



Will Quince MP

Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Children and Families

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Councillor Denise Jeffrey
Wakefield Council
Town Hall
Wood Street
Wakefield
WF1 2HQ

13 January 2022

Dear Denise,

WAKEFIELD COUNCIL; INSPECTION OF LOCAL AUTHORITY CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE SERVICES (PUBLISHED 05/01/2022)

I was very pleased to receive Ofsted's inspection of Wakefield's children's services and would like to congratulate you on the improvements made since the last inspection in June 2018, which has led to children's services being rated 'Good' overall.

This is a considerable achievement over what has been a very challenging eighteen months, and testament to the strong practice from social workers. I was impressed to see comments about strong leadership, which has resulted in high quality practice, workforce stability, improved partnership working, and ultimately led to the 'Outstanding' sub-judgement for leadership.

I would like to thank the Council for all your hard work and transforming children's services in Wakefield. In recognition of the continuous improvement to children's services in Wakefield I am therefore content to revoke the statutory direction and end the intervention in Wakefield as of 13 January 2021.

Please continue to engage with your Regional Improvement Support Lead, Kate Gillan. I look forward to hearing about further progress made over the coming months and years.

I am copying this letter to Cllr Margaret Isherwood, Beate Wagner, Vicky Schofield, Andrew Balchin, Imran Ahmad Khan MP, Yvette Cooper MP, Jon Trickett MP and Andrea Jenkyns MP.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Will Quince". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line at the end of the last word.

Will Quince MP
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Children and Families