

# Herefordshire County Council

## Audit of All Cases within Children's Social Care Services November 2012 to January 2013



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## The Audit

| Rating               | Total Audits undertaken | % of the whole undertaken so far (rounded) |
|----------------------|-------------------------|--|
| 1. Inadequate        | 409                     | 30   |
| 2. Adequate          | 628                     | 47   |
| 3. Good              | 294                     | 22   |
| 4. Outstanding       | 18                      | 1  |
| 5. Total OUK         | 1349                    | 100  |
| 6. Audits by HCC SWs | 91                      |  |
| <b>GRAND TOTAL</b>   | <b>1440</b>             |  |



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## Key Findings

41 cases evaluated as being inadequate with children potentially at a high risk of harm.

**All of these cases were urgently reviewed by managers after the audit findings were notified to them and as a consequence none required immediate intervention to protect the wellbeing of the children concerned.**



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## High Risk Areas of Concern

- Drift with no evidence of timely actions
- Appropriateness of decision making
- CP Procedures not correctly actioned
- Management decisions not actioned



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## High Risk Outcomes

- NFA was required in 17 cases.
- This was mainly due to misinterpretation of information on files, files not being up to date or information being only placed on one siblings file.
- In two cases the auditors requests for action was felt to be inappropriate having reviewed the case.



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## High Risk Outcomes

- Additional actions were required in 13 cases.
- In nine cases Strategy meetings were convened.
- In one case an Initial Child Protection Conference was convened.
- Inter agency checks were undertaken on two cases.
- Progress checks on cases are being undertaken to assure that agreed actions have been completed.



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