

Inspection of local authority and voluntary adoption agencies

Consultation document

This is a consultation document on proposals for a revised framework for the inspection of local authority and voluntary adoption agencies. Ofsted seeks the widest possible range of views from those who have an interest in, or expertise relating to, adoption in order to ensure that the inspection framework takes proper account of the needs and circumstances of all interested parties. We particularly want to hear from people who have been directly involved in the adoption process: from children and young people, from adopters, and from people who have sought to become adoptive parents, with or without success. Above all, the framework must assure the quality of services for children who are placed for adoption and for prospective adopters, and support their continuing improvement so that children grow up in secure and loving families.

The closing date for the consultation is 31 August 2011.

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Introduction

1. This consultation seeks your views on proposals for a revised framework for the inspection of local authority adoption services and voluntary adoption agencies, referred to collectively as adoption agencies.
2. Ofsted inspects against the relevant regulations with which the service must comply, taking into account the relevant national minimum standards (NMS) and statutory guidance. In developing a new framework for the inspection of adoption agencies, we wish to ensure that inspection supports improvement and focuses on what makes the greatest contribution to improving outcomes for children who are, or should be, placed for adoption.
3. We would like to hear from everyone affected by adoption: children and young people; birth parents and relatives; adopted adults; adoptive parents and their families; foster carers providing pre-adoption placements; people approved as adopters and those seeking to be approved as adopters; staff and managers involved in the placement and support of children who are to be placed for adoption; and staff and managers involved in the assessment and support of children, birth families and adopters. Your views will help to refine and develop the inspection framework.
4. The consultation will be open from 7 June until 31 August 2011.

Background to the consultation

5. The inspection of adoption agencies is underpinned by the relevant primary and secondary legislation and takes into account the relevant NMS. Local authorities must also comply with the *Adoption statutory guidance: the Adoption and Children Act 2002 first revision*¹ and the *Children Act 1989 guidance and regulations volume 2: care planning, placement and case review*². These documents are available on the Department for Education's website.
6. In relation to local authorities, Her Majesty's Chief Inspector has a wider power under section 147 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 to inspect the social care functions of a children's services authority. This includes the effectiveness of care planning for looked after children.

¹ *Adoption statutory guidance: the Adoption and Children Act 2002 first revision*, Department for Education, 2011;

<http://www.education.gov.uk/childrenandyoungpeople/families/adoption/b0072314/guidance>.

² *Children Act 1989 guidance and regulations volume 2: care planning, placement and case review*, Department for Education, 2010;

<https://www.education.gov.uk/publications/standard/publicationDetail/Page1/DCSF-00185-2010>.

7. New NMS and new statutory guidance on adoption came into force on 1 April 2011. The introduction of new standards and guidance necessarily requires a revision of the inspection framework, to ensure that it remains fully consistent with the regulatory and legislative framework.
8. This is also an opportunity to review aspects of the conduct of inspection, and of the way that evidence is structured into a number of key judgements. The aim of this review is to ensure that the inspection of adoption agencies meets the obligations placed on Ofsted to ensure that inspection: supports improvement in the services we inspect and regulate; is centred on the needs of people using services; and promotes the effective use of resources.
9. With regard to the inspection of local authority adoption agencies, the inspection of adoption agencies will be grounded, not only in the NMS, but also in a recognition of those factors which, as the statutory guidance to local authorities highlights, have been shown by experience and research to be key to making the adoption process work well for the child, birth parents and adoptive parents. In particular:
 - actively promoting adoption through clear care planning that always considers adoption as a possible permanence option and not an option of last resort
 - encouraging people to come forward to adopt; prospective adopters are important and they must feel valued, respected and supported
 - avoiding delay in the adoption process
 - taking the fullest account of the views and wishes of the child
 - placing a child with a prospective adopter who can meet most or all of the child's identified needs; the statutory guidance is clear that, 'any practice that effectively stops a child from being adopted because the child and prospective adopter do not share the same racial or cultural background is not child-centred and is unacceptable'
 - providing an effective adoption support service
 - collaborating effectively with the local authority's other social services and with voluntary adoption agencies so that services may be given in a co-ordinated manner; this avoids delay and duplication
 - developing and sustaining constructive links between adoption and looked after children's teams and the courts in order to minimise delays in court proceedings
 - a practical and balanced understanding of the circumstances in which special guardianship may be more appropriate than adoption and how to manage the different processes and legal requirements.

