

COUNTY COUNCIL

3 DECEMBER 2014

QUESTION FROM MR S HEPPLER

I would like to know if Durham County Council Heads of Service, i.e. The Director of Children and Adults Services and down the chain of management have also been investigated for the safeguarding issues of the children and the teachers at broom cottages pupil referral unit Ferryhill.

Response

Thank you for your question Mr Hepple.

Following the allegations relating to conduct within the Council's Pupil Referral Unit, the Council arranged for an independent investigation to be carried out.

The alleged conduct covered a period before the existing Corporate Management Team was restructured in June 2012 and the current Corporate Director of Children and Adult Services was appointed to her post. The conduct also preceded the re-structure of the Management team in the newly created Children and Adults Service grouping.

Had the findings included in the Investigation Report identified the need to action against a Corporate Director or the Head of Service responsible for the unit, this would not have related to the existing post holders.