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## Report of Director of Children's Services

## Report to West Yorkshire Adoption Joint Committee

Date: 28<sup>th</sup> June 2017

## Subject: Practice Improvement & Performance Report

Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?

Yes  No

Does the report contain confidential or exempt information?

Yes  No

If relevant, access to information procedure rule number:

Appendix number:

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## Summary of main issues

1. One Adoption West Yorkshire was formally opened on the 1 April 2017, with the councils of Bradford, Calderdale, Kirklees Wakefield and Leeds formally entering into a Partnership Agreement to carry out shared adoption services. The adoption functions of Bradford, Calderdale, Kirklees and Wakefield, as specified in the partnership agreement have been delegated to Leeds City Council.
2. This report sets out the progression of the arrangements for a practice improvement framework and also provides baseline data of the performance of each Local authority to be considered as a basis for analysing performance data as the agency develops.

## Recommendations

The Joint Committee is requested to:

1. Endorse the proposed practice improvement framework and baseline data and support the development of this work

## **1. Purpose of this report**

- 1.1 This report sets out the practice improvement framework and baseline performance data for One Adoption West Yorkshire (OAWY).

## **2. Background information**

- 2.1 Bradford, Calderdale, Kirklees and Wakefield adoption functions as specified in the partnership agreement were delegated on the 1st April 2017 to Leeds City Council. One Adoption West Yorkshire formally opened.
- 2.2 The partnership agreement is clear that One Adoption West Yorkshire will develop a performance management framework and will comply with the key performance indicators set and report upon performance in relation to these to the Management Board of the Regional Adoption Agency (RAA), the Adoption Leadership board and any other statutory body as required.

## **3. Main issues**

- 3.1 Work has been undertaken to establish the key performance criteria which will form the basis for practice improvement for the agency (See Appendix 1).
- 3.2 Parallel work has established the baseline data which shows the patterns, trends and snapshot information relating to adoption activity in the past 3-5 years in each local authority. A performance group has been set up across the region involving a lead person from each Local Authority (LA) to ensure that the data is effectively shared with OAWY and to develop this work. Further data from LA partners is required as we move forward and development work going forward (Appendix 2).
- 3.3 Adoption Support is one area that requires more detailed consideration. There are a number of discussions locally, regionally and nationally about the data requirements that will assist in measuring performance and the adopter voice forum is working closely with us in developing this. This work will be presented to the next meeting.

## **4. Corporate considerations**

### **4.1 Consultation and engagement**

- 4.1.1 There has been ongoing consultation and engagement with other local authorities and with adoptive parents about the practice improvement framework and performance measures.

### **4.2 Equality and diversity / cohesion and integration**

- 4.2.1 One Adoption West Yorkshire as a regional adoption agency will aim to ensure that there is an equal service provision which addresses the varied and diverse needs of the children and adoptive families of the West Yorkshire region.

### **4.3 Resources and value for money**

- 4.3.1 The oversight of the new agency's performance will contribute to the efficient use of resources and greater value for money.

#### **4.4 Legal implications and access to information**

4.4.1 There are no specific legal implications for this report.

#### **4.5 Risk management**

4.5.1 The oversight of performance will identify any key risks for the new agency and the local authorities. Over time the risks will be addressed through a defined action plan.

#### **5. Recommendations**

5.1 The Joint Committee is requested to:

Endorse the proposed practice improvement framework and baseline data and support the development of this work.

#### **6. Background documents<sup>1</sup>**

6.1 None

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<sup>1</sup> 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.