

Dear Stakeholder

Re: Improving Herefordshire Children's Services – Stakeholder Engagement

Herefordshire Children's Services was recently inspected by the regulator, Ofsted, and judged to be inadequate. Full details of the Ofsted inspection report, published on 21 September 2022, can be found [here](#). This is deeply concerning and something the Council is fully committed to addressing, together with our multi-agency partners, so that local children, young people, their parents and carers receive a consistently good service that improves outcomes as quickly as possible. We are developing an Ofsted Improvement Action Plan to address the specific issues that have been identified.

To help us develop the Ofsted Improvement Action Plan we are hosting engagement events to collaborate with key stakeholders who are well placed to contribute. The engagement process will focus on the nine improvement areas identified by Ofsted, seek feedback about the Council's proposed improvement actions and clarify what stakeholders will do to support the improvement journey.

You have been identified as a stakeholder representing one of the local safeguarding partnership's key agencies or services and we are inviting you to engage and support this activity. A series of targeted engagement events have been scheduled for stakeholders to meet in groups with members of the Council. These events can be attended in person (face to face) or remotely (using virtual on line links).

We appreciate how busy everyone is, so we have tried to organise the engagement activity to be as time efficient and convenient for everyone as possible. Face to face events will be for no more than an hour and a half, and virtual events will be for no more than an hour. There is also an accompanying 'Survey Monkey' on-line feedback form and this can be found by clicking on the following link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/OfstedImprovementActionPlan>

We would like to invite you to attend one of our engagement events and the face to face and virtual events are set out below:

Group	Time/Date	Ticket Link	Type of meeting
Children's Workforce	3 rd Nov 22 10.30-12.00	Children's Workforce face to face session	Face to Face Plough Lane Hereford HR4 0LE
Police and Health Partners	4 th Nov 22 10.30-12.00	Police and Health Partners face to face session	Face to Face Plough Lane Hereford HR4 0LE
Education Partners (Eg, early years, Children's Centres, Schools (Primary, secondary, special schools), HE/Fe providers)	4 th Nov 22 12.30-14.00	Education Partners (Early years, schools, children centres, FE & HE) face to face session	Face to Face Plough Lane Hereford HR4 0LE
Voluntary Sector Partners	3 rd Nov 22 17.00-18.30	Voluntary Sector Partners face to face session	Face to Face Plough Lane Hereford HR4 0LE
Foster Carers and Parent Carer Representatives	4 th Nov 22 14.00-15.30	Foster Carers & Parent Carer Representative face to face session	Face to Face Plough Lane Hereford HR4 0LE

Group	Time/Date	Ticket Link	Type of meeting & Link
Children's Workforce	1 st Nov 22 15:00-16:00	Children's Workforce Virtual Session	Virtual Teams here to join the meeting
Police and Health Partners	3 rd Nov 22 12:30-13:30	Police and Health Virtual Session	Virtual Teams Click here to join the meeting
Education Partners (e.g. Early Years, Children's Centres, Schools (Primary, Secondary & Special schools), HE/FE providers)	3 rd Nov 22 14.00-15.00	Education Partners Virtual Session	Virtual Teams Click here to join the meeting
Voluntary Sector Partners	3 rd Nov 22 15.30-16.30	Voluntary Sector Partners Virtual Session	Virtual Teams Click here to join the meeting

Foster Carers and Parent Carer Representatives	2nd Nov 22 10:00-11:00	Foster Carers & Parent Carer Virtual Session	Virtual Teams Click here to join the meeting
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We are also engaging with young people who are members of 'Your Voice Matters' as well as young people participating in Care Leaver's Week. We recognise that care experienced children and young people may also feel comfortable feeding back their views, wishes and feelings through their foster carers and we are writing directly to our foster carers about this.

This period of engagement will conclude week commencing Monday 21 November 2022 in order that feedback can be incorporated into the final draft of the Ofsted Improvement Action Plan.

A member of Children's Services senior leadership team will facilitate the engagement events and we look forward to meeting with you then. Thank you in advance for your assistance with our improvement journey, it is very much appreciated.

Yours sincerely



Darryl Freeman
CORPORATE DIRECTOR CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE