

Name of meeting: Corporate Parenting Board

Date: 21st January 2018

Title of report: One Adoption West Yorkshire Half Year Report

Purpose of report

Elected Members in Kirklees recognise the importance of adoption and want to be updated about the management and outcomes of the adoption service. The report provides an overview of adoption service activity from April 2017 to March 2018. The report is attached at Appendix A.

1. Summary

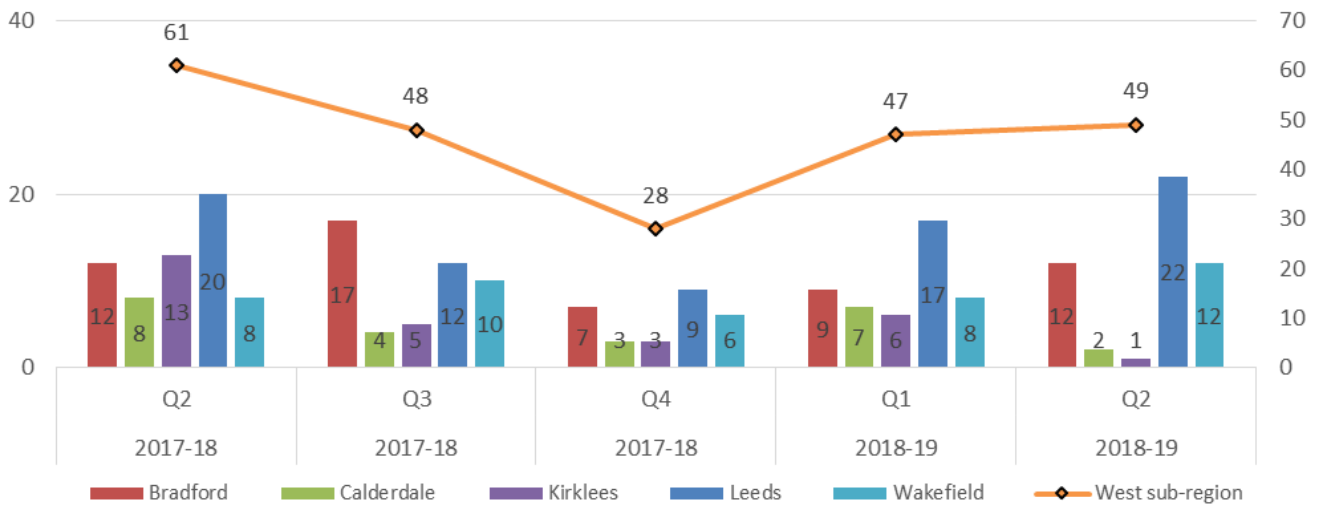
Bradford, Calderdale, Kirklees and Wakefield adoption functions as specified in the partnership agreement were delegated on the 1st April 2017 to Leeds City Council and One Adoption West Yorkshire (OAWY) formally opened. OAWY was the first Regional Adoption Agency (RAA) to open in the country as part of the Governments national reform agenda.

- 2.** This report provides a summary on adoption provision for Kirklees children by One Adoption West Yorkshire from April 2018 – September 2018, also attached is a Half Year Agency Report which outlines the developments of the service in the last 6 months since the last report to the board in July 2018, and a voice and influence report card which outlines the work we are doing to ensure that Children, Young People and Adopters have a voice and influence on our practice and service provision.
- 3.** In addition to this I have attached a report which gives the board a good overview of the current challenges in adoption nationally, regionally and within West Yorkshire, and shows a longer term view on how Kirklees is doing against its comparator groups such as statistical neighbours, nationally and regionally.

Adoption Provision for Kirklees Children April 2018 – September 2018

- 3.1** The graphs below show the figures for the last 12 months and the performance in the same quarter the previous year so as to show a direct comparison. The data is clearly divided in the standard reporting quarters so that we can focus on the first half of this year and can also see how this compares to the previous quarters.

