

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL – PROPOSED RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY:

Peter Oakford
Cabinet Member for Specialist Children’s Services

DECISION NO:

15/00004

For publication or exempt – please state: For Publication

Subject: Establishment of Coram Kent Adoption – A Voluntary Aided Agency for Kent.

Decision:

As Cabinet Member for Specialist Children’s Services, I:

- 1) AGREE to establish Coram Kent Adoption, a voluntary aided agency (VAA), be undertaken to ensure the sustainability and continued improvements in the Adoption Service for Kent.
- 2) DELEGATE to the Corporate Director for Social Care, Health & Wellbeing, or other suitable officer, responsibility to implement this decision.

Any Interest Declared when the Decision was Taken: *None expected*

Reason(s) for decision:

The report outlines a project to establish a new Voluntary Adoption Agency working in partnership with our improvement partners, Coram. The aim of the project is to achieve further progress in the Adoption services we offer, and to achieve earlier permanence and improved outcomes for children in the care system in Kent, while ensuring the sustainability of the service long term.

‘Facing the Challenge’ has identified Adoption as a service to be considered for Phase 2 of the Transformation Programme. The proposal to establish a Voluntary Adoption Agency will follow the principles of service redesign outlined within the Facing the Challenge programme.

Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:

The Children’s Social Care Health Cabinet Committee on the 20th January 2015 will consider a paper outlining the project to establish Coram Kent Adoption.

The Corporate Director for Social Care, Health and Wellbeing and the SCHW DMT have been consulted and confirm the recommendations in the report which to be considered at the Cabinet Committee.

Any alternatives considered:

All consulted parties believe that the proposed establishment of the Coram Kent Adoption will enable continued improvements to the service available to adopters and children who are to be adopted in Kent. A summer 2014 review of the service by Jonathan Pearce who had led the Independent Improvement Board for Ofsted found that adoption in Kent now has considerable strengths.

Any interest declared when the decision was taken and any dispensation granted by the Proper Officer: None

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signed

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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			