

# KENT COUNTY COUNCIL - RECORD OF DECISION

## DECISION TAKEN BY

Jenny Whittle, Cabinet Member for Specialist Children's Services

## DECISION NO.

11/01789

*If decision is likely to disclose exempt information please specify the relevant paragraph(s) of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972*

### Subject:

**PROPOSED REVISION OF RATES PAYABLE AND CHARGES LEVIED FOR CHILDRENS SERVICES IN 2012-13**

### Decision:

As Cabinet Member for Specialist Children's Services, I hereby

- a) **APPROVE** the increase to the Payments to Foster Carers (Reward & Maintenance elements) and subsequently Parental Contribution rates;
- b) **NOTE** the continuation of the Payment to Foster Carers-Kinship payments to remain at the same level as applied in 2011/12;
- c) **APPROVE** the increase to the Payments to Foster Carers-Specialist Fostering Rates for the Reward Payment and Single Placement Supplement;
- d) **NOTE** the continuation of the Payments to Foster Carers-Specialist Fostering Rates-Foster Care Skills Based Payment to remain at the same level as applied in 2011/12;
- e) **APPROVE** the calculated increase to the Payments to Foster Carers-Specialist Fostering Rates for the Treatment Fostering rate, Therapeutic Fostering rate, Carers for Disabled Children rate;
- f) **NOTE** the continuation of the Residential Respite Services rate to remain at the same level as applied in 2011/12;
- g) **APPROVE** the increase to the Fostering Service and Other Local Authority Charges;
- h) **NOTE** the continuation of the Adoption Service Charge to remain at the same level as applied in 2011/12;
- i) **NOTE** those rates that we have no discretion to alter, but may have altered since 2011/12 - Inter Country Charge (per Adoption case) and Foster Carers Transport rate.

### Reason(s) for decision, including alternatives considered and any additional information

The proposed rates payable and charges levied are considered annually, with any revisions normally introduced at the start of each financial year.

The report is focused on Children's Social Services and the rates and charges that are currently in place, with the Adult's Social Services presented separately.

The rates and charges payable for 2012/13 will be introduced the week commencing 8 April 2012, unless otherwise stated.

The report distinguishes between those rates and charges over which Members can exercise their discretion, and those which are laid down by Parliament.

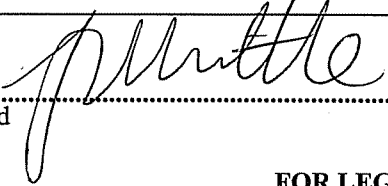
It should be noted that the report by the Corporate Director Families and Social Care published 9 March 2012 has been updated to revise the effective date, include Adoption Service Charges, clarify that an increase of 1% has been proposed to the OLA charges, that the foster payment rates and subsequently parental contribution rates have been revised to allow them to be divisible by 7 days and that the Foster Carers transport rate has increased to reflect the Chancellor of the Exchequers annual budget announcement. Both a revised report and appendix is attached.

**Background Documents:**

Report by the Corporate Director of Families & Social Care - Proposed Revision of Rates Payable and Charges Levied for Children's Services in 2012/13

Department For Education-National Minimum Allowances for 2012/13

The Department of Work & Pensions – Schedule of proposed benefit rates from April 2012 issued December 2011.



signed

20/3/12

date

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Decision Referred to Cabinet Scrutiny			
YES		NO	

Cabinet Scrutiny Decision to Refer Back for Reconsideration			
YES		NO	

Reconsideration Record Sheet Issued			
YES		NO	

Reconsideration of Decision Published			