**Ofsted Board**

**Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 21 November 2017**

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| Board members present:  Others present:  Observer:  Executive support:  Apologies: | Julius Weinberg, Chair  John Cridland CBE  Linda Farrant  John Hughes  James Kempton  Paul Snell CBE  Amanda Spielman, HMCI  Venessa Willms OBE  Louise Grainger, Director, Finance, Planning and Commercial  Sean Harford, National Director, Education  Eleanor Schooling, National Director, Social Care  Karen Shepperson, Director, People and Operations  Luke Tryl, Director, Corporate Strategy  For item 1 only:  Marnie Mather, Policy Administrator, Social Care Policy Team  Lisa Pascoe, Deputy Director, Social Care Inspection Policy and Development  For item 5 only:  Amy Finch, Head of Strategic Development  Paul Kett, Director General, Education Standards, Department for Education  Amelia Athwal, Executive Assistant to HMCI  Matthew Coffey, Chief Operating Officer |

**Summary of action points**

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| Relevant paper | Action | Owner |
| Strategic Risk Register | **87 –** update the Board on the workloads strategic risk at the next meeting. | Karen Shepperson |
| Strategic Risk Register | **88 –** to discuss how the Strategic Risk 9 should be reworked so that its title better reflects its description. | Chair and HMCI |
| Strategy evaluation metrics | **89 -** send detailed comments to the Director, Corporate Strategy directly | Board members |
| Research programme | **90 –** check the cost of the programme over two years. | Louise Grainger |

1. **Adolescents, and the inspection of provision for them?**
   1. The board noted the average age of children entering into care is 15.4 years old and that 1 in 3 children in care have high or very high mental health needs.
   2. The National Director, Social Care explained to the board about county line activity, where children are used to sell drugs on the borders between local authorities.
   3. The board discussed what happens when there are a number of organisations involved with a child and how information is effectively shared. The National Director, Social Care explained that information sharing has improved and that there are moves to make sure one organisation is lead. She reported that dentists have also expressed a desire to be included as they often have concerns about child neglect when carrying out routine check-ups.
2. **Welcome, apologies and declarations of interest**
   1. The Chair welcomed board members and attendees.
   2. The Chair noted apologies from Matthew Coffey, Chief Operating Officer.
   3. Board members confirmed that they had no new conflicts of interest.
3. **Minutes, matters arising, action log and forward look**
   1. The minutes were agreed without amendments.
   2. The board noted that since the last meeting, HMCI and the Chair had appeared before the Education Select Committee and commented that they had represented Ofsted very well.
   3. The board noted an amendment to action 83 in the action log.
4. **Strategic Risk Register**
   1. The board noted that following the last meeting, a further meeting was held to explore the People risk on workloads involving LF, VW and JH. The Director, People and Operations reported that the session had covered a number of contributory elements to the risk, and that work was being planned around the workforce model, inspection support and other areas. The board requested an update at the next meeting (Action 87). This should be done in the context of the planned actions for delivery of the corporate volumes, including the successful work the Regional Director, South East has piloted to approach inspection scheduling differently.
   2. The Director, Finance, Planning and Commercial noted the board’s concern that safeguarding does not appear as an individual strategic risk and explained that safeguarding is woven into all risks. However, the board agreed that Strategic Risk 9 should be reworked so that its title better reflects its description. The Chair and HMCI agreed to take this offline (Action 88).
5. **Strategy Update**
   1. The board noted the strategy update.
   2. The Director, Corporate Strategy reported that since the last meeting, the new directorate had been set up and was now bedding in.
   3. The board discussed the positive sector responses to the curriculum work. The Director, Corporate Strategy, reported that a very large amount of feedback had been received from the sector and it had been largely supportive. Feedback showed that Ofsted had hit on a live and relevant topic, illustrated by the fact that TES has received more unsolicited pieces responding to our commentary than on any other subject in the past decade.
   4. The board noted that the final report of the joint are targeted inspections of the response to children living with domestic abuse was published in September and received widespread, national coverage. The National Director, Social Care reported that the evidence for this report came from inspection and Ofsted worked with organisations working in this area. The board noted the positive impact this has had.
   5. The Director, Corporate Strategy reported that the recent meeting between Regional Directors and the Regional School Commissioners had been productive but that the roles needed clarification. The board noted that the relationship between RDs and RSCs was strong on the ground in some regions and the system would benefit from consistency in all areas.
   6. The Director General, Education Standards confirmed that as there is overlap between the roles of RDs and RSCs, the value for money issue this could present is part of active business planning discussions at the Department for Education.
   7. The National Director, Education updated the board on the lesson observation project, including the international research seminar.
6. **Strategy evaluation metrics**
   1. The board discussed the proposed data and information for each of the high level strategy metrics for evaluation and agreed to send detailed comments to the Director, Corporate Strategy directly (Action 89).
7. **Research programme**
   1. The board reviewed the research programme and asked what, if anything, Regional Directors would need to stop doing in order to carry out this programme. The Director, Finance, Planning and Commercial confirmed that analysis is being carried out to determine what activity is discretionary and what is not.
   2. The board asked the Director, Finance, Planning and Commercial to check the cost of the programme over 2 years. (Action 90).
8. **HMCI Update**
   1. The board noted HMCI’s update.
   2. HMCI reported that if the Supreme Court grants permission to appeal the Al-Hijrah ruling to the Association of Muslim Schools, Ofsted will consider whether it will cross-appeal.
   3. HMCI informed the board that a Deputy Director, Data and Insight has been appointed and, subject to receipt of formal acceptance, the name will be made public shortly. The post of Deputy Director, Schools had also been advertised, following the departure of Joanna Hall.
   4. The board noted that the annual report would be published in December.
9. **COO Update**
   1. The board noted the Chief Operating Officer’s update, as presented by the Director, People and Operations on behalf of the COO.
   2. The board noted that the results of the People Survey 2017 were very good, with an increase in the engagement level from last year. HMCI thanked the Director, People and Operations and COO for all they had done with the workforce to achieve these results and the board congratulated HMCI on the excellent results in her first year with Ofsted.
   3. The board welcomed the strategic financial review by Deloitte, which will support the corporate strategy.
10. **Education Update**
    1. The board noted the education update.
    2. The National Director, Education reported that the short inspection consultation had ended and that the reaction to proposals had been largely positive.
11. **Social Care Update (ILACS)**
    1. The National Director, Social Care talked through the new ILACS framework and the board noted the key elements.
    2. The board discussed ‘requires improvement to be good’. The National Director, Social Care clarified that this term is intended to reflect that there may be great variability within the myriad of services provided by that particular authority.
12. **Finance report (period 6)**
    1. The board noted the reported period 6 forecast underspend, the reported reasons for it, the further risks and opportunities that could further affect it, and the trend of actual and forecast expenditure against our profiled budget.
13. **Budget and Corporate Planning**
    1. The board noted the timeline for 2018-19 budget planning.
14. **Audit and Risk Assurance Committee Membership**
    1. The Chair sought approval from the board to co-opt an external member to the Audit and Risk Committee who can provide accountancy and finance expertise. The board agreed to this proposal, noting that the co-opted member would not be remunerated and would not have access to board papers, unless relevant to a particular item being considered by the Audit and Risk Committee.
15. **AOB**
    1. There was no other business.

**Forthcoming meetings:**

**Ofsted Board meeting**

16 January 2018, 10.00am – 1.00pm

Room 802, Aviation House, London