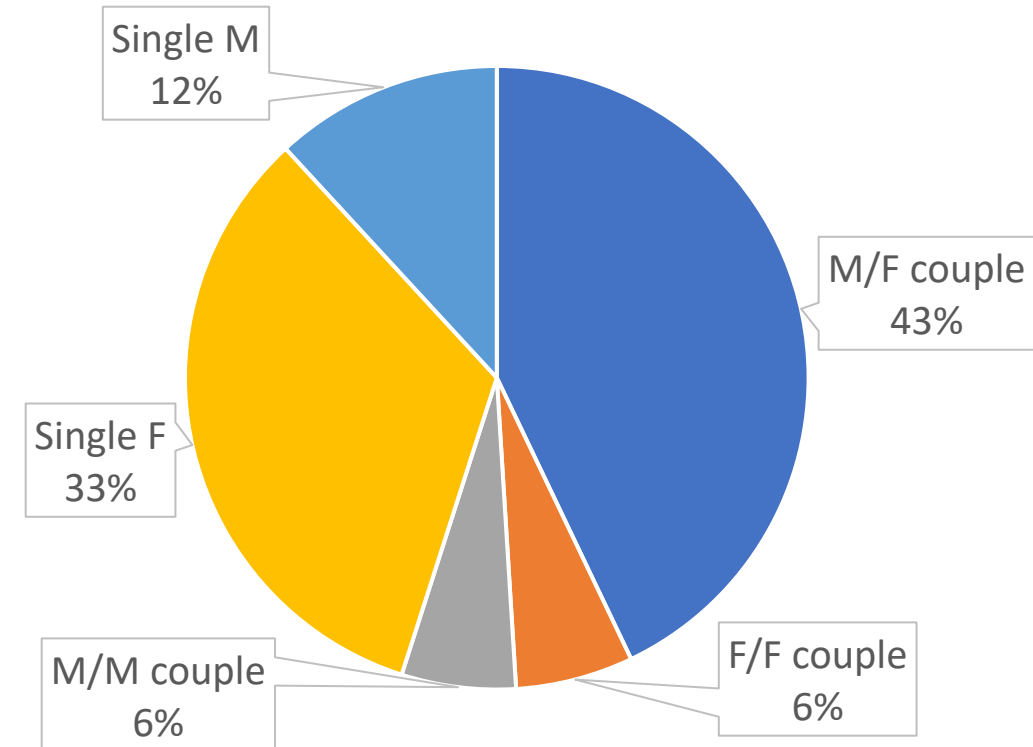


Adopt Coast to Coast – year one



Enquiries overview

	Adopt Coast to Coast	Cumbria	Durham	Together for Children
Enquiries (2021/22)	558	186 (*33%)	216 (*39%)	156 (*28%)
Approvals	78	11 (*14%)	40 (*51%)	27 (*35%)
Matches	122	28 (*23%)	65 (*53%)	29 (*24%)
Conversion from enquiry to approval	14%	6%	19%	17%



Adults journey

	2020/21	2021/22
Enquiries	100	217
Stage 1	13* (0 in stage 2 pending)	17* (further 11 in stage 2 pending)
Stage 2	9*	*8
Approvals	41	40

Katie and James were one of 6 couples to have started their journey with Adopt Coast to Coast and had a child placed before our first anniversary.

