



Derby City Council

## **CORPORATE PARENTING SUB BOARD**

**20 January 2015**

# **ITEM 7**

Report of the Strategic Director of Children and Young People

## **Adoption Agency Report**

### **SUMMARY**

- 1.1 The Children Act 1989, the Adoption Agency Regulations (2011), the Adoption and Children Act 2002 and the Adoption National Minimum Standards 2014 placed duties and responsibilities on Local Authorities to provide, or arrange to provide an Adoption Service.
- 1.2 A presentation will be given at Corporate Parenting Sub Board on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2015 with the current management information available relating to adoption.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

- 2.1 To note that a presentation will be given on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2015 with performance information regarding adoption.

### **REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION**

- 3.1 To comply with guidance and regulations and National Minimum Standards for Adoption Services.

### **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

- 4.1 Derby City Adoption Agency has continued to develop services to meet the needs of children who should be placed for adoption. The Agency also continues to provide services to meet the needs of adults including adoptive parents, birth family members and adopted adults.

### **OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 5.1 Non applicable

**This report has been approved by the following officers:**

<b>Legal officer</b> <b>Financial officer</b> <b>Human Resources officer</b> <b>Estates/Property officer</b> <b>Service Director(s)</b>  <b>Other(s)</b>	     Hazel Lymbery; Director of Specialist Services, 01332 642669 hazel.lymbery@derby.gov.uk None
<b>For more information contact:</b> <b>Background papers:</b> <b>List of appendices:</b>	Lyn Bugarski Professional Adviser to the Adoption Panel, 01332 643816, lyn.bugarski@derby.gov.uk Appendix 1 – Implications

<b>IMPLICATIONS</b>
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**Financial and Value for Money**

- 1.1 The cost of providing the Adoption Service is contained within fixed cost-centre budgets. In the event of an appeal to the IRM the cost falls on the adoption service provider. The fee is around £2500 for each case.

**Legal**

- 2.1 The adoption function of the Council is regulated by the 1989 Children Act and the Associated Adoption Regulations, guidance and the minimum standards published in 2014

**Personnel**

- 3.1 The service became managed by a Head of Children in Care, Regulated Services in February 2013 which brought the fostering, adoption and children homes services under the management of a single manager. A Deputy Head of Service, Fostering and Adoption, 1.5 whole time equivalent team managers and 10.4 whole time equivalent social workers carry out the full range of adoption activities.

**IT**

- 4.1 None arising from this report

**Equalities Impact**

- 5.1 The service continues to give due consideration to race, gender, culture, sexual orientation, religion, and disability in relation to children being placed and for adults who apply to become adopters.

**Health and Safety**

- 6.1 This is considered at all stages of the recruitment, assessment, training and support of adopters. All the managers in the service have completed mandatory Health and Safety training.

**Environmental Sustainability**

- 7.1 None arising from this report

## **Property and Asset Management**

- 8.1 To note the planned office move from Perth Street to the Council House on 16<sup>th</sup> December 2014

## **Risk Management**

- 9.1 Risk is managed at all stages of the adoption process

## **Corporate objectives and priorities for change**

- 10.1 The adoption service supports the Councils priorities of
- inspiring start in life
  - inspiring start in life by improving educational attainment
  - inspiring working life by improving skills and creating jobs