Consultation questionnaire

Joint targeted area inspections

This is a joint consultation by:

- Office for Standards in Education Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted)
- The Care Quality Commission (CQC)
- Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC)
- Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Probation (HMI Probation)

This questionnaire provides a summary of our proposals. It should be read alongside the full consultation document, which can be found here:

www.gov.uk/government/consultations/joint-targeted-area-inspections

We are seeking the widest possible range of views from those who have an interest in, or expertise relating to the protection of children. We particularly want to hear from people who work within local multi-agency arrangements to protect children.

The closing date for the consultation is 11 August 2015

If you would like a version of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231 or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk

Responding to this consultation

The consultation will be open until 11 August 2015.

There are three ways of completing and submitting your response:

- Complete the online questionnaire: www.surveymonkey.com/r/JTAI
- Download this document from: www.gov.uk/government/consultations/joint-targeted-area-inspections complete it on your computer and email it to socialcare@ofsted.gov.uk with the consultation name – Joint Targeted Area Inspection – in the subject line
- Print this document, complete it by hand and post it to

Social Care Policy Team Ofsted Aviation House 125 Kingsway London WC2B 6SE

This questionnaire provides a summary of our proposals. It should be read alongside the full consultation document, which can be found here:
www.gov.uk/government/consultations/joint-targeted-area-inspections

Confidentiality

The information you provide will be held by us. It will only be used for the purposes of consultation and research to help us to become more effective, shape policies and inform inspection practice.

We will treat your identity in confidence if you disclose it to us. However, we may publish an organisation's views.

Are you responding on behalf of an organisation or as an individual?

Individual response	
On behalf of an organisation, please s	pecify

Do you work in any of the following areas?				
Social care		Education		
Health services		Policing		
Probation services		Youth offending team		
Community rehabilitation company		For a charity		
For a voluntary sector organisation		Local safeguarding children board		
Prefer not to say		None of these		
Other (please tell us)				
I am a:				
local authority Director of Children's Services		local authority Chief Executive		
Local Safeguarding Children Board Chair		Other local authority director or assistant director		
practitioner in education		senior manager in education		
practitioner in social care		senior manager in social care		
General practitioner		other primary care professional		
Other practitioner in health		other senior manager in health		
Police and Crime Commissioner		Police Officer/staff – Child Protection Specialist role		
Police Officer/staff – other		Senior Police Manager		

YOT manager

CRC manager

NPS manager

YOT practitioner

CRC practitioner

NPS practitioner

The scope of the inspection

See paragraphs 11–14 of the consultation document for full details on this proposal.

Summary of the proposal

We propose that the joint targeted area inspections will have a tightly defined scope focusing on areas likely to add value for the local partnership. We will evaluate the effectiveness of multi-agency practice to protect children. We also want to include some flexibility within the scope so that we have in place a joint published framework that will allow us to respond, through a 'deep dive' aspect of the inspection, to specific areas of interest or concerns that may arise.

For the period between October 2015 and March 2016, we propose that the deep dive aspect of the inspections is focused on children and young people at risk of sexual exploitation and those missing from home, school or care.

- 1. Do you agree that the joint targeted area inspections can best help the local partnership to improve by focusing on:
 - the multi-agency response to all forms of abuse and neglect at the point of identification, referral/notification?

Yes	No	Don't know

■ the quality and impact of assessment and decision making in response to referrals?

Yes	No	Don't know

■ the leadership and management of this work and the effectiveness of the local safeguarding children board (LSCB) in these areas?

Yes	No	Don't know

2. Do you agree that the deep dive aspect of inspections between October 2015 and March 2016 should be the experiences of children at risk of sexual exploitation and those missing from home, school or care?

Yes	No	Don't know

Notice period and duration of fieldwork

See paragraphs 15–16 of the consultation document for full details on this proposal.

Summary of the proposal

The inspection fieldwork will be contained within one week (Monday to Friday). We propose to notify the local partnership eight working days before the start of the inspection. To reflect the joint nature of the inspection, we propose to contact the chair of the LSCB first. Each inspectorate will contact each agency's senior leader immediately after we notify the chair of the LSCB.

We will ask the local area to undertake a joint audit of a small number of children's cases during the short notice period. The cases will be associated with the deep dive aspect of the inspection.

Yes	No	Don't know
	o', please tell us who you t	

4. How many children's cases could the local partnership jointly audit in the eight working days before inspectors arrive in the local area?

5 cases or fewer	6 to 10 cases	More than 10 cases	None, it is not possible to jointly audit cases in eight days

Inspection methodology

See paragraphs 17–22 of the consultation document for full details on this proposal.

Summary of the proposal

Our experience of joint inspection tells us that setting up the inspection jointly is a vital first step to its smooth operation. We propose to use the short notice period to arrange a joint set-up meeting of all local senior agency leaders on the first day of the inspection. A representative of each of the inspectorates will attend to ensure that all parties have a shared understanding of how we will conduct the inspection

We also think joint feedback is the best way to help the local agencies understand what inspectors have found. We propose a single meeting of the joint inspection team and all local senior leaders on the final day of the inspection. The inspection team will set out the key findings, including strengths and areas for improvement/recommendations that will appear in the report and the evidence that supports the findings

5. Is it feasible (with eight days' notice) to organise a joint set-up meeting on the first day of the inspection that brings together all the inspectorates and all the local service leaders?