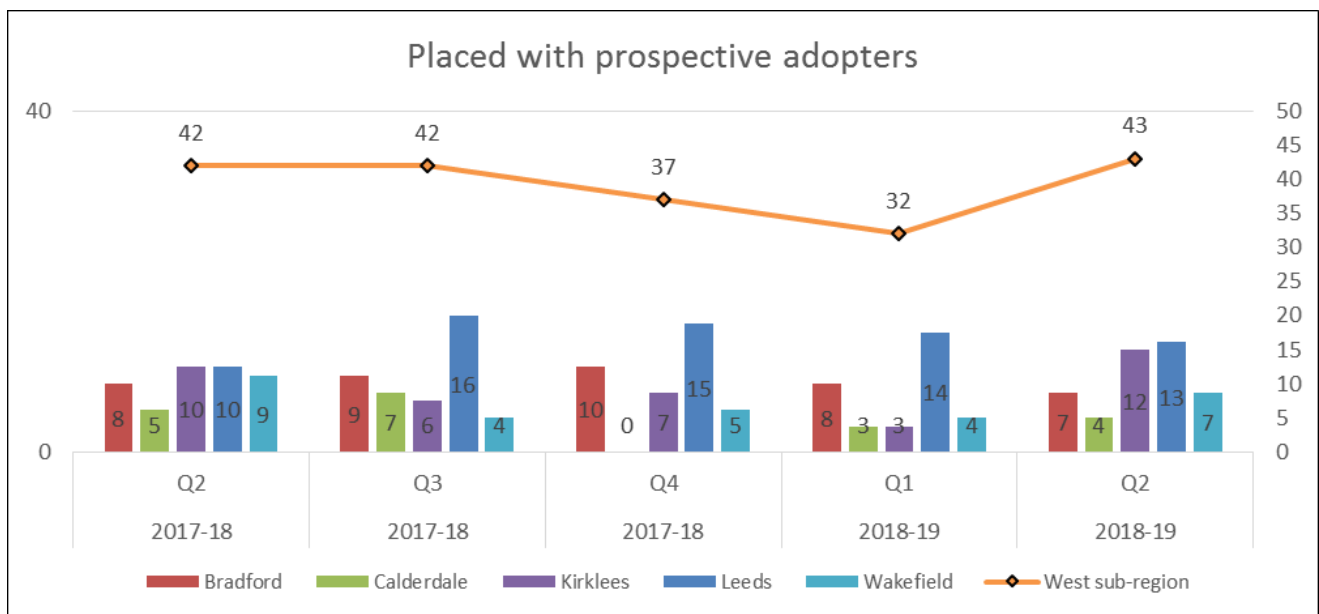
ADM decisions



The above graph shows that Kirklees has seen a reduction in the numbers of children coming through with a plan for adoption. This is likely to be due to the agency’s success in promoting early intervention with families and supporting families to enable children to remain within their birth family. One Adoption West Yorkshire has worked with senior managers and social work staff to support this vision, particularly within the legal gateway meeting and permanence panel, promoting pre-birth assessment and intervention wherever possible, and linking this to our early tracking of children. We are also working with Kirklees senior managers to develop a joint tracking system which will enable all concerned to work effectively together to ensure there will never be any drift for children in the permanence planning process.

The excellent early permanency placements (EPP) figures in Kirklees over the previous year shows that this very early joint tracking of children is working and is translated into the ability to maximise the use of early adoption placement.

We have just undertaken a joint piece of work with Kirklees Liquid Logic implementation team whereby we have mapped all the adoption processes and linked the work of OAWY with that of Kirklees which should enable an easier and more consistent flow of information between the agencies.



The longer term data (report attached) shows that the number of children placed with prospective adopters, have reduced across the five OAWY authorities in the last four years. This chart shows that in the last 12 months the number of Kirklees children placed have remained stable, all be it that quarter 1 of this year was particularly low with quarter 2 making up for this with a comparatively high number of children placed. The information also shows that Kirklees is doing well against the other OAWY Local Authorities.

It is extremely encouraging that as indicated in the longer term data report that Kirklees timeliness figures have been continually improving. The adoption score card data A1 and A2 which shows the length of time it takes for a child to move in with its adoptive family (from different start points), evidences that the number of days taken is lower in Kirklees than all other local authorities, with a significant reduction seen since 2015/16. This shows that there is no delay in matching and placing children with their adoptive families.

Given that Kirklees has been successful in reducing the need for children to have a plan for adoption, it is likely that we will see these reduced numbers of children placed for adoption remaining the same. We are currently family finding for 52 Kirklees children, 30 of these are early tracking (pre ADM decision) and 22 are post ADM where active family searches are being undertaken.

Adoption Support

Adoption support is an area of adoption provision where Kirklees has seen a significant increase in work undertaken on behalf of families since the regionalisation of adoption services. The demand for adoption support has been increasing significantly over the past few years since the inception of the National Adoption Support Fund in May 2015. OAWY have responded to this by increasing staffing in this area of work and have focused on skilling up the staff to provide some specialist support, therapy and training opportunities for children and their families.

The adoption support team are currently working with 86 Kirklees adoption support cases, including the provision of out of area adoption support for 8 families. The team have developed a good working relationship with Kirklees social work teams and 4 of the families

being supported at this time are subject to child protection plans, with the adoption support worker being part of the core group.

The team continue to host the very popular annual adopter support celebration events, have increased the offer of support groups and now run stay and play groups, adopted teens group and Theraplay groups. In addition a number of staff will be trained in Non- violence Resistance Techniques, so that they run specialist training for adoptive families around managing violent and threatening behaviour.

OAWY is very successful in assisting families to access funds via the ASF and Kirklees families have seen a significant increase in money accessed from the fund. Of the 86 families that we are currently working with, 82 of these families have had or continue receive ASF financial packages for therapy.

Recruitment of Adoptive Families

Adoption Agencies across the country are experiencing a particular challenge in recruiting enough adopters to meet the needs of children. This is something that is being carefully monitored on a national level with much consideration being given to the reasons for this and possible ways to turn this around.

OAWY have an affective system for monitoring it's through put of families and are able to use the trends to inform our focus and forward plan. This is closely linked to our family finding activity and planning.



As can be seen by the graph above we have seen a steady increase in the numbers of families approved by the agency. Although unfortunately as there has been a decrease in families in stage 2 at the end of quarter 2, we can predict there will be slight decrease in the number of families approved in the next quarter.

We have started the year with a huge boost to our marketing campaign with a very well received piece on look North (BBC Local T/V news programme) about Adoption and our need for more adoptive families. Sarah Johal, our Head of Agency spoke on this feature and was joined by one of our adoptive families.

The turnout at our next information event was extremely high, and we are hopeful that we will see increased numbers at our next few events as a direct result of this.



This graph shows that we are moving adopters easily through the process and that the vast majority of our approved families are matched with children from our Local Authorities with very few being matched with children from outside our RAA.

