

Regional Adoption Agency

Summary

1. This paper provides an update on One Adoption North and Humber, the regional adoption agency. One Adoption North and Humber now provides adoption services to the City of York in a regional model as required by Government Policy that states all Local Authorities should be in a regional adoption agency by 2020.
2. The purpose of regionalisation is to have a system where children are matched with the most suitable adopter as quickly as possible, the recruitment of adopters takes place at an efficient scale to provide a pool of 'adoption ready' adopters large enough and well matched to the needs of children waiting for an adoptive family and that there are enough high quality adoption support services available nationwide.

Background

3. One Adoption North and Humber went live in February 2018 after a significant period of planning. The Agency comprises of the adoption services of five Local Authorities, City of York (the host), North Yorkshire County Council, East Riding of Yorkshire Council, Hull City Council and North East Lincolnshire Council. One Adoption North and Humber is responsible for the recruitment of adopters, family finding for children needing an adoptive family and the provision of post adoption support for adopted children across the region.
4. The original Head of Agency, Mary McKelvey retired in July 2018 and Suzie Grove started in this position on the 8 November 2018.

Council Plan

5. This reports links to the Council Plan - a focus on frontline services - to ensure all residents, particularly the least advantaged, can access reliable services and community facilities.

Implications

6. The Regional Agency now provides adoption services to the City of York and City of York is the host of the regional agency.

Risk Management

7. The Regional Board is the mechanism by which the Local Authority will mitigate risk.

Recommendations

8. Corporate Parenting Board to note this paper and the verbal report.

Reason: To keep Members updated.

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Report Approved



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Wards Affected: List wards or tick box to indicate all

All

For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers: None