



RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD

31st JANUARY 2022

REPORT OF THE GROUP DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES

VALE, VALLEYS AND CARDIFF REGIONAL ADOPTION COLLABORATIVE ANNUAL REPORT 2020/21

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1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the Corporate Parenting Board with an update against progress of the Regional Adoption Collaborative.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that Corporate Parenting Board note the content of the report.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Vale, Valleys and Cardiff Adoption Collaborative (VVC) is the largest of the five regional collaboratives which form part of the National Adoption Service in Wales (NAS). It provides a regional adoption service to the Vale of Glamorgan Council, Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council, Cardiff Council and Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council. The service is hosted by the Vale of Glamorgan Council.
- 3.2 This is VVC's sixth annual report and covers the period 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021. The Collaborative is required to review the service it provides by regulation, and as part of the reporting requirements set out in the legal agreement underpinning the operation of the collaborative. The Report seeks to combine the various reporting requirements in one report.

3.3 The report provides:

- information in respect of the governance and scrutiny of the regional arrangements at a local level, staff changes and areas of service development;
- key performance information relating to the placement of children for adoption, recruitment and assessment of adopters the provision of adoption support services;
- outlines the impact of COVID 19 on service delivery and how the service adapted to respond to these challenges and reduce delay;
- highlights some of the key challenges and future priorities for the service in terms of maintaining core business but also embracing changes being brought about at a national level with the implementation of Good Practice Guides and the two stage model of adopter assessment;
- The appendices to the report provide data in respect of key performance measures in respect of children, marketing activity, adopter recruitment, adoption support and the Adoption Panel. It also highlights activity in respect of the new grant funded posts. This information is broken down by local authority.

3.4 The report is attached at Appendix 1 with data appendices 2-5 also included as follows:

- Appendix 1 Annual report
- Appendix 2 Family Finding Data
- Appendix 3 Recruitment and Assessment Data
- Appendix 4 Adoption Support Data
- Appendix 5 Adoption Panel Data

3.5 Annabel Lloyd, Children's Service Director will deliver the Report to the Corporate Parenting Board.