

# Joint Area Review Update no 3



## Key Messages from this newsletter

Jar Briefings • How JAR links to other inspections • What's happening in Health

### Jar Briefings for frontline staff

**Half day briefings are being held around the county to update staff on a number of developments in children's services.**

Staff from all partner agencies, who work directly with children, young people or their families are invited to attend at one of seven venues, during March this year. Managers of these frontline workers are welcome too.

Anthony May, Acting Strategic Director for Children and Young People's Services, will be at some of the events, which are a good opportunity to meet colleagues from partner agencies, and find out what is happening in your area and other parts of Nottinghamshire.

The issues covered will include:

- Moving towards Integrated Locality Working
- Common Assessment Framework (CAF)
- Extended Services
- Children's Centres
- Children and Young People's Plan
- preparation for the Joint Area Review (JAR).

**Leaflets are being distributed to all partner agencies, and managers should have received a copy by email. If you have not received any information about these important training sessions please email**

**[emma.jenkinson@nottsc.gov.uk](mailto:emma.jenkinson@nottsc.gov.uk)**

### How the JAR links to other inspections

It is important to be aware that at the same time as the JAR inspection takes place there will be two further inspections across Nottinghamshire. One is to examine how the council is working corporately and with its partners to improve services and deliver improved outcomes for local people, this is called the Corporate Assessment. The other is to assess the youth service provision across the county, this is the Enhanced Youth Inspection.

Aligned to these inspections is the Youth Offending Team Inspection which takes place in April, and its findings feed into the

JAR. There has also been an inspection of the fostering service and one taking place of the adoption service. The teams involved in managing these inspections are working closely together in preparation.

There are a number of benefits by aligning these inspections; shared expertise ensures that more robust and reliable evidence is gathered to inform judgements. On-site inspection, interviews and feedback are co-ordinated and work in preparing people for the process is reduced.

## Case files latest

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the consultation on the list of 100 case files that will be sent to the Lead Inspector later this month.

It has not been possible to consult with all parties at this stage due to the time constraints around providing the information to Ofsted. However, once the hundred cases have been reduced by Ofsted to 10 cases plus 4 reserves, partners will be advised of those cases, as appropriate. These cases will be selected for detailed analysis and interviews with key staff and the child or young person.

If a case you are working on is chosen you will be invited, along with your colleagues from other agencies, to specific briefings to help you prepare for the interviews.

## What's happening in Health?

The JAR inspection of health organisations in Nottinghamshire will be led by the Healthcare Commission. The Healthcare Commission inspector will contribute to the investigations of all five key themes and may well lead on one of any additional lines of enquiry. However it is also clear that any or all of the inspectors may contribute to interviews of and visits to health staff.

Work is progressing on all aspects of the JAR preparation within all the NHS organisations within the County.

A range of briefings continue to all health staff across both community and hospital settings. Health staff are also encouraged to attend the Partnership briefings in March.

As the Nottinghamshire Children and Young People's Partnership begins its annual review of our Children's and Young People's Plan the plan is available on The PCT websites and Nottinghamshire County Council website. The Children and Young People's Plan is central to the way in which our partnership is developing so

please take a minute to go on-line and get up to date on the key themes.

**Sue Dryden** is the Health Lead on the JAR project team. If you have any other queries about the contribution the NHS organisations are making to the JAR please contact Sue on 0115 977 4832.

## Key Dates in 2008

**Please note. These dates have been updated and may be subject to further changes.**

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|----------------------|--|
| <b>January</b>       | Briefing pack issued by Ofsted requesting list of 100 'cases' of vulnerable children and young people.   |
| <b>3 March</b>       | Setup meeting for senior officers/members with the Lead Inspector for an outline of the key lines of enquiry for the inspection.   |
| <b>31 March</b>      | submission of CYPP review and Enhanced Youth Inspection self assessment.   |
| <b>21 - 25 April</b> | Analysis Week (inspectors onsite mid week to review documents and case files). At the end of this week the JAR team will confirm the programme for their fieldwork inspection. |
| <b>12 - 23 May</b>   | Fieldwork Weeks – inspectors undertake a range of evidence gathering activities around Nottinghamshire.  |
| <b>30 June</b>       | Draft Report sent to Director of Children's services who then has 10 days to make written comments.  |
| <b>4 July</b>        | Meetings with Director of Children's Services and members of the Partnership to discuss findings.  |
| <b>6 August</b>      | JAR findings form part of pre-publication report sent to Chief Executive of Nottinghamshire County Council.  |
| <b>9 September</b>   | Report is public and published on web sites.   |

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