

**FOSTERING SERVICE ANNUAL REPORT 2017/18**

*To:* **Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee**

*Meeting Date:* **21<sup>st</sup> November 2018**

*From:* **John Heron  
Consultant Lead Manager - Fostering**

*Electoral division(s):* **All**

*Purpose:* **To provide the Sub-Committee with an overview of the work of the Fostering Service during the year 2017 and 2018.**

*Recommendation:* **The Committee is asked to note and comment on the Fostering Service Annual Report 2018-18.**

<b><i>Officer contact:</i></b>		<b><i>Member contact:</i></b>	
Name:	Fiona Van Den Hout	Names:	Councillor Lis Every
Post:	Head of Service – Corporate Parenting	Role:	Chairman, Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee
Email:	Fiona.vandenhout@cambridgeshire.gov.uk	Email:	Lis.Every@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
Tel:	01223 518739	Tel:	(office) 01223 706398

## **Summary:**

The Fostering Service Annual Report 2017 – 18 provides the Corporate Parenting Committee with information regarding the activity of Cambridgeshire County Council's in-house Fostering Service.

This report gives details of;

- The capacity of the in-house fostering service, including numbers of foster carers (including Short-term, permanent, Kinship Link and Supported Lodgings), fostering beds available and number of children placed within the service.
- Foster Carer Recruitment and Marketing activity in the period April 2017 to March 2018
- Fostering support and retention activity
- Training for Foster Carers

The Fostering Service is committed to continual improvement. The report also highlights a number of initiatives being undertaken to ensure meet demand for high quality, in-house and in-county fostering accommodation for looked after children. These include;

- Increased investment in Foster Carer Recruitment
- The establishment of a Fostering Development and Delivery Board
- Full service audit against the Fostering National Minimum Standards and Regulations.
- The establishment of a Foster Carers Association.

## **1. BACKGROUND**

- 1.1 The Fostering Services Regulations 2011 require that the Fostering Service provides written reports on the management, outcomes and financial State of the fostering service. This Annual Report covers the period 2017 -2018.

## **2. MAIN ISSUES**

- 2.1 The Fostering Service for 2017/18 is attached at Appendix A.

## **3. SIGNIFICANT IMPLICATIONS**

The seven sub-headings below indicate those areas which should be considered in relation to all recommendations. They may not all be relevant to the report being submitted. Please include details where appropriate and mark 'n/a' where no information is being included. A working definition of "significant" is where the broader implications of a proposal are so evident /substantial that they need to be taken into consideration when Members are making a decision on the proposal.

- 3.1 Resource Implications**  
Not applicable
- 3.2 Procurement/Contractual/Council Contract Procedure Rules Implications**  
Not applicable
- 3.3 Statutory, Legal and Risk Implications**  
Not applicable
- 3.4 Equality and Diversity Implications**  
Not applicable
- 3.5 Engagement and Communications Implications**  
Not applicable
- 3.6 Localism and Local Member Involvement**  
Not applicable
- 3.7 Public Health Implications**  
Not applicable

Source Documents	Location
None	