

Assessing Permanent Carers Team

Summary

1. This paper provides an update on the work Assessing Permanent Carers Team and how works supports strategies to support Good Safe Placements.

Background

2. The Assessing Permanent Carers Team is responsible for recruiting and assessing mainstream and connected carers.
3. Foster carer sufficiency is a challenge for City of York Council, this reflects the national picture.
4. In 2017/18 there was a small overall increase in fostering households, although the majority of these were connected carers. At present there are 4 mainstream fostering assessments underway with another 4 households attending the upcoming Skills to Foster training.
5. City of York has two approaches to foster carer recruitment:
 - I. You Can Foster - bringing together a number of councils from the North West and Yorkshire to collectively pay for a co-ordinated and market-tested campaign.
 - II. CYC internal recruitment strategy which will focus on social media in the next 12 months
6. The offer to foster carers has been reviewed through the Placement Review with the intention of retaining and recruiting more foster carers.

Council Plan

7. This report 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.

8. Implications

- **Human Resources:** None specific to this paper
- **Legal:** None specific to this paper
- **Equalities:** None specific to this paper
- **Crime and Disorder:** None specific to this paper
- **Information Technology (IT):** None specific to this paper

Risk Management

9. Continued low recruitment rates of mainstream fostering households will result in children in care being placed out of area at a cost and may impact on their outcomes.

Recommendations

10. Members are asked to note the report.
Reason: To keep the Board updated.

Contact Details

Author: James Lee
Assessing Permanent
Carers Service Manager
01904 553319

Chief Officer Responsible for the

report:
Amanda Hatton
Director of Children Education and
Communities

**Report
Approved**



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For further information please contact the author of the report

Annexes

Annex A - Foster Care Recruitment update