The Recruitment and Assessment team ensure that we are in a position to pick up and undertake all adoption assessments in a timely way ensuring there are no delays. This is imperative if we are going to maximise the use of all available families who approach us and therefore approve as many adopters as possible.

4. **Next steps**

The full year report will be available for the Corporate Parenting Board in June 2019.

5. **Officer recommendations and reasons**

That the report be noted.

6. **Contact officer**

Sarah Johal, Head of Service and Mandy Prout Servicer Delivery Manager, One Adoption West Yorkshire.



Half yearly Adoption Agency report

Date: 30th November 2018

1. Purpose of this report

- 1.1 This report sets out the developments within One Adoption West Yorkshire (OAWY) between April 2018 and September 2018, with additional information in relation to the performance relating to children in Leeds.

2. Main issues

Use of Resources

2.1 Staffing & HR

- 2.2 The staff group remains largely stable with a small number of staff leaving to take up other career opportunities or retiring in the last 6 months so there has been ongoing recruitment to these positions. A new lead officer for marketing and communications, Emma Whittell, has been seconded for 18 months from the Corporate Communications team in Leeds. One Adoption West Yorkshire is the lead agency regarding the regional marketing strategy and Emma is also working with the leadership team to improve communications internally in One Adoption West Yorkshire and with our approved adopters.
- 2.3 Mary Brudenell, service manager left the service in November, having emigrated to New Zealand. This was a positive move for Mary but a loss for the service. However, we have appointed a new service manager, Michelle Rawlings to replace Mary. There has been a change in lead responsibilities and Mandy Prout is leading on family finding and Michelle is taking a lead on recruitment and assessment work.
- 2.4 Julia Pearmain, one of the independent adoption panel chairs, has reduced the number of panels she is able to chair and we have therefore recruited a new Panel Chair to provide more flexibility in covering the panels. Andy Stott is an experienced manager with local authorities in the North West and more latterly as the operational manager for Barnardo's across Yorkshire and Humber.

2.5 Budget

- 2.6 In June 2018 there was an increase in the inter agency fees nationally and this has had a significant impact on the 2018/19 budget for OAWY with a request for an

increase in the funding from each local authority. The operational accountability of the regional agency is to the Management Board, comprising of senior officers delegated by each Director Children Services and the increase in budget has been agreed by the 5 LA's. The agency is overseen by a Joint Committee of councillors representing the 5 local authorities, who have knowledge of and responsibility for Children's Services. The Joint Committee exercises the corporate parenting role of the Participating Authorities in relation to the functions of One Adoption Agency for West Yorkshire and this issues has been discussed with them.

2.7 Duty System

2.8 Following the rollout of Enterprise Voice technology a revised Duty system came into effect on 2nd July 2018. This essentially means that duty is now rotated between the 3 main office bases in Bradford, Huddersfield and Leeds on a weekly basis. This has reduced the time staff spend travelling to Kernel House and there has been no adverse impact upon the ability to take calls and respond effectively. In fact, it has had a positive effect with staff feeling more positive about this approach with a growing feeling of connectivity across the bases.

2.9 Partnership working

2.10 Operational leads group

2.11 The Operational Leads group meets every three months and provides a good opportunity to discuss practice issues. Child Permanence Report training and sibling assessment training has been commissioned across the region with take up from some authorities. The legal planning and adoption panel training plus contact and adoption training is in the process of being commissioned.

2.12 A protocol regarding foster care adoptions has been agreed between One Adoption West Yorkshire and across the operational leads group that will improve the timeliness of progressing these.

2.13 A working group is being established to look at the interface between One Adoption West Yorkshire and the front door services across the region and to look at best practice for children and families, developing a clear protocol regarding the involvement of the respective services.

2.14 Centre of Excellence Project

This project is half way through the DfE funded programme of work. The project aims to improve the positive outcomes for children and families through an evidence based multi- agency assessment of need and support, in partnership with children, carers and others. With the recent addition of a psychologist.

2.15 Meetings with medical advisors

2.16 The medical advisors across the region meet with One Adoption West Yorkshire staff twice a year. A medical advisor protocol is in the process of being agreed and this is particularly relevant where there are differing views about medical opinions. There have been ongoing issues within two local authorities regarding medical advisor capacity and the time to undertake medicals regarding children's health needs in a timely manner. This has led to some delays for children in progressing care plans and the matters have been discussed within each local authority with commissioners in health to seek improvements in this regard.

2.17 *Virtual school heads (VSH)*

2.18 The management board agreed to the proposal regarding a service level agreement between One Adoption West Yorkshire and the five virtual school heads (VSH) to assist in implementing the new duty placed on VSH in each locality. A small amount of the grant was top sliced and pooled to enable an education worker within One Adoption West Yorkshire to work with VSH to help implement the new duty. A central telephone helpline is now in place and specific pieces of work have been agreed. The funding will enable the education worker to undertake an agreed programme of work with the VSH's, beyond the timescales for the centre of excellence project. This is pioneering work and is seen as an example of good practice by the Department of Education.

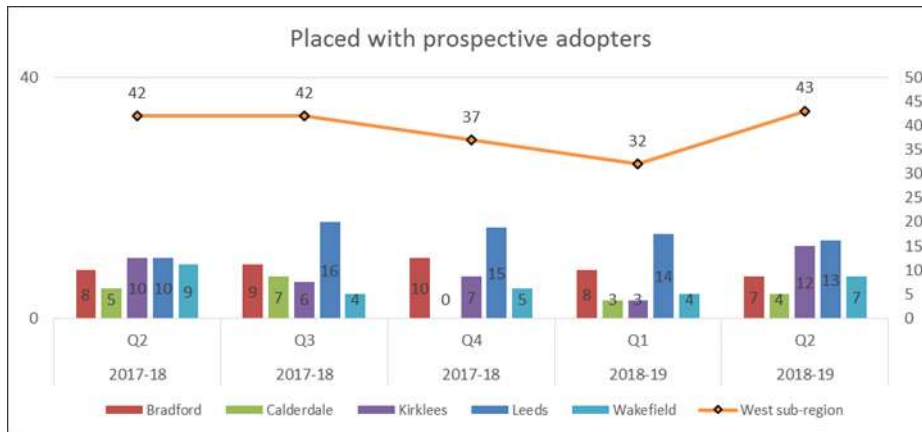
2.19 *Special Guardianship*

2.20 In July the management board agreed to another initiative, overseen by One Adoption West Yorkshire, working in partnership with grandparents plus and the five local authorities to provide support to special guardians in the region. This is a project developing a model that has been successful in the North East working with kinship carers providing a strong focus on peer support as a sustainable and effective way to support kinship carers. Two project workers have been recruited and came into post on 1st October 2018 and work has been progressing with the team managers in the fostering services to ensure that all are aware of the service, referral process and to look at identifying appropriate groups/ families to work with.

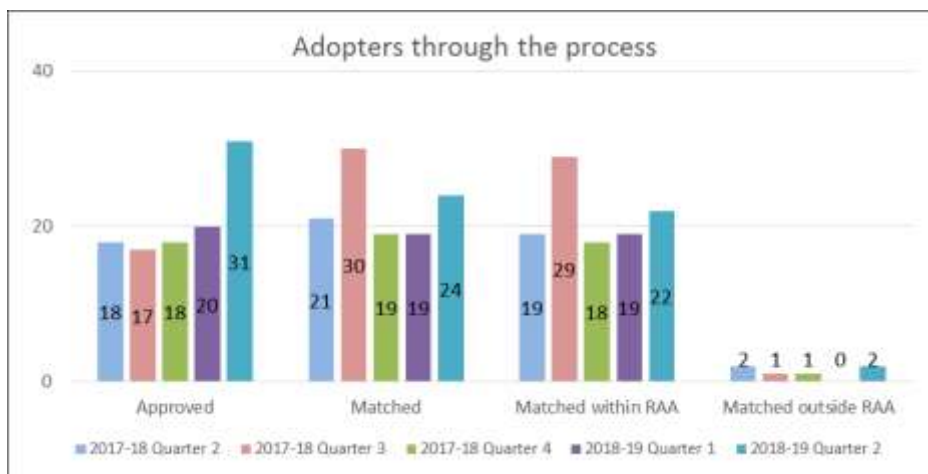
2.21 Performance Management

2.22 This is addressed in more detail in **Appendix 1 & 2**

2.23 Children placed



Adopter information



2.24 Practice, quality of provision and management oversight

2.25 In October this year One Adoption West Yorkshire was awarded a national award for Excellence in adoption practice. This was the first time a regional adoption agency has won a national award and this has aided with raising the profile of the agency, resulting in more interest from prospective adopters. One Adoption West

Yorkshire has also been shortlisted for the 2018 Local Government Chronicles Award and are through to the second round. This award is for working across public partnerships and is seen as a good example of regional working. One of the adoptive families also won the Adopter Champion of the year. They adopted four children and assist in the training of early permanence adopters.

2.26 Recruitment and Assessment

2.27 The adopter training offer is continuously developing, with the first two sessions led by birth parents for adopters, focussing on openness in adoption and contact issues. Adopters talk very positively about these sessions at adoption panel, and the panel members have been very impressed by this feedback. In addition the birth parents have stated that they have felt personal benefit and reward from taking part in this training, with one birth parent who was previously active in a campaign group against “forced adoption” stating that she no longer feels the need to be involved in this group as being involved in training adoptive parents has helped her to “move on”.

2.28 Early permanence practice in the region continues to grow with the adopter training being run by the advanced practitioners with positive feedback and attracting interest from outside agencies. The professionals training which is run jointly with Barnardo’s is going well with attendance from all Local Authority partners. The concurrency project is well underway with the first family being approved and another in assessment by Adoption Matters and Caritas Care

2.29 The piloting of the virtual reality training is underway with careful training and preparation being undertaken with staff with a view to start using this with adopters from January 2019 onwards.

2.30 Adoption Support

2.31 There continues to be a waiting list for families accessing support and this is extremely difficult for the service in terms of managing this. The waiting list stands around 70 and this was discussed at length at the last management board budget meeting. Additional funding has been agreed to assist with clearing the backlog of work and recruitment is underway to increase staffing to address the issue.

2.32 Peer mentoring is going from strength to strength and there are now 26 mentors who are up and running, and have a good flow of referral’s coming in. We have just trained our second group of mentors and are still receiving interest from experienced adopters who wish to join our Peer Mentoring ranks.

2.33 The new Adoption Support Fund (ASF) portal on the Government website came into force at the beginning of July. This is much more user-friendly and this plus our improved business support processes which we have put in place around making an application has meant that we have had a higher number of successful applications for therapeutic support for families. However, as large users of the fund

there is concern that the future of the ASF beyond 2020 is not yet clarified by the Department of Education.

