



**REPORT TO: CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES COMMITTEE ON
18 DECEMBER 2019**

**SUBJECT: INSPECTION OF CALA, MORAY COUNCIL'S RESIDENTIAL
PROVISION FOR LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN**

BY: CHIEF EXECUTIVE

1. REASON FOR REPORT

- 1.1 To inform the Committee of the outcome of the recent Care Inspectorate Audit which was undertaken on 27 September 2019 of Cala, Moray Council's residential child care provision, and to invite comment and scrutiny from the Committee.
- 1.2 This report is submitted to Committee in terms of Section III D (2) of the Council's Scheme of Administration relating to exercising the functions of the Council as Social Work Authority within the terms of relevant legislation with regard to Looked After Children.

2. RECOMMENDATION

2.1 It is recommended that Committee:

- (i) scrutinises and notes the information of the recent annual inspection report of Cala, Moray Council's residential child care provision;**
- (ii) approves the internal provision plan to continuously develop child planning documents in relation to ensuring they are child/user friendly and provide clear evidence of the child's views, as per the suggestion as an area of improvement in the audit; and**
- (iii) notes as there are no requirements specified from the Care Inspectorate Audit report, it is proposed that this will be an ongoing area of review and development within the service, which will incorporate the views and wishes of the young people themselves.**

3. **BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 Cala, Moray Council's residential child care provision, has now been operational for almost 4 years, and as a registered service, the Care Inspectorate undertakes annual unannounced audits. The grading received from the Care Inspectorate reflects gradual and sustained improvements in relation to the quality of care and support provided to some of Moray's most vulnerable young people, particularly those who have experienced trauma and consequently present with challenging behaviour.
- 3.2 The aims and objectives of Cala continue to be to provide a safe and stable homely environment for vulnerable young people where they receive informed care and support to help them overcome the adversities and trauma they have experienced, from a highly trained and skilled staff team who provide relational based, trauma informed care.
- 3.3 No complaints or concerns have been highlighted, or suggested, and the independent audit provides evidence of the effectiveness of the service, which, in its entirety, is still relatively new, albeit now fully established and somewhat settled. The area highlighted by the Care Inspectorate (with reference to improving care planning) is a suggestion of how the service can further develop and improve, in line with continuous development and improvement strategic frameworks.
- 3.4 In evaluating the quality of our service the Care Inspectorate use a six point scale where 1 is unsatisfactory and 6 is excellent.

Gradings

How well do we support children and young people's wellbeing	5	Very Good
How good is our leadership		not assessed
How good is our staffing		not assessed
How good is our setting		not assessed
How well is our care and support planned	4	Good

Recommendations

- None

Requirements

- None

The full inspection report is available to view using the link below:

<https://www.careinspectorate.com/berengCareservices/html/reports/getPdfBlob.php?id=305347>

- 3.5 The progress and improvements made by Cala staff is recognised and acknowledged, as is the commitment and continued improvements made by Cala staff.

4. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

(a) Corporate Plan and 10 Year Plan (Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP))

As a service, the operation of Cala supports and represents the Corporate Plan, by providing effective support to some of those young people who need it most. The aims and objectives of the service, through service delivery, adhere to and support the outcomes that the Plan aspires to, by supporting Moray's young people to thrive and reach their potential.

(b) Policy and Legal

There are no policy or legal implications arising from this inspection or report, other than that as legally registered provider of care, Cala as a service is audited annually by the Care Inspectorate and adheres to all elements of registration requirements.

(c) Financial implications

There are no financial implications associated with this report.

(d) Risk Implications

There are no risk implications associated with this report.

(e) Staffing Implications

There are no staffing implications associated with this report.

(f) Property

There are no property implications associated with this report.

(g) Equalities/Socio Economic Impact

There are no implications associated with this report.

(h) Consultations

Head of Integrated Children's Services (Social Work); Chief Social Work Officer; Corporate Parenting and Commissioning Manager; Provider Services Manager; Morag Smith, Senior Solicitor (Litigation and Social Care); Tracey Sutherland, Committee Services Officer and Katrina McGillivray, Senior Human Resources Advisor have been consulted in the development of this report.

5. CONCLUSION

- 5.1 This report provides reference to the outcome of the recent Care Inspectorate audit of Cala, Moray Council's Residential Child Care provision. The report shares information on the gradings received, and no requirements were identified, and so consequently no action plan is required. It is suggested that, in line with the identification of child planning being an area which would benefit from further improvement, the Committee agrees with and supports the plan for the service to continue to develop and enhance this key area, in line with the continuous development framework already established.**

Author of Report: Donna McDonald, Residential Child Care Manager
Background Papers:
Ref: