

Classification: Open	Decision Type: Non-Key
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Report to:	Cabinet	Date: 04 September 2024
Subject:	Annual Fostering Report	
Report of	Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Children and Young People	

Summary

1. This is the Annual Fostering report presented to Cabinet as required under the Fostering Regulations (National Minimum Standard 25):
 “The executive side of the local authority or the independent foster service’s provider/trustees, board members or management committee members:
 a. receive written reports on the management, outcomes and financial state of the fostering service every 3 months;
 b. monitor the management and outcomes of the services in order to satisfy themselves that the service is effective and is achieving good outcomes for children; c.
 satisfy themselves that the provider is complying with the conditions of registration.”

Recommendation(s)

2. That members note the information provided within the annual report.

Reasons for recommendation(s)

3. Requirement of the Fostering Regulations to note information within the report.

Alternative options considered and rejected

4. Not applicable.

Report Author and Contact Details:

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Department: Children & Young People
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Background

5.
 5.1 The Fostering Service in Bury is located within Children’s Social Care Service, the overall management responsibility lies with the Head of Service - Corporate Parenting. The

Fostering Service comprises of sub teams, now overseen by three permanent Team Managers and two Advanced Practitioners to support staff and service development. The sub-Teams are:

1. Connected Carer Assessment and SGO support team.
2. Mainstream Recruitment and Marketing team.
3. Foster carers support and supervision team.

5.2 Overall, the Fostering Service undertakes a range of functions and duties required under the Fostering continues to focus upon and drive forward quality and performance.

5.3 The Fostering Service has fourteen Social Workers and two Fostering Support Workers who offer practical support to Carers and Special Guardians. The Fostering Service also has a Senior Business Intelligence & Data Collection Officer who manages carer payments and monitors data and a Recruitment Lead and Recruitment Assistant whose focus is to drive forward Bury Fostering Recruitment campaigns and respond to initial enquiries. In the past year the recruitment lead has also taken on the role of Liaison worker for the Mockingbird project as some of her previous role is being absorbed into the new Regional Recruitment Hub.

5.4 The main development in the service over the last year has been the implementation of Mockingbird and the service has one constellation up and running and a second in development.

Links with the Corporate Priorities:

Please summarise how this links to the Let's Do It Strategy.

- A better future for the children of the Borough
- A better quality of life
- Building a fairer society that leaves no-one behind.

Equality Impact and Considerations:

*Please provide an explanation of the outcome(s) of an initial or full EIA and make **specific reference regarding the protected characteristic of Looked After Children**. Intranet link to EIA documents is [here](#).*

5. Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) not required as this is not a decision nor a policy.

Environmental Impact and Considerations:

*Please provide an explanation of the Environmental impact of this decision. Please include the impact on both **Carbon emissions** (contact climate@bury.gov.uk for advice) and **Biodiversity** (contact c.m.wilkinson@bury.gov.uk for advice)*

6. Not applicable.

Assessment and Mitigation of Risk:

Risk / opportunity	Mitigation

Legal Implications:

This report is required to meet statutory requirements as outlined.

Financial Implications:

To be completed by the Council's Section 151 Officer.

7. There are no financial implications in noting this report.

Appendices:

Please list any appended documents.

- Annual Fostering Report 2023-2024

Background papers:

Please list any background documents to this report and include a hyperlink where possible.

Please include a glossary of terms, abbreviations and acronyms used in this report.

Term	Meaning