- 2.34 We have run a number of well attended and successful activity based events over summer in Huddersfield, Castleford and Brighouse. These involved a large number of children and families attending with One Adoption staff attending in support.
- 2.35 A newsletter went out to all adoptive families across the region in June. There is a timetable and an editorial working group now in place to ensure these go out to families four times a year.
- 2.36 One of the stay and play groups in Leeds has been relaunched following consultation with parents. A successful Foundations for Attachment programme was undertaken with 20 families having accessed this since the start of the year.
- 2.37 One of the teams has begun working on a consultation model to offer adoptive families who are currently waiting for a service with assistance from the centre of excellence staff. This is due to start in early December.
- 2.38 *Family Finding*
- 2.39 The Family Finding teams have continued with the regional linking meeting to look at children and families in the assessment process and having established strong links with Adoption Match (National Adoption Register) we have a good regional view of children and families in the system. However, the national register is being suspended from April 2019 and therefore discussions are now underway with another provider, to look at how we can develop this work to provide a collective matching approach to maximise the resources available and reduce the time taken for family finding in making links.
- 2.40 The children's profiling events continue to take place and the last event was in October, inviting adoptive families from across the region and beyond to consider a selection of children awaiting adoption who were featured with high quality photos, DVDs and personalised displays.
- 2.41 23 families attended and we featured 37 profiles totalling 48 children, resulting in 26 expressions of interest from 16 families regarding 12 profiles (17 children in total).
- 2.42 A key issue is the mismatch locally, regionally and nationally between the numbers of children in the adoption process and the number of adopters available. We are trialling a bespoke family finding approach for some children who have very complex needs with a couple of children and are working with those local authorities as a higher level of publicity and advertising is required to find specific families for these children.

2.43 *Case File Audits*

2.44 There has been ongoing audit activity across the agency looking at children waiting for adoption placements and the senior leadership team spent a day at the end of August looking at 20 case files across One Adoption West Yorkshire looking at a mixture of cases to look at how effectively the staff are using the mosaic case recording system to record their work. There is a positive picture about the use of mosaic case recording system but some specific challenges regarding some of the tracking forms. These require some simplification for staff to use more effectively and work is underway to address this.

2.45 **Continuous Professional Development and Service Development**

2.46 *Service Improvement Plan*

2.47 Following the completion of the 3 Year Plan the One Adoption West Yorkshire Service Improvement Plan (SIP) was created. The SIP actions link to the 3 Year Plan, the Equality Impact Assessment, the Adoption Charter as well as actions identified by the team. The SIP is tracked via monthly meetings with service managers (the action owners) with shared actions discussed at SLT. A quarterly update report is presented to SLT to provide an overview of progress and discuss/resolve any issues.

2.48 *Feedback*

2.49 A new online feedback process is now in place and we use this to survey staff, adopters, bump into meetings, designated teacher and staff training. Further surveys for adopter training, information events and adoption support are in production. This method has brought consistency, allowed greater analysis and eliminated the resource burden associated with the former manual feedback process.

2.50 A staff survey has been carried out with staff citing strength in relationships not only with each other but also local authorities, adopters, other agencies and families. The areas for development centre on communication, travel and training. These issues have been addressed with staff with improvements in meeting arrangements with staff across the agency and a reduction in travel since the survey was completed around the duty system. A workforce development plan is in the process of being undertaken following a skills gap analysis.

2.51 The report card regarding the voice and influence of children and adopters is attached at **Appendix 3**.

2.52 The adoption panel has a quality assurance function and the panel chairs write a 6 monthly report for the agency to provide feedback regarding the quality of the work across the agency. In addition feedback is received regarding the quality of child permanence reports, adoption placement reports and prospective adopter reports.

Panel also received feedback from staff and adopters attending panels. The quality of child permanence reports from Leeds is good.

2.53 Staff Skills Development

2.54 Staff are able to attend a range of training and there are development sessions for each area of practice looking at developing knowledge and skills to support their work. We held an all staff event in October looking at becoming a trauma aware service, with input from Dr Matt Woolgar. There has also been a workshop on contact and adoption and a conference across the region regarding "identity", based on research findings and young people speaking about their experiences. The adoption panel training was recently undertaken with input from Dr. John Simmonds at Coram Baaf looking at issues of identity in relation to matching. This training was well received and enables us to start to address some of the bigger issues regarding adoption practice, ensuring that this is focussed on the individual needs of children and young people as they grow and develop into adults with a good understanding of their own identity.

2.55 One Adoption West Yorkshire Offering Training

2.56 One Adoption West Yorkshire delivered a learning lessons event to other Regional Adoption Agencies (RAA's) across the country in July regarding the first year as a regional agency with support from the Leeds Relational Practice Centre. This was positively received by other RAA's and we held a second event in October regarding Early Permanence. One Adoption West Yorkshire staff and adopters have also presented at national conferences regarding the journey of the first year as a regional adoption agency and regarding early permanence practice. This is helping with our vision of becoming a flagship adoption agency that promotes and develops best practice.

3. Corporate considerations

3.1 Consultation and engagement

3.1.1 There has been ongoing consultation and engagement with staff who have transferred in to the agency as well as formal consultation with the trade unions regarding accommodation. Consultation with service users is ongoing to inform the development of the service design and delivery of the agency.

