



# Update

## Joint Area Review: Managers Briefing No.4

1. The Self-Assessment has been sent: SMT members already have it. Please find it on <http://www.devonjar.org.uk/approach/packages/selfassessment.html>
2. Preparation for neighbourhood visits is progressing well: it will involve young people in taking the inspectors on walking tours, which will be a good start. More news later.
3. **Analysis Week is almost upon us. Please ensure you or another with service experience is available: we are anticipating that the inspectors will be very demanding in requests for further data, and it is important we can get it quickly. SMT and MIS Teams are on standby week beginning 22 May but we may need to come to a service or local manager directly. An SLG officer has been named as a contact for the inspectors each day.**
4. Please note below the Key Judgements to be pursued during fieldwork:

### **Being Healthy:**

- Action is taken to promote children and young people's mental health (1.4)
- The health needs of children and young people with learning difficulties and or disabilities are addressed (1.6)

### **Staying Safe:**

- The incidence of child abuse and neglect is minimised (2.3)
- Agencies collaborate to safeguard children according to current government guidance (2.4)

### **Enjoying and Achieving:**

- Children and young people who are looked after are helped to enjoy and achieve (3.7)

### **Making a Positive Contribution:**

- Children and young people are encouraged to participate in decision making and in supporting the community (4.3)

### **Economic Well Being:**

- Action is taken to ensure that 14-19 education and training is planned and delivered in a co-ordinated way and that education and training (16-19) is of good quality (5.3)

5. The inspectors have also indicated that the following will be the over-arching themes for the JAR:

**Focus on outcomes** – the inspection team will test out how well the authority and its partners focus on outcomes for children and young people and how they demonstrate impact.

**Clarity of purpose** – the inspection will look for evidence that clear priorities are set for children and young people services and **how consistently these are translated into action** in the different local areas.

**Analysis of need** – inspectors will judge how well the council and its partners assess need. What diversity issues are there in a county like Devon and how are these tackled?

**Prevention** – the review will explore the extent to which Devon has an appropriate balance of universal, targeted/preventive and specialist support services. How well services work together to provide coherent and integrated provision.

**Outcomes for vulnerable groups** – the review will evaluate how far children and young people with particular/complex needs are supported and achieve their full potential.

**Resources** – inspectors will judge how efficiently and effectively resources are used and staff deployed to achieve agreed objectives.

**Evaluating impact and managing performance** – the inspection will judge how well the council and its partners monitor, measure and review their work to ensure continuous improvement.

6. You should give particular thought to how your own area of work can give a good account of itself in respect of 5 and 6.

7. Please also ensure all your staff are fully prepared at this point by

- understanding what bringing together staff in the new CYPS means;
- being able to say what they are contributing to the 5 outcomes;
- understanding the Directorate's priorities to develop integrated service teams and explore new ways of working (see Business Plan and **wfs**).

8. SMT will shortly receive detailed guidance on interviews, discussions and focus groups. It is designed to support managers and other professionals in their preparation.

These groups are an important part of the JAR Inspection: in preparing for them it will be helpful and productive for you to consider their purpose and how Inspectors will use the results.

**In summary, advice is:**

- be well-armed with evidence and data;
- be positive in telling inspectors what is being achieved, while acknowledging difficulties and obstacles;

- be aware of the Directorate's priorities for improving outcomes.

In discussion with the inspectors, try to focus on outcomes for children and young people in answer to the following questions:

**What is your service doing ?**  
**Why are you doing it ?**  
**Who's been involved ?**  
**Is it working ?**  
**How do you know ?**

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