



Report to the Children's Social Care and Learning Select Committee

Title:	Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Inspection
Committee date:	Tuesday 5 July 2016
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Purpose of Agenda Item

- The purpose of this report is to provide an overview to Select Committee on the SEND Local Area Inspection and to provide the Select Committee with an update on work currently being undertaken in preparation for the local area inspection
- This report is provided for **information** so that members are made aware of the SEND Local area inspection.

Background

The Department for Education asked Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission (CQC) to inspect local areas on their effectiveness in fulfilling their new statutory duties for children & young people with special educational needs and disability. (SEND).

Ofsted and the CQC have published the Framework and Handbook for the inspection process.

The proposed focus of the inspection is to assess:

- How effectively the local area identify children and young people who are disabled and/or have special education needs?

- How effectively the local area meets the needs and improve the outcomes of children and young people who are disabled and/or have special education needs?

These judgements are to be made about the performance of the local area since the implementation of the reforms in September 2014. **It is important to note that this is a local area inspection and not a local authority inspection.**

Proposed Inspection Arrangements

All local areas will be inspected, with an inspection interval of up to five years. Inspection teams will include an Ofsted, a CQC inspector and a local authority inspector. Inspectors will review available national data as part of their preparation including within area inspection outcomes from CQC and Ofsted

It is expected that local areas will know how effective they are and will be able to demonstrate this. The field work is likely to include discussions with elected members, key local area officers from health, education and social care, and meetings with leaders of early year's settings, schools and colleges and specialist services

Visits will be made to a range of providers and services. These visits will not inspect the provision but focus on their understanding and participation in meeting the area's responsibilities. Inspectors will look at children and young people's files to contribute to their evaluations.

Summary

The proposed SEND inspection of the local arrangements will inspect the provision for children and young people (0-25) with special education needs and disabilities. This new national inspection regime commenced in May 2016 to date three local authorities has been inspected.