

<b>7 January 2020</b>		<b>ITEM: 6</b>
<b>Corporate Parenting Committee</b>		
<b>Ofsted Inspection of Local Authority Children's Services (ILACS)</b>		
<b>Wards and communities affected:</b> All	<b>Key Decision:</b> Non-Key	
<b>Report of:</b> Sheila Murphy, Assistant Director of Children's Services		
<b>Accountable Assistant Director:</b> Sheila Murphy, Assistant Director of Children's Services		
<b>Accountable Director:</b> Roger Harris, Corporate Director for Adults, Housing and Health and Interim Director for Children's Services		
<b>This report is Public</b>		

## **Executive Summary**

This report is to update Members of the Committee on Thurrock's outcome from the Ofsted ILACS inspection undertaken between 11<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2019.

### **1. Recommendation(s)**

#### **1.1 That the Members of the Committee are informed about Thurrock's outcome from the Ofsted ILACS.**

### **2. Introduction and Background**

#### **2.1 The ILACS inspections by Ofsted focus on the effectiveness of local authority children's services and arrangements in these four areas:**

- Impact of Leaders on social work practice with children and families
- The experiences and progress of children who need help and protection
- The experiences and progress of children in care and care leavers
- Overall effectiveness

Thurrock's children's social care last Ofsted inspection was in February 2016, when children's social care was judged to be 'requires improvement'. We were notified of the ILAC inspection on the 4<sup>th</sup> November, which is the off-site week. During this week we uploaded over 200 documents, produced audit

reports of case work and the Lead Inspector conducted some telephone interviews. The onsite weeks began on the 11<sup>th</sup> November and completed on the 22 November. During that period of time there were up to six Ofsted inspectors in the service. The inspectors came and sat alongside social workers and reviewed their cases directly with them. The inspectors looked at many cases in their 2 weeks of onsite work.

At the end of the Inspection Ofsted rated services as:

- Impact of Leaders on social work practice with children and families; **GOOD**
- The experiences and progress of children who need help and protection: **GOOD**
- The experiences and progress of children in care and care leavers: **GOOD**
- Overall effectiveness: **GOOD**

Please see the attached Ofsted report in full, which was published on the 20<sup>th</sup> December 2019.

### **3. Issues, Options and Analysis of Options**

3.1 Thurrock's Ofsted ILAC report is attached at Appendix 1.

### **4. Reasons for Recommendation**

4.1 Members of the Committee are aware of the outcome of the ILAC inspection, including the areas for development.

### **5. Consultation (including Overview and Scrutiny, if applicable)**

5.1 None

### **6. Impact on corporate policies, priorities, performance and community impact**

6.1 None

### **7. Implications**

#### **7.1 Financial**

Implications Verified by: **David May**  
**Strategic Lead Finance**

There are no financial Implications to this report.

## 7.2 Legal

Implications Verified by: **Judith Knight**  
**Strategic Lead Legal Services Safeguarding & Deputy Monitoring Officer**

There are no legal implications.

## 7.3 Diversity and Equality

Implications Verified by: **Natalie Smith**  
**Strategic Lead Community Development & Equalities**

No implications identified in this report.

## 7.4 Other implications (where significant – i.e. Staff, Health, Sustainability, Crime and Disorder, or Impact on Looked After Children)

- None

## 8. Background papers used in preparing the report (including their location on the Council's website or identification whether any are exempt or protected by copyright):

- None

## 9. Appendices to the report

Appendix 1 – Ofsted ILACS Report 11-22 November 2019

## Report Author:

Sheila Murphy  
Assistant Director