3.2 Equality and diversity / cohesion and integration

3.2.1 There are no implications for this report.

3.3 Resources and value for money

3.3.1 There is a projected overspend this year due to an in year increase in inter agency fees and the capacity issues within adoption support. This has been considered by the Management Board and Joint committee who oversee the agency.

3.4 Legal implications and access to information

3.4.1 There are no implications for this report.

3.5 Risk management

3.5.1 The main risk is with regard to the financial arrangements for the agency and the increased budget required due to the increase in inter agency fees and the issues of capacity regarding adoption support. Regular financial monitoring is in place and the management board and joint committee oversee the arrangements for the agency.

4. Recommendations

4.1 The board is requested to:

- a) Note the progress of the agency; and
- b) Support the progression of these arrangements.

Background documents¹

None

¹ The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the Council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.



Kirklees' adoption performance

Version number:	1.0
Date produced:	January 2019
Created by:	Chris Hudson
Contact details:	CHS.Performance.and.Intelligence@leeds.gov.uk
Status:	Final
Filepath:	
Data source	https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/statistics-looked-after-children https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/local-authority-interactive-tool-lait
Protective marking:	Not protectively marked

Overview

The adoption system is a complex system, with many different milestones, timeliness statistics, and 'interested parties' (adopters and children). This briefing note attempts to quantify these complexities, and to show Kirklees' position within this system, against comparator groups (statistical neighbours, Yorkshire and The Humber, and England), and the four other One Adoption West Yorkshire (OAWY) agencies. It is clear from the data that there is not an overall pattern/trend that demonstrates improving or worsening performance; each stage of the adoption process has its own timescales, and its own challenges.

Limited data are available to attempt to judge the first operational year for OAWY. However, as the longer-term trend data show, any examination of a single year of data must be viewed with caution. The adoption system does show change, but it takes time for major changes to work through all aspects of the system. OAWY has been operational for one year, but many of the cases, and challenges, were already in the system. Once these 'legacy' cases have moved through the system, the impact of OAWY will become clearer.

Kirklees' performance measured against comparator groups

Thirteen per cent of children leaving care in Kirklees during 2017/18 were adopted. This places Kirklees in line with national, but slightly below statistical neighbours and the region, as shown in chart one. In the last three years, almost 16 per cent of children leaving care in Kirklees were adopted, compared to 14 per cent nationally. The chart shows that Kirklees' adoption pattern has tracked all comparator groups since 2014, being higher than national, but below statistical neighbours and the region.

Chart one: the percentage of children leaving care who were adopted, in Kirklees and comparator groups, 2012 to 2017



Appendix one show six charts, extracted from the DfE LAIT¹ (Local Interactive Tool). The LAIT contains the latest nationally available datasets across a range of disciplines. It is an interactive spreadsheet for comparing data about children and young people across all local authorities in England. The charts in appendix one show different elements of the adoption process, and how Kirklees performs against three comparator groups - DfE statistical neighbours, Yorkshire and The Humber, and the national average.

The purpose of including these charts is to demonstrate the complexities of the adoption system. Parts of the systems have seem improvements in performance in recent years, whereas other parts have seen a reduction in performance. There is no clear overall direction of travel when looking at all the charts, but it is clear that Kirklees' performance is tracking the direction in each part of the adoption system; sometimes Kirklees is performing better than comparators, sometimes comparator groups are performing better than Kirklees.

The importance of finding the right family for a child cannot be under-estimated. Kirklees has seen a consistently high proportion of 'hard to place' children (children who are disabled; children who are part of a sibling group; and children from a BME background) being adopted in recent years. In the single year of 2018, 37 per cent of adoptions were 'hard to place' children; whilst this is a slight reduction from previous years, this is a higher proportion than two of the local authorities who form OAWY.

The rise in early permanence placements (EPP) in Kirklees is very positive for children reducing the placements children have with different carers. With 5 new arrangements starting in 2017/18 this is an increase on previous years. This is the second highest use of early permanence within the 5 OAWY authorities.

¹ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/local-authority-interactive-tool-lait>

Appendix two contains a range of information collected by OAWY, providing detail behind the headline measures presented in the LAIT. Indicators A1 and A2 from the adoption scorecard look at the length of time it takes for a child to move in with its adoptive family (from different start points). Timeliness has significantly improved across the region. Kirklees' timeliness statistics at that point are lower (better) than all authorities in the region, with a three-year improving trend showing that timely placements are made, in spite of the number of high number of children who are harder to place.

Fewer placement orders were granted for Kirklees children in 2017/18 than in 2016/17. The three previous years show a year-on-year increase in placement orders being granted. Kirklees' pattern in 2017/18 is reflected in two other authorities (Leeds and Wakefield), but not in two others (Bradford and Calderdale), where a rise was seen. This may be due to more of a focus on extended family caring for children and less plans for adoption being therefore required.

Performance of the individual One Adoption West Yorkshire authorities

Appendix two contains data from 2014/15 to 2017/18 covering the five OAWY local authorities. This shows performance in the three years before OAWY was established, and the first year of operation for the agency.