10. The inspection of local authority adoption agencies will evaluate the extent to which clear care planning and effective collaboration with the local authority social services and voluntary adoption agencies deliver good and timely outcomes for all children for whom adoption either is, or should be identified as, the appropriate plan.

Proposals for the inspection of adoption agencies

The evaluation schedule and grading

11. Judgements will be made on:
 - the overall effectiveness of the agency
 - outcomes for children and young people
 - quality of service provision
 - safeguarding children and young people
 - leadership and management
12. Judgements will be made against the following scale.
 - Outstanding.
 - Good.
 - Satisfactory.
 - Inadequate.
13. The experiences of, and outcomes for, children must be central to the conduct and findings of inspection, and the proposed framework will seek to ensure this.

The national minimum standards

14. As the national minimum standards (NMS) are **minimum** standards, achieving them will not necessarily mean that an adoption agency is good or outstanding. The judgement grades are based on an evaluation schedule which sets out the characteristics of inadequate, satisfactory, good and outstanding services. All evidence will be considered on a 'best fit' rather than a formulaic model.

Involving children and birth parents in inspection

15. Inspectors will spend as much time as possible during an inspection focussing on outcomes for children. This will be done through discussions with adults and by reading files, but inspectors could also meet with some children for whom it has been agreed they should be placed for adoption, and with children who have been adopted. With appropriate sensitivity, discussions with children could, in future, form a central part of the inspection process. We are seeking your views on whether children should be directly and routinely involved in adoption agency inspections.
16. We would like to give birth parents the opportunity to contribute to the inspection. We can do this through questionnaires. We are concerned that meeting with birth parents can raise expectations and lead to disappointment for some who hope that this may change the adoption agency's plans. We would like your views about whether we should continue, where possible, to meet with birth parents.

Notice given before inspection

17. Ten days' notice will be given of an inspection. We believe that this period of notice will ensure that inspectors are able to assess the agency 'as it is', and reduce the demands of inspection on the agency, while still allowing us to invite and receive comments from children, birth relatives and adopters who are involved with the agency before the inspection starts. We would like your views on this proposal.

The frequency of inspection

18. Under current statutory requirements, every adoption agency must have an inspection at least once in each three-year inspection period. With the agreement of the Department for Education (DfE), Ofsted is seeking views on a more proportionate approach to the inspection of adoption agencies where outstanding agencies would be inspected less frequently. This would not, of course, be possible without a change in the regulations. It could help to ensure that Ofsted focuses its resources on agencies that need to improve, and to reduce the demands of inspection on outstanding agencies, recognising their own capacity to improve. We would like your views on this proposal.

19. Under this proposal, all agencies would still have an inspection under the proposed framework within the first three-year inspection period, to establish a baseline of performance under the new framework. There would then be a longer gap before agencies judged to be outstanding were subject to re-inspection. However, Ofsted will retain the power to bring forward the inspection of outstanding agencies if assessment suggests that performance has deteriorated. We propose that in making this assessment, we should consider:

- complaints and concerns received about the agency
- changes in the management of the service
- information contained notifications of serious incidents
- information contained in reports produced under NMS 25.6 (monitoring reports compiled by the agency)
- the number of children adopted from care and the time taken to make decisions to place children for adoption.

We would welcome your views on whether these factors would effectively identify deterioration or if there are any other factors that could be considered.

Inspection of local authority adoption agency functions

20. The Adoption NMS 2003 specifically prohibited consideration of care planning within the local authority as part of a local authority adoption agency inspection. It also restricted the scope of inspection to performance once the decision has been made that adoption is in the best interests of the child. They stated:

‘When considering whether a local authority meets regulatory requirements the registration authority will take into account equivalent standards for local authorities as for [voluntary adoption agencies]. The registration authority’s inspections will cover the same areas of activity for local authorities and [voluntary adoption agencies]. This means that functions in relation to making arrangements for the adoption of children including the recruitment, training, assessment, approval and support of adopters will be covered. The care planning process is not part of the remit.’

21. This statement has been removed from the NMS 2011. The standards and guidance are clear that adoption agencies should monitor and report on their performance in relation to the timescales for the approval of, and placement of children with, adoptive families. This includes the importance of early

permanence planning and timely implementation of those plans.³ Inspection of local authority adoption services will therefore focus on the performance of the local authority as a whole in relation to the adoption of children. It will include the effectiveness of early permanency planning and its outcome in terms of ensuring that all those children for whom adoption is or may be the appropriate plan are identified in a timely way, and that those plans are pursued without avoidable delay.

Inspection of local authority adoption agency functions and local authority fostering services

22. Ofsted is committed to publishing new arrangements for the inspection of local authority children's services by December 2011. This consultation document makes the assumption that the current requirement for a universal three-year cycle of inspection of adoption agencies will remain, although we have agreed with the DfE to consult on a possible lengthening of the period between inspections for agencies judged to be outstanding. Therefore, we are not at this stage considering integrating the inspection of local authority adoption agencies with the inspection of wider looked after children's services as, in the future, there will not necessarily be a universal cycle of looked after children inspections on a cycle that would meet the regulatory requirements in relation to adoption. However, we are considering, in future, scheduling inspections so that a local authority has its adoption agency inspection and its fostering service inspection at the same time. We believe this could reduce the demands of inspection on local authorities. We would like your views on this proposal.

Summary of the evaluation schedule

23. The NMS and the statutory guidance focus on outcomes for children, and so must inspection. The framework and the evaluation schedule will focus on the areas we have identified below. We would welcome your views on whether we have identified the right things, and if there are other things that you think we should consider.

24. We propose that inspectors will make judgements on:

- overall effectiveness
- outcomes for children
- quality of service provision
- the safety of children
- leadership and management.

³ *Adoption statutory guidance: the Adoption and Children Act 2002 first revision, chapter 2*, Department for Education, 2011;
<http://www.education.gov.uk/childrenandyoungpeople/families/adoption/b0072314/guidance>.

Overall effectiveness

25. Inspectors will consider judgements across the evaluation schedule, focusing on what makes most difference to outcomes for children before arriving at the overall effectiveness judgement.

Outcomes for children

26. In order to make their judgement, inspectors will evaluate the outcomes achieved by children, taking into account, where appropriate, their starting point at the time of placement. In making judgements about outcomes for children, Ofsted will test compliance against the relevant regulations taking into account, in particular, aspects of NMS 1–9 and 13–15. In relation to local authority adoption agencies, inspection will also evaluate performance against the relevant statutory guidance. Inspectors will evaluate the extent to which:

- children know that their wishes and feelings are taken into account in all aspects of their care, are helped to understand why it may not be possible to act upon their wishes in all cases and know how to obtain support and make a complaint (NMS 1)
- children have a positive self view, emotional resilience and knowledge and understanding of their background (NMS 2)
- children enjoy sound relationships with their prospective adopters, interact positively with others and behave appropriately (NMS 3)
- children feel safe and are safe; children understand how to protect themselves and are protected from significant harm including neglect, abuse and accident (NMS 4)
- children live in a healthy environment where their physical, emotional and psychological health is promoted (NMS 5)
- children are able to enjoy their interests and develop confidence in their skills (NMS 6)
- children achieve their educational potential (NMS 7)
- contact with birth parents, siblings, other members of the birth family and significant others is arranged and maintained when it is beneficial to the child (NMS 8)
- children live with prospective adopters whose home provides adequate space, to a suitable standard; the child enjoys access to a range of activities which promote their development (NMS 9)
- children benefit from stable placements and are matched and placed with prospective adopters who can meet most, if not all, of their assessed needs (NMS 13)

- children feel loved, safe and secure with their prospective adoptive parents with whom they were originally placed; these children were placed within 12 months of the decision of the agency's decision maker that they should be placed for adoption (NMS 13)
- service users confirm that the adoption support service provided met, or is meeting, their assessed needs (NMS 15).

Quality of service provision

27. The focus of this judgement is on what the adoption agency does to improve outcomes for children – in other words, the inputs. In making judgements about the quality of service provision, Ofsted will test compliance against the relevant regulations taking into account, in particular, aspects of NMS 1–17. In relation to local authority adoption agencies, inspection will also evaluate performance against the relevant statutory guidance. Inspectors will consider the impact the agency has on promoting positive outcomes for children under standards 1–9 and 13–15, and evaluate the extent to which:

- the adoption agency approves prospective adopters who can meet most of the needs of looked after children who are to be placed for adoption and who can provide them with a home where the child will feel loved, safe and secure (NMS 10)
- people who are interested in becoming adoptive parents, and prospective adopters, are treated fairly, without prejudice, openly and with respect (NMS 10.2)
- the adoption agency provides prospective adopters who can meet most of the needs of children who live outside the British Islands and who can provide them with a home where the child will feel loved, safe and secure (NMS 11)
- children have clear and appropriate information about themselves, their birth parents and families and life before their adoption (NMS 12)
- birth parents and birth families take an active part in the planning and implementation of their child's adoption (NMS 12)
- adopted adults and birth relatives are assisted to obtain information in relation to the adoption where appropriate, and contact is facilitated between an adopted adult and their birth relative if that is what both parties want (NMS 16)
- the adoption panel and decision maker make timely, quality and appropriate recommendations/decisions in line with the overriding objective to promote the welfare of children throughout their lives (NMS 17).

The safety of children

28. The focus of this judgment is on how the whole of the adoption agency ensures that safeguarding children is at the centre of all their activities. In making judgements about the safety of children, Ofsted will consider if children are kept safe and will test compliance against the relevant regulations taking into account, in particular, aspects of NMS 4, 19, 21, 22 and 29. In relation to local authority adoption agencies, inspection will also evaluate performance against the relevant statutory guidance. Inspectors will evaluate the extent to which:

- children feel safe and are safe; children understand how to protect themselves and are protected from significant harm including neglect, abuse and accident (NMS 4)
- the agency is provided and managed by those who are suitable to work with children and have the appropriate skills, experience and qualifications to deliver an efficient and effective service (NMS 19)
- there is careful selection of all staff, volunteers and persons on the central list and there is monitoring of such people to help prevent unsuitable people from having the opportunity to harm children and service users (NMS 21)
- allegations and suspicions of harm are handled in a way that provides effective protection and support for children, the person making the allegation, and at the same time supports the person who is the subject of the allegation (NMS 22)
- all significant events relating to the protection of children are notified to the appropriate authorities (NMS 29).

Leadership and management

29. The focus of this judgment is on the leadership and management of the agency and how the quality of the service is monitored and improved to ensure that the outcomes for children are in turn improved. We will look at how local authority adoption services ensure that adoption is considered as an option for all those children for whom it may be appropriate. In making judgements about leadership and management, Ofsted will test compliance against the relevant regulations taking into account, in particular, aspects of NMS 2, 18, 20, 23–25, 27 and 28. In relation to local authority adoption agencies, inspection will also evaluate performance against the relevant statutory guidance. Inspectors will evaluate the extent to which:

- leadership and management ensures that the agency promotes equality of opportunity and tackles discrimination (NMS 2)
- children, service users and staff are clear about the aims and objectives of the adoption agency/adoption support agency, and what services and facilities it provides (NMS 18)

- the adoption agency/adoption support agency meets the aims and objectives in the statement of purpose (NMS 18)
- the voluntary adoption agency is financially sound (NMS 20)
- children and service users receive a service from staff, volunteers, panel members and decision makers who have the competence to meet their needs (NMS 23)
- staff and volunteers are supported and guided to fulfil their roles and provide a high quality service to children and service users (NMS 24)
- the agency is managed ethically, effectively and efficiently and delivering a good quality service which meets the needs of children and other service users, taking into account whether there is a strategic approach to the recruitment of adopters to ensure that children's needs can be met through appropriate and prompt placements and whether working relationships are established with other organisations, including other adoption agencies, health services, the courts and Cafcass to help reduce delay in adoption processes (NMS 25)
- records are clear, accurate, up to date and stored securely, and contribute to an understanding of the child's life (NMS 27)
- the premises and administrative systems are suitable to enable the agency to meet its statement of purpose (NMS 28).

Promoting equality and tackling discrimination

30. We do not propose to make a separate judgement on the effectiveness with which the agency promotes equality and tackles discrimination. This is critical to every aspect of the service and of inspection. Inspectors will report on the promotion of equality and diversity throughout the inspection report and consider evidence on this in all judgement areas. For example, the judgement on outcomes for children will evaluate how their individual needs are assessed and then met by prompt placements with adoptive families. The judgement on the quality of the service will evaluate how prospective adopters are welcomed and how placements are matched to children's needs. The judgement on leadership and management will evaluate how the agency ensures that all children for whom it is appropriate are considered for an adoption placement and how service provision is monitored in respect of providing accessible and fair services. We would like your views on this approach.

