

Drove Road Ofsted Report. 29.05.2025 - PaCC First Response Statement.

PaCC comments on Drove Road Ofsted inspection and implications for our families.
Inspection dates: 8 and 9 April 2025.

Ofsted has carried out an inspection of Drove Road, the Brighton and Hove City Council (BHCC) inhouse overnight respite provision for children with high support needs. The report from the inspection has been published today. The outcome of the OFSTED inspection of Drove Road is inadequate.

PaCC have had sight of the report published today: Fiona England, PaCC social care rep and Sally Polanski, Amaze CEO, were contacted by Kirsty Hanna, Director Family Help and Protection to share the headlines of the inspection. The concerns of the report are significant and worrying for the community, but especially for families and children affected.

We know that Lorraine Hughes on behalf of Kirsty Hanna has written to all Drove Road families today, informing them that BHCC has taken urgent action to implement a post inspection action plan to ensure standards are revised and maintained.

Many in the community will know that PaCC have been strong in their support of families at Drove Road who have had the most difficult of years already, with many overnight respite sessions being cancelled. PaCC will continue to ask questions around the capacity of senior management within the Local Authority overseeing the running of Drove Rd, as the capacity for effective oversight must be addressed.

PaCC will continue to work with families to ensure that their voices are heard and that standards at Drove improve satisfactorily and quickly. PaCC fully acknowledge how important this provision is to families, and that safety and wellbeing of staff and children is essential.

PaCC will read the Ofsted report fully, and we will issue a more detailed response once we have had time to read through the findings more closely. PaCC will attend further meetings with the council and families.