



RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD

24TH NOVEMBER 2022

REGIONAL ADOPTION COLLABORATION ANNUAL REPORT 2021/22

1. **PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to provide Corporate Parenting Board members with the Annual Regional Adoption Collaboration Annual Report.

2. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that Members:

- 2.1 Acknowledge the information contained within the report.

3. **REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 This is an information report.

4. **BACKGROUND**

- 4.1 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.
- 4.2 This is VVC's seventh annual report and covers the period 1 April 2021 to 30 September 2022. 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.
- 4.4 The report is attached at Appendix 1 with data appendices 1-4 also included as follows:
- Appendix 1 sets out key performance data in respect of children by quarter and local authority.

- Appendix 2 provides information in respect of adopter enquiries and recruitment of adopters.
- Appendix 3 provides information in respect of Adoption Support.
- Appendix 4 provides information in respect of Adoption Panel activity.

5 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

5.1 This is an information report.

6 CONSULTATION

6.1 This is an information report.

7 FINANCIAL IMPLICATION(S)

7.1 There are no direct financial implications aligned to this report.

8 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS OR LEGISLATION CONSIDERED

8.1 The report was brought before Scrutiny as part of the governance arrangements outlined in Regulation 22 of the Local Authority Adoption Service (Wales) Regulations 2007 and section 15(c) of the Adoption and Children Act 2002 (Joint Adoption Regulations) (Wales) Directions 2015.

9 LINKS TO THE COUNCILS CORPORATE PLAN / OTHER CORPORATE PRIORITIES/ FUTURE GENERATIONS – SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT.

9.2 The business covered in this report contributes to the following well-being goals:

- A prosperous Wales
- A resilient Wales.
- A healthier Wales.
- A more equal Wales
- A Wales of cohesive communities
- A globally responsible Wales

10 CONCLUSION;

10.1 During the period, the Vale, Valleys and Cardiff Adoption Collaborative (VVC) approved a significant pool of adopters with the result that more children can be placed within the region. The need however, to continue to recruit more adopters for more complex children remains a priority for VVC.

- 10.2 At the end of the reporting period, the service is able to report a healthy level of performance despite the constraints imposed upon service delivery during COVID -19.
- 10.3 Adoption Support represents a large set of challenges for VVC and the need to reduce the waiting list for services and to ensure that the service is targeted to those most in need remain a priority.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

AS AMENDED BY

THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

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