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What is a JTAI?

A Joint Targeted Area Inspection (JTAI) is an inspection framework for evaluating the services of vulnerable children & young people. It is conducted jointly by Ofsted, Care Quality Commission (CQC), His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) and His Majesty's Inspectorate of Probation (HMIP). Each JTAI includes a specific 'deep dive' safeguarding theme.



JTAI Inspection Guidance

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What happens during the Inspection?

The Inspectors look at how well local agencies work together in an area to protect children. The inspection will take place over 3 weeks; the Inspectorate will be onsite for the third week during the inspection schedule. Inspectors track children's journeys, review case records, observe practice, and speak to professionals to understand the quality of decision-making and outcomes.

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Where do I find further information

For further information please visit:

[Joint targeted area inspections framework 2 .pdf](#)

[Joint targeted area inspection of the multi-agency response to identification of initial need and risk - GOV.UK](#)

[Joint targeted area inspections of the response to child sexual abuse in the family environment - GOV.UK](#)



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What methodology is used?

Inspectors use a triangulated approach to gather evidence, including tracking children's experiences, reviewing case records, observing practice, and speaking to practitioners, children, and families.

This allows inspectors to build a full picture of how services are working together. The focus is on understanding the quality of practice, decision-making, and the impact on outcomes for children.

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How do we find out the outcome?

At the end of the on-site inspection, inspectors will meet with senior leaders from local safeguarding partnerships to share initial findings.

These findings are presented as a narrative report rather than graded judgements, highlighting key strengths, areas for development, and any priority actions required.

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What you need to do?

Current JTAI themes include the multi-agency response to identification of initial need and risk and child sexual abuse within the family environment. There is also an emerging focus on neglect, which is expected to be a future inspection theme. Stockport could be selected for inspection under these themes, focusing on how effectively agencies identify, assess, and respond to risk. As part of preparation, organisations may be asked to contribute to audits, provide case examples, and demonstrate effective multi-agency working.

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How are we preparing for an inspection?

Stockport Safeguarding Children Partnership (SSCP) will lead on the coordination of the JTAI, with oversight from the Independent Scrutineer in preparation for a potential inspection. Named representatives from the Police, Health, and Stockport Council will lead on all aspects of preparation and inspection activity on behalf of their respective agencies. Preparation will include multi-agency audits, evidence gathering, and ensuring that safeguarding practice is consistent, effective, and aligned with current priorities.