

1 September 2020		ITEM: 6
Corporate Parenting Committee		
Fostering Statement of Purpose		
Wards and communities affected: All	Key Decision: Non Key	
Report of: Dan Jones, Service Manager, Children Looked After		
Accountable Assistant Director: Joe Tynan, Interim Assistant Director of Children's Services		
Accountable Director: Sheila Murphy, Corporate Director of Children's Services		
This report is Public		

Executive Summary

This report is prepared to update members of the Committee regarding Thurrock Council's Annual Fostering Statement of Purpose.

1. Recommendation(s)

1.1 That members of the Committee are informed and aware of the Council's Fostering Statement of Purpose.

2. Introduction and Background

2.1 National Minimum Standards (NMS) are applicable to the provision of fostering services. The NMS, together with Regulations relevant to the placement of children in foster care such as the Fostering Services (England) Regulations 2011 (the 2011 Regulations), form the basis of the regulatory framework under the Care Standards Act 2000 (CSA) for the conduct of fostering services. Standard 16 of the Minimum Standards relates to the Fostering Statement of purpose, which should ensure that Children, their parents, foster carers, staff have capacity to carry out this work.

3. Issues, Options and Analysis of Options

3.1 Please see the Fostering Statement of Purpose report, attached at Appendix 1.

4. Reasons for Recommendation

- 4.1 To ensure Members of the Committee are aware of how Thurrock Council are meetings its statutory duties in relation to fostering.

5. Consultation (including Overview and Scrutiny, if applicable)

- 5.1 None.

6. Impact on corporate policies, priorities, performance and community impact

- 6.1 None.

7. Implications

7.1 Financial

Implications verified by: **Michelle Hall**
Management Accountant, Childrens

There are no financial implications to this report.

7.2 Legal

Implications verified by: **Judith Knight**
Interim Deputy Head of Legal (Social Care and Education)

The Fostering Services (England) Regulations 2011, amended by The Care Planning, Placement and Case Review and Fostering Services (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2013;

- provides the regulatory framework for fostering service providers including the need for a statement of purpose, management of the service and conduct

National Minimum Standards (NMS) for Fostering Services – together with the regulations relevant to the placement of children in foster care, provide the framework for the conduct of fostering services

7.3 Diversity and Equality

Implications verified by: **Rebecca Lee**
Team Manager - Community Development and Equalities, Adults, Housing and Health Directorate

The Fostering Service is committed to practice which promotes inclusion and diversity, and will carry out its duties in accordance with the Equality Act 2010 and related Codes of Practice and Anti-discriminatory policy.

7.4 Other implications (where significant) – i.e. Staff, Health, Sustainability, Crime and Disorder, or Impact on Looked After Children)

None

8. Background papers used in preparing the report (including their location on the Council's website or identification whether any are exempt or protected by copyright):

Fostering National Minimum Standards – link below:

- https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/192705/NMS_Fostering_Services.pdf

9. Appendices to the report

- Appendix 1 – Fostering Statement of Purpose 2020/2021

Report Author:

Daniel Jones, Service Manager, Children Looked After