services 2015 to 2016](#) - 27 October 2016
- [Ofsted National Director of Social Care monthly commentary: November 2016](#) - 3 November 2016
- [Ofsted Annual Report 2015/16: education, early years and skills](#) : 1 December 2016 (next year's report will be December 2017/January 2018)
- [Social care questionnaire 2016](#): 24 November 2016

You can view the slide pack and accompanying data [here](#).