The consultation process

31. We welcome your responses to the consultation questionnaire below and your views on any aspect of the inspection of adoption agencies. Please use the comments section in the questionnaire to raise any additional points not covered by our questions. The consultation remains open until 31 August 2011.
32. We will meet with representative groups from the adoption sector and, if possible, with children and young people who have been involved with adoption.

What happens next?

We will publish a revised framework and evaluation schedule for the inspection of adoption agencies taking full account of the responses to this consultation. We will publish a report on the responses to this consultation.

Sending back your questionnaire

There are three ways of completing and submitting the questionnaire in the next section and/or sending us comments.

Online electronic questionnaire

Visit our website to complete and submit an electronic version of the questionnaire:

www.ofsted.gov.uk/publications/110011.

Print and post

This document can be printed and completed by hand. When you have completed the questionnaire, please post it to:

Ofsted
Social Care Development Team
Floor 7
Aviation House
125 Kingsway
London
WC2B 6SE.

Download and email

This document can be downloaded and completed on your own computer. When you have completed the questionnaire, please email it to: socialcare@ofsted.gov.uk. Please put 'Adoption agency inspection consultation' in the subject line.

Questionnaire for the inspection of local authority and voluntary adoption agencies consultation

Confidentiality

The information you provide will be held by us. It will only be used for the purposes of consultation and research to help us to become more effective, shape policies and inform inspection and regulatory practice.

We will treat your identity in confidence, if you disclose it to us. However, we may publish an organisation's views.

Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

Yes please complete Section 1 and the following questions
 No please complete Section 2 and the following questions

Section 1

If you are completing the consultation on behalf of an organisation and would like us to consider publishing the views of your organisation, please indicate this below.

Organisation: _____

Section 2

Which of the below best describes you? Please tick one option.

I am:

a child or young person who has been adopted or placed for adoption	<input type="checkbox"/>	a registered provider of an adoption agency	<input type="checkbox"/>
a birth parent of a child who has been adopted or placed for adoption	<input type="checkbox"/>	a local authority manager of an agency	<input type="checkbox"/>
a birth relative of a child who has been adopted or placed for adoption	<input type="checkbox"/>	an employee of the adoption agency	<input type="checkbox"/>
an adoptive parent	<input type="checkbox"/>	a social worker or manager involved in the placement of children for adoption	<input type="checkbox"/>
a foster carer	<input type="checkbox"/>	an adoption panel member	<input type="checkbox"/>
a member of an adoptive family	<input type="checkbox"/>	a member of a national or regional adoption organisation	<input type="checkbox"/>
a prospective adopter	<input type="checkbox"/>	a registered manager or member of staff of an adoption support agency	<input type="checkbox"/>
Prefer not to say	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (please tell us)	

Q1. To what extent do you agree or disagree that, as part of the inspection, inspectors should meet with children who are waiting for, or have been placed with, an adoptive family?

Strongly agree <input type="checkbox"/>	Agree <input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree <input type="checkbox"/>	Disagree <input type="checkbox"/>	Strongly disagree <input type="checkbox"/>	Don't know <input type="checkbox"/>
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Q2. To what extent do you agree or disagree that, as part of the inspection, inspectors should meet with children who have been adopted?

Strongly agree <input type="checkbox"/>	Agree <input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree <input type="checkbox"/>	Disagree <input type="checkbox"/>	Strongly disagree <input type="checkbox"/>	Don't know <input type="checkbox"/>
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Comments:

Q3. To what extent do you agree or disagree that, as part of the inspection, inspectors should meet with birth parents of children who have an adoption plan or who have been adopted?

Strongly agree <input type="checkbox"/>	Agree <input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree <input type="checkbox"/>	Disagree <input type="checkbox"/>	Strongly disagree <input type="checkbox"/>	Don't know <input type="checkbox"/>
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Comments:

Q4. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the normal period of notice of inspection for an adoption agency should be 10 working days?

Strongly agree <input type="checkbox"/>	Agree <input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree <input type="checkbox"/>	Disagree <input type="checkbox"/>	Strongly disagree <input type="checkbox"/>	Don't know <input type="checkbox"/>
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Comments:

Q5. To what extent do you agree or disagree that Ofsted should inspect adoption agencies judged to be outstanding less frequently than other adoption agencies?

Strongly agree <input type="checkbox"/>	Agree <input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree <input type="checkbox"/>	Disagree <input type="checkbox"/>	Strongly disagree <input type="checkbox"/>	Don't know <input type="checkbox"/>
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Q6. To what extent do you agree or disagree that when determining whether an earlier inspection should be carried out, Ofsted should consider the following?

