

## Audit Committee Action Sheet – actions from meeting held on 26 July 2021

Action number	Item/report	Action	Responsible officer(s)	Action taken / progress
7 (from June meeting)	17 – External Inspections of Council Services	Answer questions on SEN (5.9), milestones in (5.11) and children’s homes (7)	Ben Mosley	<p>89% of WSoA Milestones achieved in July 2021 Those not yet achieved underway and delay been agreed by the SEND improvement Board</p> <p>DfE feedback throughout the duration of the WSoA has been positive about progress made and the way partners are working together: “Despite the disruption caused by Covid-19 restrictions (with the first lockdown coinciding with the approval of the WSoA), the local area continues to make good progress in implementing improvements to the local SEND system”</p> <p>Strengths highlighted in July monitoring meeting: Strength of partnership Strength of leadership Much stronger emphasis on performance Good understanding of ourselves Parents: moved from being defensive to reaching out to parents Acknowledged and dealing with all issues</p> <p>Further updates can be provided by Alison Hurley and Ann James.</p>

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1	10 – Draft Statement of Accounts	The remuneration report shows 3 interim consultants with higher pay than the CEO. What did they do and how long were the contracts?	Denise Murray	A response was circulated to members via email on 17 September
2	12 – Corporate Risk Report	CRR9 (safeguarding) shows improvement recently but is historically poor. Is this a blip or positive trend?	Mike Pilcher	<p>This risk has changed over the last 18 months, reflecting the significant impact of the pandemic and restrictions in place to be able to manage this risk.</p> <p>During Q4 as lockdown restrictions ended the service were beginning to operate in a more normal way in terms of improved staff resilience and ability to visit children and families face to face. Although we could see some areas of demand rising and risk emerging and were responding to that.</p> <p>During Q1 the risk has now increased again as the system is very fragile and Business Continuity threatened/potential escalating risk to children with heightened levels of absence due to on-going infection and isolation measures. This meant we had to reinstate some of the flexibilities around visiting and focus on the highest risk/first order areas of child protection.</p> <p>The Q1 risk report shows the significant work and actions the service are taking to reduce the risk going forward.</p>

