



## Open Report on behalf of Heather Sandy, Executive Director - Children's Services

Report to:	Corporate Parenting Panel
Date:	10 March 2022
Subject:	Fostering Permanence Report February 2022

### Summary:

This report provides Panel Members with an overview of the Fostering Service in-House Matching Events relating to securing Permanence for Children in Care.

### Actions Required:

Members of the Corporate Parenting Panel are asked:

- (1) to consider and comment on the report; and,
- (2) that the report be accepted as an accurate overview of the in-House Matching activity of the service in relation to efforts made to secure Permanence for Children in Care.

## 1. Background

To present an overview of the Fostering Service Quarterly Performance Report to members of the Corporate Parenting Panel.

For those children in the care of the Local Authority the legal framework of the Children Act 1989, subsequent guidance and regulations set out the arrangements the Council must make for looking after a child (children in care). The making of a care plan is central to these requirements and will contain information about how the child's current developmental needs will be met as well as the arrangements for the current and longer-term care for the child. It ensures that there is a long-term plan for the child's upbringing (referred to as 'the permanence plan') to which everyone is working, including the team around the child, the child and, where appropriate, the family.

One of the key functions of the care plan is to ensure that each child has a plan for permanence by the time of the second Children in Care review.

Permanence means making a long-term plan for how a child will be cared for which lasts throughout their childhood. There are a range of options for permanence, inside and outside of the care system. All should deliver good outcomes, giving children security, continuity, commitment, identity and belonging to ensure future positive life chances. Permanence options for children include returning home to their families; living with kinship (family/friends and connected persons) carers, including special guardians; living with adoptive families; living with long-term foster carers; or living in residential care.

## **2. Conclusion**

The report provides Panel Members with an update on progress within the service area to be recognised and taken as an accurate reflection of the service.

## **3. Consultation**

### **a) Risks and Impact Analysis**

N/A

## **4. Appendices**

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Fostering Service Performance Report February 2022

## **5. Background Papers**

No background papers within Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in preparation of this report.

This report was written by Deborah Crawford, Head of Service Fostering, Adoption and Leaving Care, who can be contacted on 01522 552781, or at [deborah.crawford@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:deborah.crawford@lincolnshire.gov.uk).