


Report to:	People Committee	Date:	6 December 2018
Report title:	Ofsted Focus Visit on the Protection of Vulnerable Adolescents - Progress Report		
Report from:	Nick Ireland, Acting Strategic Director of People Directorate		
Ward/Areas affected:	Borough Wide		
Chair of Committee/Lead Member:	Councillor Marian James		
Author(s)/Contact Number(s):	Jonathan Williams, Assistant Director Children's Social Care and Safeguarding - 020 8770 6534		
Corporate Plan Priorities:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keeping People Safe 		
Open/Exempt:	Open		
Signed:		Date:	15 November 2018

1. Summary

- 1.1 This report provides a progress update following Ofsted's focus visit on the Protection of Vulnerable Adolescents that took place in Sutton on 26 and 27 June 2018. See Appendix A for full report.

2. Recommendations

The People Committee is recommended to:

- 2.1 Note the progress made against the recommendations.

3. Background

- 3.1 A summary report on the findings of Ofsted's focus visit was presented by Jonathan Williams, Assistant Director Children's Services, to the People Committee on 27 September 2018. The Committee noted the findings and requested that a progress report against the three recommendations be presented to Committee in December 2018.

3.2 The three recommendations are listed below:

- Return home interviews are not consistently informing safety planning for children. Arrangements for children who live out of borough are not timely and the oversight of children who go missing is not sufficiently robust to ensure that all children are offered a return home interview.
- The assessment of risk is fragmented, which means that the wider context of harm in relation to gangs and criminal exploitation is not always well understood or sufficiently considered in safety planning.
- When children in care move home or are not in education, it takes too long for their educational needs to be met.

3.3 Senior managers across the People Directorate and the Commissioning Unit have met to take action against the recommendations. A delivery plan has been developed and good progress is being made. The delivery plan is outlined in Appendix B.

3.4 An update against the recommendations will also be provided to Ofsted at their scheduled annual engagement visit on 26 November 2018

4. Issues

4.1 Key progress from the Delivery Plan include:

- The development of a Multi Agency Complex Safeguarding Protocol is on track for its launch at the Local Safeguarding Children's Board in February 2019.
- A successful bid has been awarded to fund a new project "I'm Doing Me" tackling issues such as serious youth violence and permanent exclusions.
- A tracker has been developed to monitor education provision for looked after children
- Return Home Interviews for children who have been missing is being monitored fortnightly.

5. Options Considered

5.1 Not applicable: this report provides a progress update against the recommendations.

6. Impacts and Implications

Financial

6.1 There are no financial implications.

Legal

6.2 There are no legal implications.

7. Appendices and Background Documents

Appendix letter	Title
A	Ofsted Focused Visit to London Borough of Sutton Children's Services
B	Focus Visit Delivery Plan

Background documents
None

Audit Trail		
Version	Final	Date:15 November 2018
Consultation with other officers		
Finance	No	N/A
Legal	No	N/A
Equality Impact Assessment required?	No	N/A

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