

EMBARGO UNTIL 00.01 ON 30 MAY

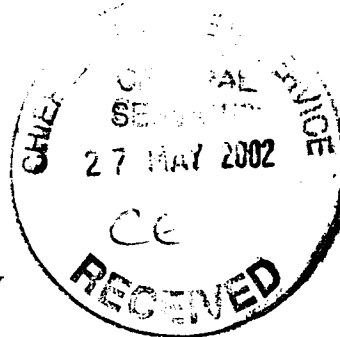
Appendix 2

From the Chief Inspector, Denise Platt CBE

Social Services
Inspectorate

Richmond House
79 Whitehall
London
SW1A 2NS

Tel: 020 7210 5569
Fax: 020 7210 4982
denise.platt@doh.gsi.gov.uk



Mr David Warwick
Chief Executive
London Borough of Haringey
The Civic Centre
High Road
Wood Green
London N22 8LE

24th May 2002

Dear Mr Warwick

SOCIAL SERVICES PERFORMANCE RATING - 2001-02

You will be aware that the Secretary of State for Health announced, in October 2001, the intention to publish ratings of all councils with social services responsibilities. The Social Services Inspectorate has now completed this year's overall performance assessment and, based on current available evidence, has arrived at judgements about the performance of all councils. I have made the final decisions about star ratings. A full list of ratings will be published on 30 May. Information is provided under embargo until publication day.

On Monday 27 May SSI will be notifying your Director of Social Services that the social services performance rating for THE London Borough of Haringey for 2001-02 is **zero stars**. The zero star rating awarded reflects continued serious concerns about performance which will have been set out in the SSI Annual Review Letter. It means that your council will remain subject to **special measures**.

Haringey became subject to special measures in January 2001. There was evidence of improvements to meet action plan targets until December 2001 since when performance in key areas of child protection and children looked after has fluctuated. Earlier this year, an inspection of children's services highlighted concerns about frontline staff morale and management of the change programme. The evidence that performance fluctuates on a month by month basis raises questions about sustainability.

I am aware of the difficult context within which Haringey is operating at present but it is essential that practice is of a consistently good quality at the frontline. The needs and rights of vulnerable people in Haringey to receive the best quality social services are paramount here. Your Business Link Inspector will be in touch with you to ensure that your improvement plan covers all the performance issues identified in your annual review meeting. SSI will want to identify with you what progress you expect to see in your services by October 2002.

Yours sincerely



Denise Platt
Chief Inspector of Social Services

Cc Ms Anne Bristow, Director of Social Services