

**Open Report on behalf of Janice Spencer OBE,  
Assistant Director - Children's Services (Safeguarding)**

Report to:	<b>Corporate Parenting Panel</b>
Date:	<b>17 September 2020</b>
Subject:	<b>Adoption Annual Report and Statement of Purpose</b>

**Summary:**

The purpose of this report is to inform the Corporate Parenting Panel about the work of the Adoption Service in accordance with the requirements of the Care Standards National Minimum Standards 2003, 2011, 2014, and the Adoption and Children Act 2002. The National Minimum Standards, together with the Adoption Regulations, form the basis of the regulatory framework under the Care Standards Act 2000 for the conduct of Adoption Agencies and Adoption Support Agencies.

Under the requirements of the National Standards, Members, in their role as Corporate Parents, should be informed on a regular basis about the activity of the Adoption Service.

The National Minimum Standards for the Adoption Service are broken down into 31 standards. Standard 17 deals with the "monitoring and controlling" and requires the Executive Councillor to satisfy itself that the Adoption Agency is effective and achieves good outcomes for children (Section 17.3). Standard 18 deals with the Statement of Purpose and requires the Executive Councillor to satisfy itself that the Adoption Agency and Adoption Support Agency meet the aims and objectives of the Statement of Purpose.

The Annual Report at Appendix A and the Statement of Purpose at Appendix B set out the relevant performance information, and identifies the key developments with the service of the last twelve months.

**Actions Required:**

The Corporate Parenting Panel is requested to:

- a) Consider the Adoption Service Annual Report and Statement of Purpose and highlight any comments for further consideration;
- b) Recommend the approval of the Adoption Service Annual Report and Statement of Purpose.

## **1. Background**

In recognition of the highly specialised nature of adoption, Lincolnshire Children's Services operates a discreet Adoption Service, on a countywide basis from three localities. The Annual Report and Statement of Purpose thus present the performance of the service over the previous year 2019-20 to the Executive Councillor responsible for Children's Services and Elected Members.

## **2. Conclusion**

The Annual Report attached at Appendix A contains a range of information about the Adoption Agency in relation to performance indicators and measuring good outcomes; the work of the Adoption Panel; and various regulations relating to the Act and Adoption Support.

The Statement of Purpose is attached at Appendix B and its purpose is to ensure children, staff and service users are clear about the aims and objectives of the Adoption Agency and Adoption Support Agency, and what services and facilities it provides. Members of the Adoption Panel and staff working in the Adoption Service have been consulted.

The Statement of Purpose fulfils the requirement of Standard 18 of the Adoption Minimum Standards (Care Standards Act, 2000) and Regulation 2 of the Local Authority Adoption Services (England) Regulations 2003.

## **3. Consultation**

### **a) Have Risks and Impact Analysis been carried out?**

N/A

### **b) Risks and Impact Analysis**

N/A

## **4. Appendices**

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Adoption Annual Report
Appendix B	Adoption Statement of Purpose

## **5. Background Papers**

This report was written by Yvonne Shearwood, who can be contacted on 01522 554849 or [Yvonne.Shearwood@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:Yvonne.Shearwood@lincolnshire.gov.uk)