
**VALE, VALLEYS & CARDIFF REGIONAL ADOPTION SERVICE – ANNUAL
REPORT**

Reason for the Report

1. The Vale, Valleys and Cardiff (VVC) Regional Adoption Collaborative's Annual Report for 2016/17 is attached at **Appendix A**. The report sets out the key information about the regional services together with quarterly performance information for the period 2016 – 2017, which is attached at **Appendix B**.
2. The Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee's Terms of Reference require the Committee to ensure that performance monitoring systems are in place, and regularly reviews performance data to ensure sustained performance improvements in outcomes for looked after children, children in need and care leavers. The Committee is required to receive the Adoption Annual Quality of Care Report each year.

Background

3. The National Adoption Service was launched in November 2014 to bring together local, regional and national organisations and activities as a key part of implementing the Social Services and Well Being Act (Wales) 2014.
4. The Adoption Service is probably most accurately described as a network of interdependent services operating at local, regional, and national levels through local government and the voluntary sector.
5. Five local collaboratives are responsible for developing and improving adoption services across Wales. Cardiff Council is part of the Vale, Valleys and Cardiff (VVC) Adoption Collaborative which also includes the Vale of Glamorgan Council, Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council, and Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council.

6. The Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee received the first annual report of the National Adoption Service in November 2015 along with the first report of the Vale, Valleys and Cardiff Regional Adoption Collaborative. As per the Committee's terms of reference the 2015/16 annual report was presented to the November 2016 meeting. The 2016/17 is now presented to the January 2018 Committee meeting.
7. This report has already been presented to the Children and young People Scrutiny Committee, having been presented in October 2017. The cover report presented to the Scrutiny Committee is attached for information at **appendix C**, along with the letter which outlines the resulting comments, advice and requests from the Scrutiny Committee at **appendix D**. The response provided to the Committee from the Collaborative is attached at **appendix E**.
8. This information is provided as part of papers for information and will not be presented in person at the meeting. Any questions may be posed to the Assistant Director of Social Services. Answers to any questions that require further clarification will be fed back to the next meeting.

Financial Implications

9. There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

Legal Implications

10. There are no legal implications arising from this report.

RECOMMENDATION

11. The Committee is recommended to note the information contained in the report; and make any observations or comments.

Irfan Alam
Assistant Director Children's Services
11 January 2018