

15 November 2022

Re-visit of Somerset Local Area (the organisations responsible for delivering SEND Services in Somerset) from 28 November to 1 December 2022

Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission (CQC) will carry out jointly a re-visit of your local area following the previous inspection that took place between **9 March and 13 March 2020**.

The re-visit will evaluate how effectively leaders have addressed the areas of significant weaknesses detailed in the written statement of action (WSOA). The re-visit will be carried out in line with updated guidance about the return to Area SEND inspection, you can read this guidance here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/local-area-send-inspection-guidance-for-inspectors>

During the re-visit, Ofsted and CQC inspectors will be keen to speak to as many children and young people and their parents and carers as possible, specifically about the weaknesses identified in the WSOA. These meetings may take place online.

How can local children, young people, parents and carers contribute their views during this local area re-visit?

There are several ways in which children, young people, parents and carers can engage with the re-visit process and contribute their views.

The inspectors will gather the contributions of parents and carers through an online survey and a range of other methods.

1. Parents and carers who would like to take part in this survey can follow this internet link: <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/X610YU/> The survey will open at 12 noon on **Friday 18 November 2022** and close at 12 noon on **Friday 25 November 2022**. If you need help completing the survey, please contact the Somerset Parent Carer Forum.
2. Parents and carers can email their contributions to: Lasend.support@ofsted.gov.uk.
3. Parents and carers can contact the Somerset Parent Carer Forum to find out more about about how they can contribute their views during the local area re-visit: getinvolved@somersetparentcarerforum.org.uk 01458 259384 or 07543 680365.

Details about the local area SEND re-visit will be available on the Somerset SEND Local Offer website: <https://beta.somerset.gov.uk/education-and-families/the-local-offer/about-the-local-offer/somersets-plan-for-improving-send-services> and distributed through the local area's Integrated Care Board.

Information gathered during the re-visit

During this re-visit, inspectors may collect information about children and young people in the area. They may look at local area records, speak to local area officers and leaders at educational settings, and speak to children, young people and parents or carers. No names will be recorded, but some of the information collected may identify a particular child, young person or adult. Ofsted and the CQC will use this information to prepare their re-visit outcomes letter, and for the purposes set out in their privacy notices. No information will be published that identifies any individual in the outcomes letter.

If you wish to know more about how we use the information, please see our privacy notice relating to area SEND on our website. If you have any concerns about our use of personal data, please email informationrequest@ofsted.gov.uk and/or the CQC at information.access@cqc.org.uk.

Information on Ofsted's and the CQC's privacy notices is available on the links below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ofsted-privacy-notices/social-care-ofsted-privacy-notice#local-area-send-inspections>

<http://www.cqc.org.uk/about-us/our-policies/privacy-statement>

While we recognise that many parents and carers may have views on their experience that extend beyond the focus of the WSOA, we would like parents and carers to understand that the focus of the inspectors during the re-visit will only be the areas of significant weakness identified at the previous inspection. The re-visit team will consider how well leaders have addressed each of the areas of significant weakness detailed in the WSOA. We will not be able to follow up or comment upon individual cases.

You will find information on local areas' duties towards children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities on the Department for Education's website: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/send-guide-for-parents-and-carers>.

Yours sincerely

Pippa Jackson Maitland
His Majesty's Inspector