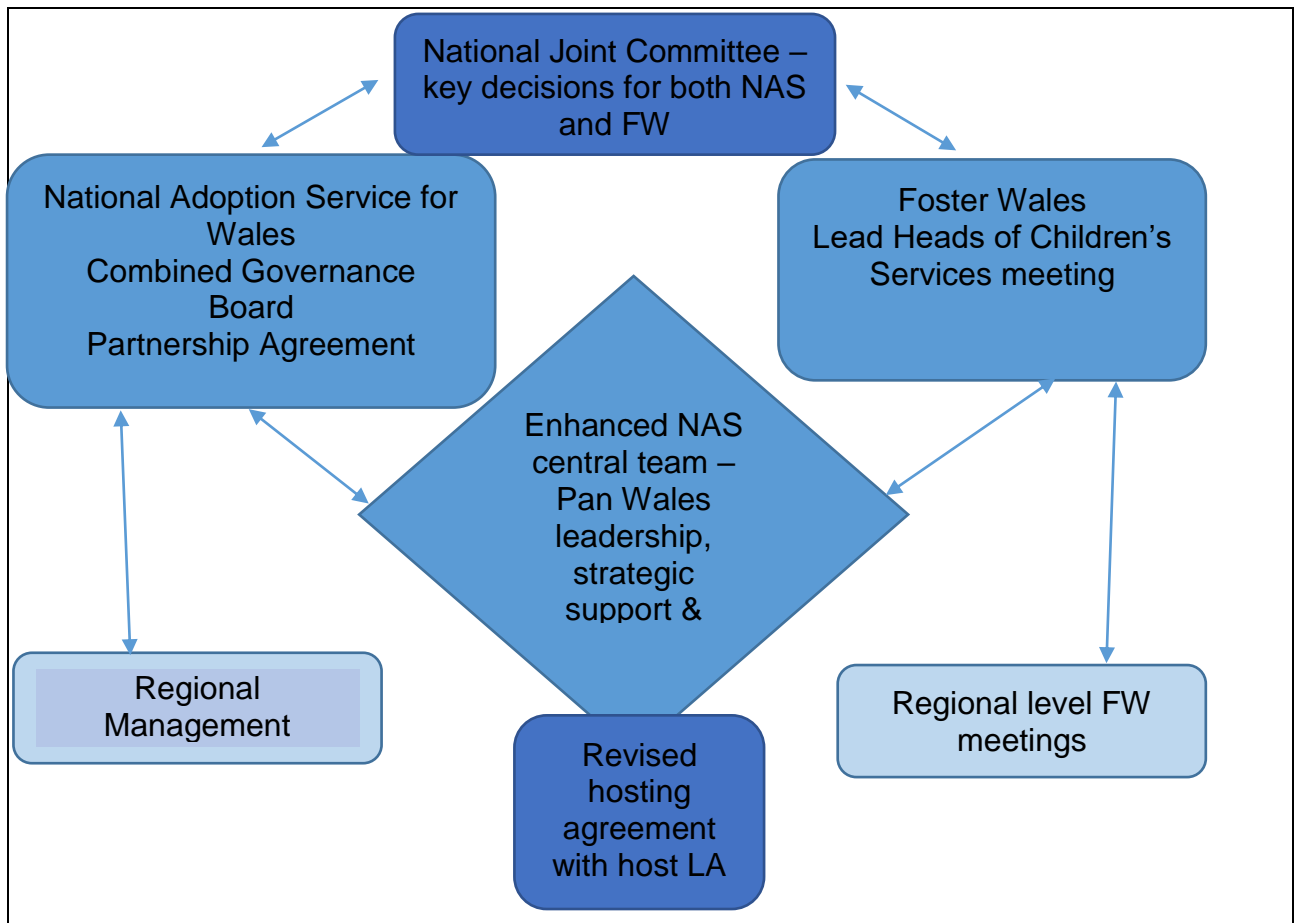


**Governance**



**WLGA Joint Committee (all 22 LA's) over-sees NAS & Foster Wales:**

The Joint Committee will, on behalf of the 22 Welsh Local Authorities, exercise their powers with reference to the provision of the collaborative arrangements for the National Adoption Service for Wales (NAS) and for Foster Wales (FW). It will be underpinned by a legal agreement (Joint Committee Agreement) and be comprised of Council Members. Its role will be to oversee the work of NAS and Foster Wales and specifically approve / receive the below:

- The Annual Reports of NAS and of Foster Wales;
- The annual programmes of work for the NAS and for Foster Wales;
- The budget/s for the office of the Director and the national work of NAS and for Foster Wales; and
- The agreement, and any changes required, for the host LA support of the office of the Director to enable it to facilitate the work of NAS and FW.

For NAS only it will also oversee how the authorities work together to exercise their powers and comply with the National Assembly Directions.

**NAS - National level - Combined Governance Board (CGB)**

Provides strategic direction and decision making to facilitate the delivery and improvement of adoption services in Wales through the National Adoption Service arrangements in line the Senedd Directions and its Terms of Reference.

**Foster Wales - National level - Lead Heads of Children's Services meeting**

Provides strategic direction and decision making in relation to the agreed national and regional functions of Foster Wales on behalf of Welsh local authorities in line with its Terms of Reference.

**NAS – regional / LA level - Regional Management Boards & VAA's Boards**

Each region is made up of specified local authority areas, set out in the Directions and overseen by Regional Management Boards (RMB's). Primary role is to coordinate adoption activities at the regional level and to implement decisions and strategies from the national Governance Board; may also have roles determined by their legal agreement. Plus VAA equivalent.

**Foster Wales - regional / LA level - Regional HoS meeting**

These are now in place and may be a specific FW meeting or included in the agenda of pre-existing HoS or HoS & DSS regional meetings.