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# Joint Targeted Area Inspection

## A Local Authority Perspective



# Methodology

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- **Joint Targeted Area Inspection (JTAI)**

Mini Joint Area Review (JAR)

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Unannounced inspection of the front door

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Thematic inspection

**= Joint Targeted Area Inspection.**



## JTAI - reducing the burden?

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- ✓ Less burdensome than Single Inspection Framework (SIF)
- ✓ Same Annex A lists (1-7)
- ✓ Two weeks prior to inspectors being on site helpful
- ✓ Methodology and inspector activity very formulaic
- ✓ Clear timetable with defined activity
- ✓ Commitment to include areas of good practice – felt less of a deficit model.



# JTAI - reducing the burden?

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- × 11 inspectors, QA lead and data analyst – a lot of inspectors regardless of LA size
- × Co-ordination and management across four inspectorates and range of organisations is a significant demand
- × Lack of flexibility due to formulaic nature
- × KIT meetings – “cast of thousands” reflection of multi-agency methodology
- × Additional KIT meetings on single agency basis for some.



# Planning and preparation

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- Co-ordination of time table across all inspectorates a logistical challenge
- High level sponsorship across agencies needed
- Supporting evidence not as clear as SIF guidance – balance to be struck
- IT issues – working across systems and organisations – need system access and space at each lead agency
- Think about what each agency can view on Huddle and sign off / process for supporting evidence
- Multi-agency audit took time – even though we have adopted MA as part of routine audit activity.



# Things that worked well

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- Established open dialogue with inspectors- single point of contact
- Central co-ordination and support – vital
- Multi-Agency audit process already embedded; includes reflective discussions with practitioners
- Inspectors willing to consider further evidence e.g. Annex C
- Responsiveness when issues identified – have to be able to respond regardless of where issue identified.
- Commitment to whole partnership “all in this together”
- LSCB sighted on single agency inspection outcomes.



# Top tips

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- Know the inspection methodology – don't just think SIF!
- Think partnership and individual agency practice – strengths and areas for development
- Be honest as a partnership: “culture of no surprises” vital
- Need to have key team – Senior leadership and officer/ service manager level
- Think commissioner as well as provider
- Make sure you have the right people involved in audit think about Multi-Agency authors for final report
- Make best use of KIT feedback for ongoing learning.



# Areas for consideration

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- Do the different inspectorates “measure” through the same lens?
- Level of clarity as to supporting evidence requirements – can this be enhanced?
- Inspectorate expectations as to how progress will be measured could be strengthened
- Partnership landscape is complex - is this fully reflected in the methodology? e.g. provider commissioner split; lines of ultimate accountability
- Early help was outside of scope broadly – does this limit the front door inspection?





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**Any questions?**

