

Name of meeting: Corporate Parenting Board
Date: 19 June 2019
Title of report: Fostering Statement of Purpose

Purpose of report

This report gives an overview of the Statement of Purpose of the Kirklees Fostering Service.

Key Decision - Is it likely to result in spending or saving £250k or more, or to have a significant effect on two or more electoral wards?	NA
Key Decision - Is it in the Council's Forward Plan (key decisions and private reports?)	NA
The Decision - Is it eligible for call in by Scrutiny?	NA
Date signed off by <u>Strategic Director</u> & name Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Finance IT and Transactional Services? Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning Support?	Give name and date for Cabinet reports NA NA NA
Cabinet member portfolio	Cllr V Kendrick Childrens Portfolio

Electoral wards affected: All

Ward councillors consulted: No

Public or private: Public

(Have you considered GDPR?)

Yes GDPR has been considered. The information in this report does not identify any individuals.

1. Summary

Standard 16 - of the National Minimum Standards states that fostering services require a Statement of purpose and children's guide which is available to, and understood by, foster carers, staff and children and is reflected in any policies, procedures and guidance. It is available to the responsible authority and any parent or person with parental responsibility. It states:

'Children, their parents, foster carers, staff and the responsible authority/ placing authority are clear about the aims and objectives of the fostering service and what services and facilities it provides'.

Attached is the Kirklees Fostering Service Statement of Purpose. We are working with Children's Rights to produce a relevant children's copy as the guidance states: Subject to the child's age and understanding, fostering service ensures the child receives the Children's Guide at the point of placement and that the foster carer explains the contents of the Children's Guide in a way that is accessible. Supervisory Social Workers will brief our carers on the statement of purpose and need to share with our children placed in their care.

It is important that children know how they can find out their rights, how to contact their Independent Reviewing Officer, the Children's Rights Director, Ofsted if they wish to raise a concern with inspectors, and how to secure access to an independent advocate.

Where a child requires it, the guide is available, where appropriate, through suitable alternative methods of communication, e.g. Makaton, pictures, tape recording, translation into another language.

2. Information required to take a decision

No decision is required.

3. Implications for the Council

3.1 **Working with People** Not applicable

3.2 **Working with Partners** Not applicable

3.3 **Place Based Working** Not applicable

3.4 Improving Outcomes for Children

This information is provided at the request of Corporate Parenting Board to monitor the number of children in care their age and location of placements.

3.5 **Reducing demand of services**
Not applicable

3.6 **Other (e.g. Legal/Financial or Human Resources)**
Not applicable

4. Consultees and their opinions

Not applicable

5. Next steps

A similar report will be presented at a future Corporate Parenting Board.

6. Officer recommendations and reasons

That the report be noted.

7. Cabinet portfolio holder's recommendations

Not applicable

8. Contact officer

Andy Quinlan Service Manager Fostering

9. Background Papers and History of Decisions

Fostering Statement of Purpose – Corporate Parenting Board 30.4.18

10. Service Director responsible

Elaine McShane, Service Director (Child Protection and Family Support)