

Report of the Director of Children and Families

Report to Executive Board

Date: 27th June 2018

Subject: Annual Report of the One Adoption West Yorkshire & Statement of Purpose.



Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Summary of main issues

1. Elected Members in Leeds recognise the importance of adoption and want to be updated about the management and outcomes of the adoption service. The report provides an overview of adoption service activity from April 2017 to March 2018. The report is attached at Appendix A.

The report also seeks elected member approval of the revised Statement of Purpose for One Adoption West Yorkshire's Adoption Service. The Statement of Purpose for the service is attached at Appendix B. The Statement of Purpose is required as part of the national minimum standards in order to be able to provide those services.

Recommendations

1. It is recommended that the Executive Board approve the Statement of Purpose for the One Adoption West Yorkshire, hosted by Leeds City Council. It is also recommended that the Executive Board reviews the annual adoption report and continues to support the work of One Adoption West Yorkshire to ensure children receive the best possible support.

1 Purpose of this report

- 1.1 This report asks the Executive Board to consider the annual report of the One Adoption West Yorkshire (OAWY), as detailed in Appendix A of this report, as required by the National Minimum Standards 2011.
- 1.2 This report seeks elected member to approve the revised statement of purpose for OAWY. The Statement of Purpose for the service is attached at appendix B. The Statement of Purpose is required as part of the national minimum standard in order to be able to provide those services.

2 Background information

- 2.1 It is a requirement of the National Minimum Standards for Adoption Services, that each adoption service produces a statement of purpose, including its aims and objectives, a description of the service it provides and the facilities that are provided. This Statement of Purpose gives an outline of those requirements and also how the service is managed and its fitness to provide a comprehensive adoption service.
- 2.2 Children's service adoption service are inspected against these standards by Ofsted. The statement of purpose and any updates must be approved through the 'Executive side of the council' on an annual basis.
- 2.3 The Statement of Purpose attached give an outline of those requirements and also how the service is managed and its fitness to provide adoption service. It shows the policy and performance framework that underpins the work and shows how the welfare of children will be met. It also demonstrates the systems which we have set in place to recruit, assess, prepare and support adopters and to family find for children with a plan for adoption.
- 2.4 The Council's Executive Board is the most appropriate body to provide formal approval for the statement of Purpose and to review the work of OAWY. The background issues in relation to the adoption annual report are addressed in detail in the report itself at Appendix A.

3 Main issues

- 3.1 The statement and annual report was last submitted to Executive Board in July 2017. 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.

4.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

4.2.1 OAWY completed a full Equality Impact Assessment in 2018 and is an appendix to the annual report.

4.3 Council policies and Best Council Plan

4.3.1 This report contributes to the delivery of the Best Council Plan outcome for everyone in Leeds to 'be safe and feel safe'. In addition, the Children and Young Peoples Plan identifies Looked After Children as one of the three priority 'Obsessions'. OAWY is integral to these plans to provide stable and secure placements for looked after children.

4.4 Resources and value for money

4.4.1 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 annual report at appendix A.

4.5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

4.5.1 It is a requirement of the National Minimum Standards 2011 for adoption that the Executive Board of the council receives a written report.

4.5.2 This is addressed in 2.1- 2.4 above and is subject to call in.

4.6 Risk Management

4.6.1 Not applicable

5 Conclusions

5.1 This report seeks that Executive Board review the annual report, as outlined in Appendix A, and continue to support the work of OAWY to ensure our children receive the best possible support.

5.2 This report also seeks Elected Member approval of the revised statement of purpose for One Adoption West Yorkshire. The Statement of Purpose for the service is attached at appendix B. The Statement of Purpose is required as part of the national minimum standards in order to be able to provide those services.

6 Recommendations

6.1 It is recommended that the Executive Board approve the Statement of Purpose for One Adoption West Yorkshire. It is also recommended that the Executive Board reviews the annual adoption report and continues to support the work of OAWY to ensure children receive the best possible support.

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.