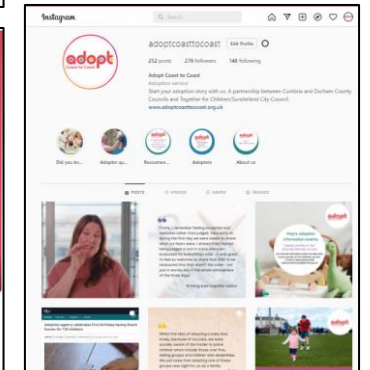
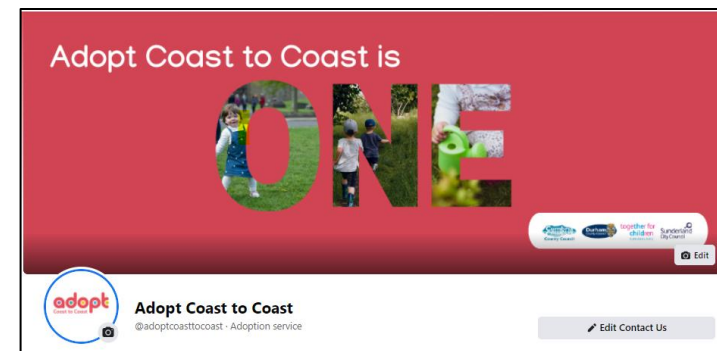
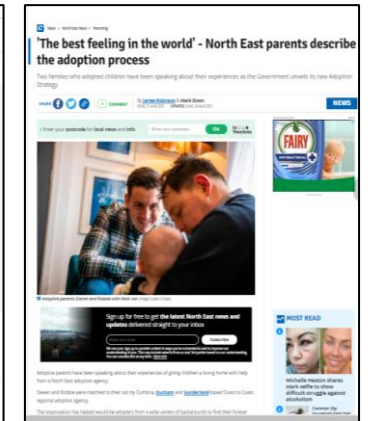
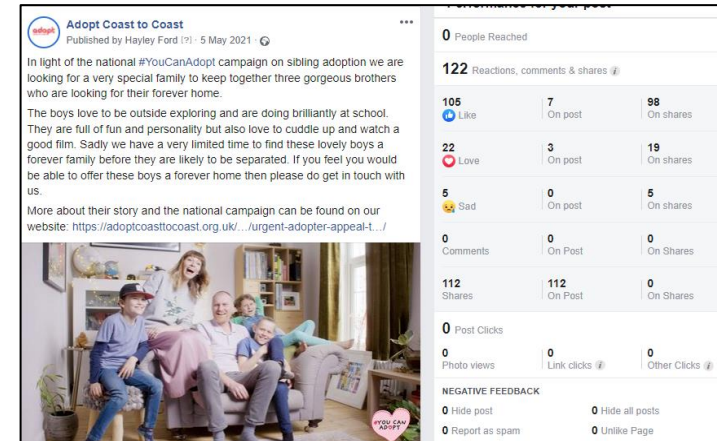
Katie said: “What was clear from the start was that you don’t have to be a certain way to adopt, you don’t need lots of money just time and love.

“We’d had so many years to prepare for adoption and we always knew it would be our route to parenthood so we accepted it and knowing him has been the best four weeks of our lives – he’s just amazing. I was worried before we started all of this that we wouldn’t have a connection but he’s our whole world - he 100% feels like our son already.”

How you can support us



- Share our news -messages can go far and wide
- Follow us on social media – Facebook and Instagram
- Bring Adopt Coast to Coast into the conversation
- Let us know about marketing and recruitment opportunities you come across
- Be advocates for adoption



The next steps

- Focus on potential enquirers for groups of brothers and sisters, children with additional health needs and/or developmental uncertainty
- Alongside the Adopt Coast to Coast activity, there is a pan regional initiative to increase opportunities for children to be adopted
- Continue to review and develop marketing activity and the recruitment practice across the spokes being cognizant of the lived experience of children and their adoptive families and the findings from the national mystery shopper activity



“

My biggest concern was whether I'd be accepted because I don't have any family close by, so I questioned whether I would be perceived as having enough support. I knew I could do it; I just wasn't sure if the agency would have me. But during the very first phone call with an adoption expert, I talked about being single, and she brushed it off as no big deal which reassured me that it wouldn't be a problem.

Anita

“

Although she does walk with a slight limp due to her cerebral palsy and she has a back brace for her scoliosis (which causes curvature of the spine) Sophie goes to mainstream school, is independent, joins in with all school activities and has a great group of friends. Academically she's on-par with, or exceeding, the rest of her peers and she is showing no signs of foetal alcohol syndrome.

Beth

