

Please find a message below from Alison Botham and Anne Osborne

Dear Councillor

In January we had the first of our new round of monitoring visits from Ofsted. This focused on the MASH (including Targeted Services) and Single Assessment Teams.

The monitoring letter will be published today and the link is attached for your information. The letter sets out the shared concerns about the capacity within the service and the impact of high workloads on the quality of practice. During the visit some immediate actions were agreed and taken to address the capacity issues in the SAT service. Immediate consideration is also being given to how to further reduce workloads across the service. This will support staff in benefiting from the substantial professional development programme and training that is planned in the next few months. Enabling social workers to undertake purposeful direct work with children and their families that improves outcomes for them.

The letter sets out the areas where Ofsted recognise the improvements we have made; these include ensuring that child protection medicals are consistently considered and undertaken by trained paediatricians, and more consistent use of the signs of safety practice model. ...."inspectors met dedicated, skilled staff, both permanent and agency, who are committed to improving the quality of services for children"

We will continue to work with partners to achieve the improvements we need to make, so that we can all see the positive impact for the children and young people we work with. Thank you for your support and please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

<https://files.api.ofsted.gov.uk/v1/file/50053147>

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