
Report To:	Social Work & Social Care Scrutiny Panel	Date:	14 May 2024
Report By:	Kate Rocks Chief Officer, Inverclyde Health and Social Care Partnership	Report No:	SWSCSP/14/2024/JH
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Subject:	Inspection of Inverclyde Fostering, Adoption and Continuing Care Services		

1.0 PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

1.1 For Decision For Information/Noting

1.2 The purpose of this report is to advise the Social Work and Social Care Scrutiny Panel that the Care Inspectorate have notified of their intention to inspect Adoption, Fostering and Continuing Care Services in Inverclyde. Inspection activity will take place over a four-week period from Monday 22nd April 2024.

The inspection methodology will refer to the Health and Social Care Standards and will be undertaken in line with the Quality Framework for Fostering, Adoption and Adult Placement Services (May 2021)¹ using quality indicators within the following key questions:

- Key Question 1: How well do we support children and young people's wellbeing?
- Key Question 5: How well is our care and support planned?

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 It is recommended that the Social Work and Social Care Scrutiny Panel:

- (a) Note the commencement of Inspection of Inverclyde Adoption, Fostering and Continuing Care Services.
- (b) Considers a future update following publication of the Inspection Report.

Kate Rocks
Chief Officer
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¹ [A quality framework for fostering and adoption and adult placement services May2021.pdf \(careinspectorate.com\)](https://www.careinspectorate.com/quality-framework-for-fostering-and-adoption-and-adult-placement-services-may2021.pdf)

3.0 BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

3.1 The Care Inspectorate has responsibility for undertaking continuous inspection of regulated social work and social care services. Inverclyde's fostering, adoption and continuing care services were last inspected in 2018. From this inspection, the service was graded as follows:

- Quality of care and support: very good.
- Quality of management and leadership: very good.

3.2 Since then, the Care Inspectorate has developed new approaches to scrutiny, with greater emphasis on experiences and outcomes, as well as a focus on supporting improvement in quality. This new inspection methodology will be applied in the next inspection of Inverclyde's fostering, adoption and continuing care services which will commence on 22 April 2024 until 17 May 2024.

3.3 Services will be inspected in line with the Quality Framework for Fostering, Adoption and Adult Placement Services and will consider the following quality indicators during the inspection:

3.4 Key Question 1: How well do we support children, young people's wellbeing?

- Children, young people, adults, and their care giver families experience compassion, dignity and respect.
- Children, young people and adults get the most out of life.
- Children, young people and adults' health and wellbeing benefits from the care and support they receive.
- Children, young people, adults and their care giver families get the service that is right for them.

3.5 Key Question 5: How well is our care and support planned?

- Assessment and care planning reflects the outcomes and wishes of the children, young people and adults.

3.6 Inspectors will review a range of evidence and sources of information, as indicated below:

- a sample of records of children, young people and adults will be read and evaluated.
- anonymised questionnaires have been sent out to people using the service, working in the service, stakeholders, and education and health professionals.
- inspectors will attend Fostering, Adoption and Continuing Care Review panels/reviews.
- conversations with selected individuals and professionals, including some of the people whose records they have reviewed and the staff groups that support them.
- attend any support groups taking place during the period of inspection.
- review policies and procedures relating to adoption, fostering and continuing care.
- care and support provision offered by the service.

4.0 PROPOSALS

4.1 In addition to reviewing case records and seeking the views of users of the service, staff and stakeholders, inspectors will also consider a range of documents including:

- service development/improvement plan
- policies and procedures
- quality assurance information.
- handbooks, training and support materials for foster carers and adopters

- examples of post adoption support, advocacy, health and education outcomes
- staff training, supervision and development records
- Panel business reports, minutes, Panel Member training and appraisals

4.2 Inspectors will review documents covering the last two years and will then seek to meet with families, children and young people to inform their final report, to be published later this year. The inspection team will advise the HSCP of the date of publication of the inspection report in due course.

4.3 Panel members may therefore wish to request a further report with information on the outcomes of the inspection report and subsequent improvement plan.

5.0 IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The table below shows whether risks and implications apply if the recommendation(s) is(are) agreed:

SUBJECT	YES	NO
Financial		x
Legal/Risk		x
Human Resources		x
Strategic (Partnership Plan/Council Plan)		x
Equalities, Fairer Scotland Duty & Children/Young People's Rights & Wellbeing		x
Environmental & Sustainability		x
Data Protection		x

5.2 Finance

One off Costs

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Years	Proposed Spend this Report	Virement From	Other Comments
N/A					

Annually Recurring Costs/ (Savings)

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact	Virement From (If Applicable)	Other Comments
N/A					

5.3 Legal/Risk

None.

5.4 Human Resources

None.

5.5 Strategic

None.

5.6 Equalities, Fairer Scotland Duty & Children/Young People

(a) Equalities

This report has been considered under the Corporate Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA) process with the following outcome:

	YES – Assessed as relevant and an EqIA is required.
X	NO – This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a substantive change to an existing policy, function or strategy. Therefore, assessed as not relevant and no EqIA is required. Provide any other relevant reasons why an EqIA is not necessary/screening statement.

(b) Fairer Scotland Duty

If this report affects or proposes any major strategic decision:-

Has there been active consideration of how this report's recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome?

	YES – A written statement showing how this report's recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome caused by socio-economic disadvantage has been completed.
X	NO – Assessed as not relevant under the Fairer Scotland Duty for the following reasons: Provide reasons why the report has been assessed as not relevant.

(c) Children and Young People

Has a Children's Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessment been carried out?

	YES – Assessed as relevant and a CRWIA is required.
X	NO – Assessed as not relevant as this report does not involve a new policy, function or strategy or recommends a substantive change to an existing policy, function or strategy which will have an impact on children's rights.

5.7 Environmental/Sustainability

Summarise any environmental / climate change impacts which relate to this report.

Has a Strategic Environmental Assessment been carried out?

	YES – assessed as relevant and a Strategic Environmental Assessment is required.
X	NO – This report does not propose or seek approval for a plan, policy, programme, strategy or document which is like to have significant environmental effects, if implemented.

5.8 Data Protection

Has a Data Protection Impact Assessment been carried out?

	YES – This report involves data processing which may result in a high risk to the rights and freedoms of individuals.
X	NO – Assessed as not relevant as this report does not involve data processing which may result in a high risk to the rights and freedoms of individuals.

6.0 CONSULTATION

6.1 None.

7.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

7.1 None.