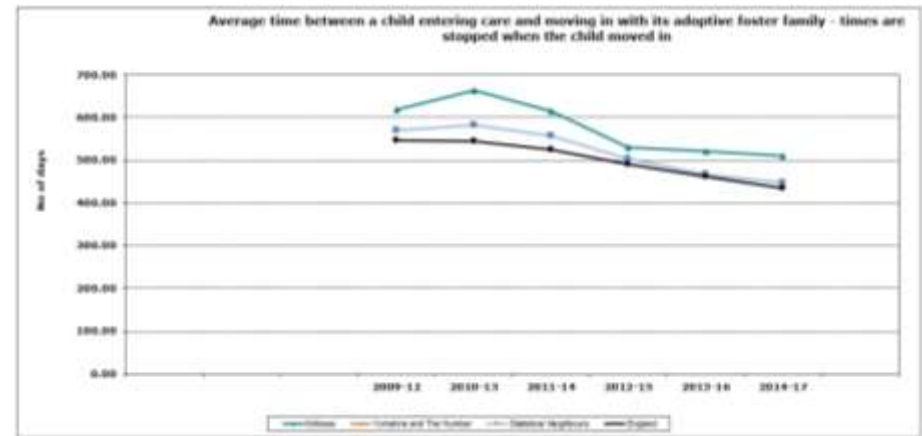
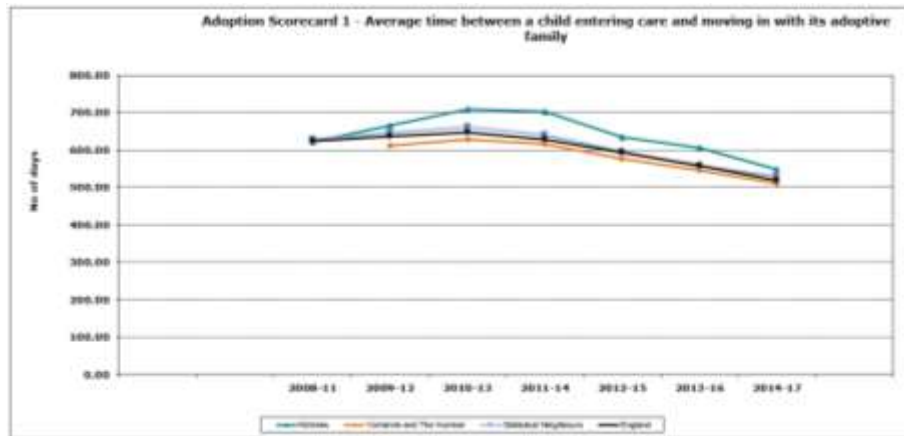
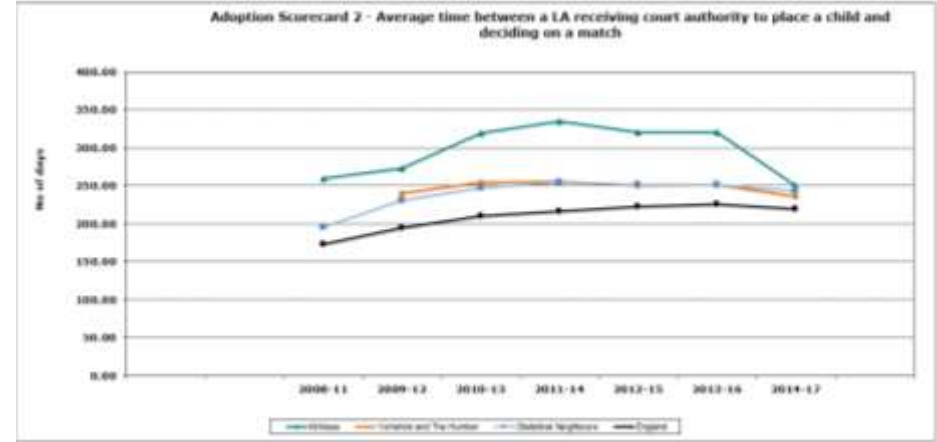
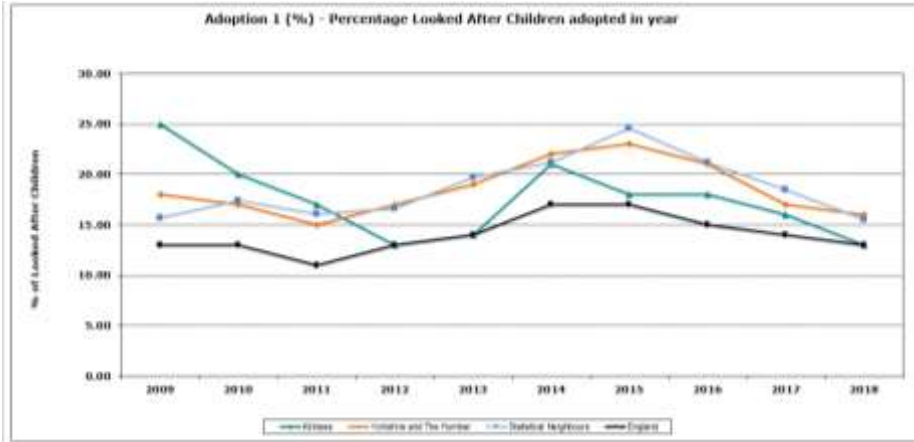
Following a rise in 2015/16, there has been a two-year reduction in the number of decisions made to adopt across the five OAWY authorities (appendix two | table one). This part of the adoption process occurs before placement orders are made and is often the first part of the system that anticipates process and legislation change. The Kirklees pattern reflects the regional pattern.

Table four reflects the reductions in decisions made to adopt; it reports children placed with prospective adopters. All five OAWY authorities have seen a reduction of more than a quarter in the number of placements made between 201/14 and 2017/18 and this reflects national trends and also across the Yorkshire and Humber region. Tables five and six, however, show that the timeliness of adoptions is improving, extremely positive for children.

