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Report of Director of Children's Services

Report to West Yorkshire Adoption Joint Committee

Date: 26th January 2021

Subject: Half yearly Report for One Adoption West Yorkshire

Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	🗌 Yes	🖾 No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, access to information procedure rule number: Appendix number:	☐ Yes	🛛 No

Main issues

The West Yorkshire Joint Committee recognise the importance of adoption and want to be updated about the management and outcomes of the service. The report provides an overview of adoption service activity from April 2020 to September 2020. The report is attached at Appendix A.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Joint Committee receives the half yearly report of One Adoption West Yorkshire (OAWY), detailed in Appendix A of this report, as required by the National Minimum Standards for Adoption 2014, pursuant to the Care Standards Act 2000. The report is to enable to committee to monitor the management and outcomes of the service so that they may be satisfied that the agency is effective and is achieving good outcomes for children and/or services users.

1 Purpose of this report

1.1 This report asks the West Yorkshire Joint Committee to consider the half yearly report of the One Adoption West Yorkshire (OAWY), as detailed in Appendix A of this report, as required by the National Minimum Standards 2014. This is to enable the Joint Committee to monitor the management and outcomes of the service so that they may be satisfied that the agency is effective and is achieving good outcomes for children and/or services users; and satisfy themselves that the agency is complying with the conditions of registration.

2 Background information

2.1 The background issues in relation to the half yearly report are addressed in detail in the report itself at Appendix A.

3 Main issues

3.1 The main issues are contained within the report itself at Appendix A.

4 Corporate Considerations

4.1 Consultation and Engagement

4.1.1 One Adoption West Yorkshire has good mechanisms to consult with and engage adopters and young people in order to develop and deliver service and the annual report contains a report regarding the voice and influence of those using the services.

4.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

4.2.1 There is an equality impact assessment reviewed in 2019. This is in the process of being reviewed in the light of Black Lives Matter agenda.

4.3 Resources and value for money

4.3.1 One Adoption West Yorkshire is resourced through a joint pooled budget and underpinned by a partnership agreement. This is discussed more fully in the main body of the half yearly report at appendix A.

4.4 Legal Implications and Access to Information

4.4.1 It is a requirement of the National Minimum Standards 2011 for adoption that the Executive side of the council receives a written report, and all reports are submitted to the West Yorkshire Joint Committee for the regional adoption agency, as a more appropriate forum for this to be received, given this is a regional service.

4.5 Risk Management

4.5.1 Not applicable.

5 Conclusions

5.1 This report seeks that Joint Committee review the half yearly report, as outlined in Appendix A, and continue to support the work of OAWY to ensure our children receive the best possible support.

6 Recommendations

6.2 It is recommended that the West Yorkshire Joint Committee receive the half yearly report of One Adoption West Yorkshire (OAWY), detailed in Appendix A of this report, as required by the National Minimum Standards for Adoption 2014, pursuant to the Care Standards Act 2000. This is to enable the Committee to monitor the management and outcomes of the service so that they may be satisfied that the agency is effective and is achieving good outcomes for children and/or services users; and satisfy themselves that the agency is complying with the conditions of registration.

7 Background documents¹

7.1 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.