

Kinship Care / Fostering Project/ Fostering National Framework and Regional Plan CYPSC

Gweithio dros Gaerdydd, gweithio gyda'n gilydd Working for Cardiff, working together



Progress to Date – Fostering Project Lead from January

- Reviewed 'Cardiff Offer'
- Increase in fee element of payment
- Raised allowance elements to at least national minimum rates
- 54 weekly payments per year
- Payments for birthdays, holidays and religious holidays
- Introduced performance monitoring









Progress to Date – Recruitment

- Introduction of significant online activity
- Review of website in progress
- Social media campaign with paid ads on Facebook & Google, plus regular features on Councils Facebook & Twitter pages
- Commitment from PSB to promote via their online platforms
- Registered Social Landlords promoting via online platforms
- Banners in Parks throughout the City
- Fostering Referrals from HUBS & Into Work Services
- Adverts in Tenants Times and UHB magazine







Progress to Date – Recruitment Continued

- Briefing for Councillors to share online
- Attendance at events throughout the City i.e. Cardiff Castle, IKEA & Community Events
- Developed links with Pride UK, commitment to share info via online platforms, attendance at PRIDE event
- Supported by Corporate Comms Officer

Impact

- 28 new in house applications in progress
- Approved 7 new in house foster cares since January 2019
- Further 6 new in house foster carers due at Panel before Christmas

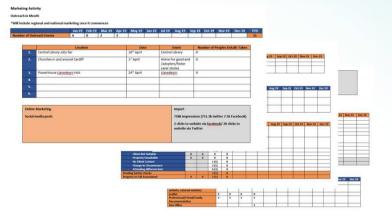






Progress to Date – External Dependencies

- Developing relationships with 4Cs & IFAs
- Sharing our future vision local placements
- Forecasting future IFA vacancies within the City to maximise local placements







Progress to Date – National & Regional

- Regional Development Manager for Cardiff & Vale, National Fostering Framework
- Developing regional relationships
- Introduction of National Marketing meetings
- Work stream to harmonise Fees and Allowances
- Regional launch of National Learning & Development Framework in November
- Launch of the National brand Foster Wales in May 2020 (subject to funding from WAG)







Issues

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- Capacity of team to deal with Number of new applications Increase in number of Kinship Carers Launch of National Foster Wales brand
- No quick fix, approx. 8 months from application to foster care placement









Next Steps

- Restructure of the service
- Digitalisation
 - 1. Laptops/Online inputting of daily diary and on-going engagement with foster carers
 - 2. Transfer onto Carefirst
 - 3. Move from APPS to Care Finance
- Provision of Therapeutic Support to prevent placement breakdown
- Provision of 24 hour support (lower level than EDT) from existing 24 hour services
- Reviewing the skills to foster training to ensure it is more responsive to the demand







Next Steps

- Improved engagement with in house foster carers as part of service retention
- Proactive recruitment to improve diversity of in house carers
- Media campaign for When I'm Ready & Supported Lodgings
- Explore regional opportunities
- Consider other corporate opportunities to support our Foster Care offer





