

**OFSTED INSPECTIONS OF CHILDREN'S HOMES AND SHORT BREAK CENTRE
FOR DISABLED CHILDREN - OUTCOMES**

SUMMARY REPORT**Purpose of the Report**

1. The purpose of this report is to inform members of the Children and Young People's Scrutiny Committee of the outcomes of Ofsted inspections of Children's Homes and the Short break Centre for disabled children

Summary

2. Since July 2010 three children's homes and the short break centre have been inspected by Ofsted as part of their ongoing inspections in line with the requirements of the Care Standards Act 2000.
3. All the provision was found to be at least satisfactory (a sound provision) with the short break centre being judged as good (a strong provision). Ofsted found areas of strength in every setting.
4. Areas which were deemed as requiring action or where recommendations were made have been the subject of focused work with managers and staff in the Children's Homes. Links are in place with other Local authorities for sharing good practice around the inspection process.
5. Strategic work is currently taking place regarding the long term future plans for each home

Recommendation(s)

6. It is recommended that:-
 - (a) The members of the Scrutiny Committee are asked to note the contents of this report.

Murray Rose,
Director of Children's Services

Background Papers

None

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S17 Crime and Disorder	Effective arrangements for the provision of Children's Homes and Short break facilities may have an impact on Crime and disorder
Health and Well Being	Effective arrangements for the provision of Children's Homes and Short break facilities have a direct impact on health and well being
Sustainability	Not applicable
Diversity	This provision affects all groups and the short break provision is specifically for disabled children
Wards Affected	Those in which the Homes are located
Groups Affected	Children in Care, disabled children and their families
Budget and Policy Framework	No immediate impact
Efficiency	There are no implications for efficiency
Key Decision	No
Urgent Decision	No
One Darlington: Perfectly Placed	Child protection is linked to the 'Safer' theme of the Sustainable Community Strategy. The provision of a short break centre is linked to the 'Healthy' Darlington theme

MAIN REPORT

Information and Analysis

7. See full report attached as **Appendix 1**

Outcome of Consultation

Not Applicable