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
Complaints and concerns	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A change in management	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Notifications of serious incidents received from the agency	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The number of children adopted from care and the time taken to make decisions to place children for adoption	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The agency's monitoring reports made under NMS 25.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Comments: please indicate any other information you think Ofsted would need to consider between inspections to assess whether the inspection of an agency previously judged to be outstanding should be brought forward.

Q7. To what extent do you agree or disagree that Ofsted should inspect local authority adoption agencies and their fostering services at the same time?

Strongly agree <input type="checkbox"/>	Agree <input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree <input type="checkbox"/>	Disagree <input type="checkbox"/>	Strongly disagree <input type="checkbox"/>	Don't know <input type="checkbox"/>
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Comments:

Q8. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the following are appropriate judgements to make when we inspect an adoption agency?

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
Overall effectiveness	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quality of service provision	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Outcomes for children	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The safety of children	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Leadership and management.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Comments:

Q9. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the promotion of equality and diversity should be addressed throughout the inspection framework rather than considered as a separate judgement?

Strongly agree <input type="checkbox"/>	Agree <input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree <input type="checkbox"/>	Disagree <input type="checkbox"/>	Strongly disagree <input type="checkbox"/>	Don't know <input type="checkbox"/>
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Comments:

Q10. Do you have any further comments? Please include them here.

What did you think of this consultation?

One of the commitments in our strategic plan is to monitor whether our consultations are accessible to those wishing to take part.

Please tell us what you thought of this consultation by answering the questions below.

	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Don't know
I found the consultation information clear and easy to understand.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I found the consultation easy to find on the Ofsted website.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I had enough information about the consultation topic.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I would take part in a future Ofsted consultation.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

How did you hear about this consultation?

- Ofsted website
- Ofsted News*
- Ofsted conference
- Another organisation (please specify, if known)
- Other (please specify)

Is there anything you would like us to improve on or do differently for future consultations? If so, please tell us below.

Thank you for taking part in our consultation.

Additional questions about you

Your answers to the following questions will help us to evaluate how successfully we are communicating messages from inspection to all sections of society. We would like to assure you that all responses are confidential and you do not have to answer every question.

Please tick the appropriate box.

1. Gender

Female	<input type="checkbox"/>	Male	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Are you living as the same gender as you were born in?

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
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2. Age

Under 14 <input type="checkbox"/>	14–18 <input type="checkbox"/>	19–24 <input type="checkbox"/>	25–34 <input type="checkbox"/>	35–44 <input type="checkbox"/>	45–54 <input type="checkbox"/>	55–64 <input type="checkbox"/>	65+ <input type="checkbox"/>
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3. Ethnic origin

(a) How would you describe your national group?

British or mixed British	<input type="checkbox"/>	Northern Irish	<input type="checkbox"/>
English	<input type="checkbox"/>	Scottish	<input type="checkbox"/>
Irish	<input type="checkbox"/>	Welsh	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (specify if you wish)	<input type="checkbox"/>		

(b) How would you describe your ethnic group?

Asian		Mixed ethnic origin	
Bangladeshi	<input type="checkbox"/>	Asian and White	<input type="checkbox"/>
Indian	<input type="checkbox"/>	Black African and White	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pakistani	<input type="checkbox"/>	Black Caribbean and White	<input type="checkbox"/>
Any other Asian background (specify if you wish)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Any other mixed ethnic background (specify if you wish)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Black		White	
African	<input type="checkbox"/>	Any White background (specify if you wish)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Caribbean	<input type="checkbox"/>	Any other ethnic background	
Any other Black background (specify if you wish)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Any other background (specify if you wish)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Chinese			
Any Chinese background (specify if you wish)	<input type="checkbox"/>		

4. Sexual orientation

Heterosexual <input type="checkbox"/>	Lesbian <input type="checkbox"/>	Gay <input type="checkbox"/>	Bisexual <input type="checkbox"/>
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5. Religion/belief

Buddhist	<input type="checkbox"/>	Muslim	<input type="checkbox"/>
Christian (including Church of England, Catholic, Protestant and all other Christian denominations)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sikh	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hindu	<input type="checkbox"/>	None	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jewish	<input type="checkbox"/>	Any other, please state:	

6. Disability

Do you consider yourself to be disabled?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
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