The long-term trend on the two adoption scorecard indicators (A1 and A2; appendix two | tables five and six) is positive for all five local authorities, indicating that the timeliness of adoptions continues to improve. The number of days taken is lower in Kirklees than all other local authorities, with a significant reduction seen since 2015/16.

Both the number of children matched, and the number of children placed with prospective adopters, have reduced across the five OAWY authorities in the last four years. Kirklees' percentage reduction between 2014/15 and 2017/18 is line with, or better, than the region average.

Appendix one: selected charts from the DfE LAIT, showing Kirklees' comparative adoption performance



Appendix two: performance of the individual One Adoption West Yorkshire authorities

This appendix contains locally-collected data covering three years prior to the establishment of OAWY, along with data from 2017/18, the first year of operation for OAWY.

Table one	Decisions made for a child to be adopted				Percentage change for decision made			
	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	15/16 vs 14/15	16/17 vs 15/16	17/18 vs 16/17	17/18 vs 14/15
Bradford	41	43	42	51	4.9%	-2.3%	21.4%	24.4%
Calderdale	4	22	10	19	450.0%	-54.5%	90.0%	375.0%
Kirklees	32	45	53	32	40.6%	17.8%	-39.6%	0.0%
Leeds	76	93	69	57	22.4%	-25.8%	-17.4%	-25.0%
Wakefield	52	36	37	32	-30.8%	2.8%	-13.5%	-38.5%
West sub-region	205	239	211	191	16.6%	-11.7%	-9.5%	-6.8%

Table two	Number of placement orders granted				Percentage change of placement orders granted			
	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	15/16 vs 14/15	16/17 vs 15/16	17/18 vs 16/17	17/18 vs 14/15
Bradford	30	35	29	43	16.7%	-17.1%	48.3%	43.3%
Calderdale	10	10	14	21	0.0%	40.0%	50.0%	110.0%
Kirklees	10	40	48	29	300.0%	20.0%	-39.6%	190.0%
Leeds	60	75	76	55	25.0%	1.3%	-27.6%	-8.3%
Wakefield	45	30	33	21	-33.3%	10.0%	-36.4%	-53.3%
West sub-region	145	190	200	169	31.0%	5.3%	-15.5%	16.6%

Table three	Children matched				Percentage change of children matched			
	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	15/16 vs 14/15	16/17 vs 15/16	17/18 vs 16/17	17/18 vs 14/15
Bradford	75	40	44	32	-46.7%	10.0%	-27.3%	-57.3%
Calderdale	5	..	9	15	-	-	66.7%	200.0%
Kirklees	45	40	43	27	-11.1%	7.5%	-37.2%	-40.0%
Leeds	85	85	82	57	0.0%	-3.5%	-30.5%	-32.9%
Wakefield	40	..	32	23	-	-	-28.1%	-42.5%
West sub-region	250	165	210	154	-34.0%	27.3%	-26.7%	-38.4%

Table four

	Placed with prospective adopters				Percentage change of placed with prospective adopters			
	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	15/16 vs 14/15	16/17 vs 15/16	17/18 vs 16/17	17/18 vs 14/15
Bradford	62	27	40	38	-56.5%	48.1%	-5.0%	-38.7%
Calderdale	22	25	9	13	13.6%	-64.0%	44.4%	-40.9%
Kirklees	40	49	41	29	22.5%	-16.3%	-29.3%	-27.5%
Leeds	103	80	83	54	-22.3%	3.8%	-34.9%	-47.6%
Wakefield	43	42	31	23	-2.3%	-26.2%	-25.8%	-46.5%
West sub-region	270	223	204	157	-17.4%	-8.5%	-23.0%	-41.9%

Table five

	Adoption scorecard indicator A1				Percentage change for A1			
	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	15/16 vs 14/15	16/17 vs 15/16	17/18 vs 16/17	17/18 vs 14/15
Bradford	611	552	388	354	-9.7%	-29.7%	-8.8%	-42.1%
Calderdale	703	727	532	290	3.4%	-26.8%	-45.5%	-58.8%
Kirklees	532	570	467	247	7.1%	-18.1%	-47.1%	-53.6%
Leeds	489	523	489	425	7.0%	-6.5%	-13.1%	-13.1%
Wakefield	566	..	474	499	-	-	5.3%	-11.8%
West sub-region	580	593	470	397	2.2%	-20.7%	-15.5%	-31.6%

A1: average time (in days) between a child entering care and moving in with its adoptive family
SINGLE-YEAR DATA, not a three-year average

Table six

	Adoption scorecard indicator A2				Percentage change for A2			
	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	15/16 vs 14/15	16/17 vs 15/16	17/18 vs 16/17	17/18 vs 14/15
Bradford	281	310	159	150	10.3%	-48.7%	-5.5%	-46.6%
Calderdale	371	471	224	103	27.0%	-52.4%	-54.2%	-72.3%
Kirklees	275	342	150	77	24.4%	-56.1%	-48.8%	-72.1%
Leeds	243	281	207	167	15.6%	-26.3%	-19.3%	-31.3%
Wakefield	229	..	211	190	-	-	-10.1%	-17.2%
West sub-region	280	351	190	154	25.4%	-45.8%	-19.0%	-45.0%

A2: average time (in days) between a local authority receiving court authority to place a child and the local authority deciding on a match to an adoptive family
SINGLE-YEAR DATA, not a three-year average