



Will Quince MP

Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Children and Families

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Mayor Preston
Civic Centre
Middlesbrough
TS1 2RH

22 November 2021

Dear Mayor Preston,

**FINAL COMMISSIONER'S REPORT ON CHILDREN'S SERVICES IN
MIDDLESBROUGH**

I am writing following the final report from the Children's Services Commissioner, Peter Dwyer.

My officials have briefed me on the Commissioner's involvement in Middlesbrough and your improvement journey to date. Based on this, I have agreed to withdraw Commissioner support in Middlesbrough.

The Council will continue to be subject to a Statutory Direction which will be updated to reflect my decision. My officials will share a revised draft with you shortly, which will be published in due course on gov.uk.

I look forward to hearing about Middlesbrough's activity against the recommendations, particularly your progress in achieving and maintaining stability at the political / corporate leadership level.

Finally, I want to acknowledge and extend my thanks to Peter Dwyer for his work as Commissioner. His advice, expertise and consistency have been a key part of Middlesbrough's upward trajectory in this pivotal first 18 months of intervention.

I am copying this letter to Pete Dwyer CBE, Tony Parkinson, Sue Butcher, Simon Clarke MP and Andy McDonald MP.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Will Quince". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line at the end of the last word.

Will Quince MP
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Children and Families