

## North Yorkshire County Council – Inspection of child protection

**1-10 October 2012**

### Summary report for children and young people

The purpose of the inspection is to look at how well the council and other organisations help and protect children and young people to be safe from harm and to be well cared for.

Overall we rated North Yorkshire County Council as **adequate** for how effective child protection services are. All of our grades are explained in the table below:

Outstanding	A service that is significantly better than required at keeping children and young people safe
Good	A service that is better than required at keeping children and young people safe
Adequate	A service that is doing what is required to keep children and young people safe
Inadequate	A service that is not doing what is required to keep children and young people safe

Here is a summary of the things we found at the inspection that were generally **adequate or good** and the things we told the Director:

The people who run North Yorkshire County Council are very clear about what they want to do to make life better for the children and young people in their area. They have put more money and staff into making sure they know which children need to be protected and kept safe.

Children and families who begin to find life difficult can be put in touch with a number of people and services who work together to help them and to stop the problems getting worse.

Any children who are at risk of harm are immediately protected by social workers and other services.

Children who need to be protected and kept safe are helped by people from a

number of services who regularly check on how well they are doing.

The North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children Board brings together the right councillors and experts to check that children and their families get the proper help when they need it.

Here is a summary of the things we found at the inspection that **needed improving** and the things we told the Director:

Children and young people's case records do not always show what children and young people think of the help they have been given. The local authority needs to make sure their views are set out clearly and they need to sort this out immediately.

Children and young people who are involved with social care should all have up to date plans which say clearly what needs to happen to make their lives better. These plans should be reviewed regularly and changed in line with what is happening in their life.

The people on the North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children Board should be very clear about how well services are working together to protect children and what improvements need to be made.

The council need to make sure that children and young people children and young people who want to attend meetings about them and their families should be helped to do this by specially trained people called advocates.

The council should check regularly on what children, young people and their families think of the help they are getting and use what has been said to make services better.

The full inspection report was published on 9 November 2012. The council will now prepare a plan to show how they will improve things. It will also say when they are going to talk to children and young people about what they are going to do and which groups they are going to talk to.

If you would like to look at the full inspection report you can find this at

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/local-authorities/north-yorkshire>