

### **What You Need to Know**

This is an inspection of the local area arrangements and how leaders, managers and professionals work together to identify and respond to children at risk of or experiencing criminal exploitation and / or experiencing sexual exploitation. The agencies within scope of this inspection are the Police, Children's Social Care, Education and relevant Health services. Inspectors will evaluate:

- Responding to all forms of child criminal exploitation at the point of identification.
- Assessment, planning and decision-making in response to notifications and referrals of children at risk of criminal exploitation, or who have been criminally exploited.
- Protecting, supporting and caring for children who are at risk or have been harmed by criminal exploitation, including the support and care of children looked after and/or care leavers.
- Preventing child criminal exploitation, including through awareness-raising and use of disruption activity (Disruption involves strategies and tactics designed by the police and other safeguarding partners to reduce risks to vulnerable children and interrupt the activity of those who are seeking to exploit them).
- Identifying children at risk of sexual exploitation and the multi-agency response.
- How effectively the local partnership through its multi-agency safeguarding arrangements monitors, promotes, co-ordinates and evaluates the work of statutory partners.

The focus is on practice within the last six months.

Children's experiences will be evaluated against 20 criterion looking for strengths, areas for improvement and areas for priority action. The findings report for the local area will be narrative based not judgement based.

### **Who Will Undertake The Inspection (Under Section 20 - Children Act 2004)**

Inspectors from:

- Ofsted - three social care inspectors – one will be the lead inspector,
- Ofsted - one school's inspector
- Care Quality Commission (CQC) – two inspectors
- Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS) – two inspectors

### **Inspection Activity:**

Inspectors will be focusing on children's experiences and progress and will prioritise gathering evidence about direct practice with children and families.

Inspectors will:

- Undertake case sampling.
- Undertake case tracking (a more in-depth look at practice) and between 5 and 7 cases will be selected from performance and management information provided in advance of the on-site activity (week 3).
- Evaluate the quality and impact of audits undertaken locally.
- Interview practitioners, managers, leaders and stakeholders.
- Speak with children, young people and families.
- Meet with representatives of our multi-agency safeguarding arrangements (WSCP).
- Review documents, performance and management information.
- Observe practice and multi-agency meetings, e.g. ICPC, Strategy Meeting, Review Meetings, Multi-agency Panels etc.

## **Inspection Timeline**

### Week 1- Inspectors Off Site

- Notification usually on a Monday, 10 working days before the fieldwork begins
- Annex A information and other child level data is provided.
- Inspectors then advise of 20 cases for which additional information must be provided.
- Five to seven children's cases are selected by the Inspectors for local partners to audit on a single and multi-agency basis.

### Week 2 – Inspectors Off Site

- The local authority and partner agencies complete the audit of the five to seven cases selected, submit key documents for each case and share their findings with the inspectorate.
- Preparatory work for the on-site timetable begins.
- Additional performance and management information is provided to Inspectors by the local authority, the Police and relevant Health services.
- Inspectors may meet virtually with local leaders, staff and any stakeholders relevant to the scope of this inspection.

### Week 3 – Inspectors On-Site

- Fieldwork takes place Monday to Friday and inspection activity listed above is undertaken by inspectors.
- Inspection findings fed back to the local partnership on Friday.

### Weeks 4 and 5 – Inspectors Off Site

Ofsted draft the findings letter for the local partnership

### Weeks 6

Draft findings report sent to the local partnership on Friday of week 6 (15 working days after fieldwork).

### Weeks 7 and 8

Director of Children's Services has 9 working days to co-ordinate comments from the partner agencies as part of a factual accuracy check of the report. Comments are returned to inspectors by Thursday of week 8

### Week 10

Final findings report is sent to local partners on Monday of week 10 and this is an embargoed version until Friday of this week when the report is published and available to the public.