Yes, this is achievable with eight days' notice	No, this is not achievable with eight days' notice	Don't know

6. Is a joint feedback meeting that involves all inspectorates and service leaders the best way to help local agencies understand the findings of the inspection or should each local agency meet with the relevant Inspectorate separately so they can focus on their part of the service?

All local agencies should hear the findings together at a joint feedback meeting	Each local agency should receive feedback from the relevant inspectorate separately	Don't know

Reporting the inspection outcome

See paragraphs 23–27 of the consultation document for full details on this proposal.

Summary of the proposal

We propose to set out our inspection findings in a published letter to the chair of the LSCB and senior agency leaders responsible for the agencies inspected that make up the local partnership. The letter will set out the key strengths and recommendations for the partnership or a particular agency but will not make a graded judgement.

We are interested to hear whether we should present recommendations arising from joint inspections as a single list without any indication of priority or whether it would be more helpful to separate them out into 'areas for priority (or urgent) action' and 'areas for development/improvement'.

An area for priority or urgent action would be an indicator of concern about something the local area must do as opposed to an area for development, which the area can improve on. We think this is the most effective way to indicate concern in a report that does not have graded judgements.

We propose to send the draft report to the chair of the LSCB to co-ordinate a single factual accuracy response on behalf of the local partnership.

7. Should the report list the recommendations without any indication of priority or should it indicate which issues need urgent or priority attention?

Without prioritisation	Indicate which issues need priority/urgent action	Don't know

8. Should each agency and the chair of the LSCB be asked to comment on the factual accuracy of the draft report separately or should the chair of the LSCB be asked to coordinate a single joint response?

A single joint response coordinated by the chair of the LSCB	Separate responses from each agency and the chair of the LSCB	Don't know

Identifying areas of good or best practice

See paragraphs 29–30 of the consultation document for full details on this proposal.

Summary of the proposal

For each of the inspectorates, the most reliable source of information about practice is their most recent inspection report. We are very interested in your views on what factors we should consider when identifying areas demonstrating good practice we could inspect. This will help our decision making on selecting geographical areas to inspect as part of the programme so that we can share this good practice more widely.

9.	Please give us your views on how the inspectorates can identify areas where good or best practice exists.

Ofsted's proposals for a single agency inspection

See paragraphs 31–34 of the consultation document for full details on this proposal.

Summary of the proposal

Ofsted is confident that the scope of the joint targeted area inspections will provide effective assurance about decision making and assessment in child protection and will give the opportunity to look closer into a specific service or the experiences of a specific group of children and young people. Ofsted would therefore like to use the framework to evaluate local authority performance as a single agency exercise.

10. Could Ofsted use the joint targeted inspection model to undertake a single agency targeted area inspection of the local authority and LSCB where concerns are identified?

Yes, Ofsted could use the joint inspection model for single agency targeted area inspection	No, Ofsted should use their current full single inspection framework only which is specific to local authorities and LSCBs.	Don't know		

11.	If you have any further comments about Ofsted using the joint framework for single agency inspection please tell us what these are:

What did you think of this consultation?

Thank you for taking part in our consultation.

Please tell us what you thought of this consultation. Your views will help us to improve our consultations.

12. How did you hear about this consultation?								
☐ from Ofsted ☐ from CQC ☐ from HMI Constabulary ☐ from HMI Probation ☐ Other (please specify)								
	Agree	Neither agree or disagree	Disagree	Don't know				
I found the consultation information clear and easy to understand.								
I found the consultation easy to find.								
I had enough information about the consultation topic.								
I would take part in a future consultation.								
13. Is there anything you wou consultations? If so, pleas			do differently	/ for future				

Additional questions about you

Your answers to the following questions will help us to evaluate how successfully we are gathering views from all sections of society. We would like to assure you that all responses are anonymous and you do not have to answer every question.

Please tick the appropriate box.									
Gende	er								
Female	e		Male						
Age									
Under	14	14–18	19–24	25–34	35–44	45–54	55–64	65+ ⊠	
Ethnic origin (a) How would you describe your national group?									
	British or mixed British								
	English								
	Irish								
	Northern Irish								
	Scottish								
	Welsh								
	Other (specify if you wish)								

(b) How would you describe your ethnic	c group؛
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Asian		Mixed	ethnic ori	gin				
Bangladeshi				Asian and White				
Indian		Black African and White						
Pakistani				Black Ca	Black Caribbean and White			
Any other A	sian back	ground		Any oth	er mixed et	thnic bad	ckground	
(specify if y	ou wish)			(specify	(specify if you wish)			
Black				White				
African				Any White background (specify if you wish)				
Caribbean				Any otl	Any other ethnic background			
Any other Black background (specify if you wish)				Any oth	er backgrou	und (spe	ecify if you wish)	
Chinese								
Any Chinese	e backgro	und						
(specify if y	ou wish)							
Sexual orio		Lesbian		Gay			Bisexual	
Religion/belief								
Buddhist	☐ Muslim ☐							
Christian		Sikh						
Hindu		Any other, please state:						
Jewish None								
Do you consider yourself to be disabled? Yes No							7	
bo you consider yourself to be disabled.								