

Individual Executive Member Decision

Title of Report:	Six Monthly Report of the West Berkshire Adoption Service
Report to be considered by:	Individual Executive Member Decision
Date on which Decision is to be taken:	29 January 2013
Forward Plan Ref:	ID2598

Purpose of Report: To report on the work of the adoption team and to enable Members to scrutinise the operation of the Adoption Service.

Recommended Action: To agree report.

Reason for decision to be taken: To comply with the Care Standards Act 2000 and the National Minimum Standards for Local Authority Adoption Services 2003
The department has a statutory responsibility to report on the work of the adoption service to Elected members on a six monthly basis and also to agree a Statement of Purpose for the service

Other options considered: N/A

Key background documentation: N/A

Portfolio Member Details	
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Contact Officer Details	
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Implications

Policy:	The report is in line with the Council's policies regarding looked after children.
Financial:	None arising from the report.
Personnel:	N/A
Legal/Procurement:	The report complies with the legal requirements of the Care Standards Act.
Environmental:	N/A
Property:	N/A
Risk Management:	Ensuring that the Council has access to a high quality service is essential to meet the need, of very vulnerable children locally; without this, placement costs would rise significantly.
Equalities Impact Assessment:	The Adoption Service strives to ensure that the very varied needs of looked after children are appropriately met.

Consultation Responses

Members:

Leader of Council:	Councillor Gordon Lundie
Overview & Scrutiny Management Commission Chairman:	Councillor Brian Bedwell
Ward Members:	All
Opposition Spokesperson:	Councillor David Allen

Local Stakeholders:

Officers Consulted:

Trade Union:

Is this item subject to call-in?	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No: <input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting Information

1. Background

- 1.1 This report has been produced in line with the Adoption Services Regulations 2011.
- 1.2 This is circulated on an annual basis to inform the council of the team's activities regarding the recruitment, assessment and approval of adopters. It also covers post adoption support services.

2. Equalities Impact Assessment Outcomes

- 2.1 There is no decision to be made therefore an Equality Impact Assessment has not been undertaken.

3. Conclusion

- 3.1 As this report meets the exception criteria set out in the Individual Decision making protocol this decision can be made by the Portfolio Holder under delegated authority.

Appendices

Appendix A – West Berkshire Adoption Service Half Yearly Report – April 2012 to September 2012