



**Children and Young People Overview  
and Scrutiny Committee  
8 December 2011**

**Report from the Director of  
Children and Families**

For information

Wards Affected:  
ALL

**Safeguarding and Looked After Children Service Inspection**

**1. Introduction**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the outcome of the Safeguarding and Looked After Children inspection which took place between 3-14 October 2011. The detail is contained within the attached full inspection report and the associated papers

**2. Detail**

- 2.1 There is a nationally established inspection regime for children's social care which whilst subject to regular change, operates on a rolling 3yr programme of inspection. The last inspection in Brent was a Joint Area Review in 2006. The current Safeguarding and Looked After Children inspection (SLAC) is the first since that date. It is also the last in the current format as they are being amended following recommendations from the Munro review.
- 2.2 The inspection provides two separate judgements, one for safeguarding and one for services to looked after children. The judgement scale runs from Outstanding to Inadequate. Brent was judged to be adequate for both which is the grade for 46% of Local Authorities for Safeguarding and 53% of authorities for looked after children, based on the most recent Ofsted report on "Local authority children's service inspections and outcomes".
- 2.3 Children were judged to be safe in Brent and thresholds for child protection intervention were judged to be appropriate. There were a number of recommendations included in the report which will now form the basis of an improvement plan.

**3. Conclusions**

- 3.1 Members are asked to note the contents of the report.
- 3.2 Officers from the Children and Families Department will attend the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee to provide a more detailed update and answer questions on the report.

**Background Papers**

1. Inspection of safeguarding and looked after children services. London Borough of Brent. Published by Ofsted 18 November 2011
2. PowerPoint presentation including information on grade descriptors.

**Contact Officer –**

Graham Genoni, Assistant Director Children's Social Care

Tel - 020 8937 4091

Email – [graham.genoni@brent.gov.uk](mailto:graham.genoni@brent.gov.uk)