

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES
CABINET MEMBER**

FOSTERING AND ADOPTION STATEMENTS OF PURPOSE

1 OBJECT AND BRIEF SUMMARY OF SUBJECT

- 1.1 To inform Children's Services Cabinet Member of the revised Statements of Purpose for Fostering and Adoption in North Lincolnshire.
- 1.2 The statements for 2008/09 form the basis of the services purpose and function and the Ofsted Inspection process for these.

2 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 The services are required by regulations to have in place a Statement of Purpose (SOP) that is reviewed on an annual basis and updated as appropriate.
- 2.2 The SOP for fostering and adoption have been changed to reflect the five outcomes and the continued work of the two teams.

3 ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

- 3.1 The SOP for the service reflects the legislative role and function and how locally we aim to deliver these two extremely valuable services.
- 3.2 The SOP will ensure we are able to continue to work toward children being able to live in a permanent or stable family as an alternative to being able to live with their own. The service also works with adults who require information about the fostering and adoption process and those considering becoming either adoptive or foster parents.
- 3.3 The SOP outlines the principles, aims, objectives and service capacity of the particular service and act as a baseline for the council, the Children and Families, Adults and Ofsted.

4 ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS

4.1 These are in line with the statutory requirements.

5 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCIAL, STAFFING, PROPERTY, IT)

5.1 Financial

A review of Fostering allowances is currently taking place and will be submitted to Cabinet Member for approval at a later date.

6 OTHER IMPLICATIONS (STATUTORY, ENVIRONMENTAL, DIVERSITY, SECTION 17 - CRIME AND DISORDER, RISK AND OTHER)

6.1 None

7 OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION

7.1 Children who live in foster homes or with adoptive families are encouraged to give their views. The newly formed Children in Care Council will add to this and have a role in the development of the SOP for 2008/09.

8 RECOMMENDATIONS

8.1 The Children's Services Cabinet Member approves the SOP and notes their contribution to children in care in North Lincolnshire.

SERVICE DIRECTOR CHILDREN, STRATEGY AND PARTNERSHIPS

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Background Papers used in the preparation of this report: SOP.