



**Rt Hon Ed Balls MP**  
Secretary of State

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Cllr Claire Kober  
Leader of Haringey Council  
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July 2009

Dear

Claire

## **INSPECTION OF PROGRESS IN HARINGEY SAFEGUARDING SERVICES**

Thank you for meeting the Children's Minister and me to discuss Ofsted's review of progress. Following receipt of that report, on Wednesday I met HMCI Christine Gilbert with the Lead Inspector and subsequently Graham Badman, independent chair of the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB). Following our meeting, Christine Gilbert wrote to me and I enclose her letter.

When, last December, I acted to address the serious failings identified by Ofsted in the management, oversight and practice of safeguarding services in Haringey, I also asked Ofsted to prepare a further report by the end of June to provide me with early reassurance that progress was being made.

The report which Ofsted has now submitted, on behalf of the joint Inspectorates, identifies important ongoing challenges for Haringey, in particular, in improving standards on the front line. Christine Gilbert is clear that Haringey must prioritise improving standards of front-line practice and supervision and that Haringey's plans must be kept under vigilant review with progress now accelerated.

The report makes clear that the current leadership and management in Haringey have made progress in a number of important areas and that decisive action has

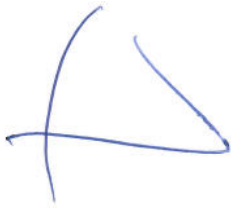


department for  
**children, schools and families**

been taken in dealing with underperforming staff. Haringey must now build on these foundations to accelerate progress to secure improved results on the front line to keep children safe.

Peter Lewis' monthly reports, alongside rigorous and detailed monitoring by my Department and the independent scrutiny of the LSCB, must be used to ensure that all partners keep focused on the priorities identified in Ofsted's report. I have asked Ofsted to conduct a further inspection by the end of January 2010, at which point I will decide whether any further action is needed to keep children safe in Haringey.

Yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Ed Balls', written in a cursive style.

**ED BALLS MP**