

<b>14 September 2021</b>		<b>ITEM: 6</b>
<b>Corporate Parenting Committee</b>		
<b>Adoption Statement of Purpose</b>		
<b>Wards and communities affected:</b> All	<b>Key Decision:</b> Non-Key	
<b>Report of:</b> Dan Jones, Service Manager Adoption, Fostering and Placements		
<b>Accountable Assistant Director:</b> Janet Simon, Interim Assistant Director Children's Social Care and Early Help		
<b>Accountable Director:</b> Sheila Murphy, Corporate Director Of Children's Services		
<b>This report is</b> Public		

## **Executive Summary**

This report is to update members of the Committee on Thurrock Council's Adoption Statement of Purpose which is reviewed annually.

### **1. Recommendation(s)**

#### **1.1 That the Members of the Committee are informed about Thurrock's Adoption Statement of Purpose**

### **2. Introduction and Background**

2.1 The Adoption Statement of Purpose fulfils the requirement of Standard 18 of the Adoption Minimum Standards (Care Standards Act 2000) and Regulation 2 of the Local Authority Adoption Service (England) Regulations 2003

2.2 Members are advised that the Adoption Statement of Purpose should be reviewed annually and the current statement is attached.

### **3. Issues, Options and Analysis of Options**

3.1 Thurrock's Adoption Statement of Purpose 2021-2022 is attached.

#### **4. Reasons for Recommendation**

- 4.1 Members of the Committee are familiar with the delivery of Adoption Services in Thurrock and the fulfilment of Thurrock's statutory duties in relation to Adoption.

#### **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: **David May**  
**Strategic Lead Finance**

There are no financial implications.

##### **7.2 Legal**

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

The Local Authority Adoption Service is required to produce a statement of purpose under The Local Authority Adoption Service (England) Regulations 2003 regulation 2 and to keep it under review under paragraph 4. The statement of purpose is required to cover the matters listed in Schedule 1 of those regulations.

##### **7.3 Diversity and Equality**

Implications verified by: **Rebecca Lee**  
**Team Manager, Community Development and Equalities**

The Adoption 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. Staff members are from diverse backgrounds and heritage. Marketing and recruitment materials are designed to ensure adopters irrespective of age, sex, gender re-

assignment, ethnicity, culture, religion, sexual orientation and disability are welcomed.

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

Increasing the recruitment and availability of adopters enables increased permanent placement opportunities for looked after children.

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):

- None

9. **Appendices to the report**

- Appendix 1, Thurrock Adoption Statement of Purpose

**Report Author:**

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Strategic Lead

Looked After Children and Placements