

Fostering Strategy and Mockingbird Fostering Model

Corporate Parenting Panel Overview
of Strategy and Service Activity
September 2022



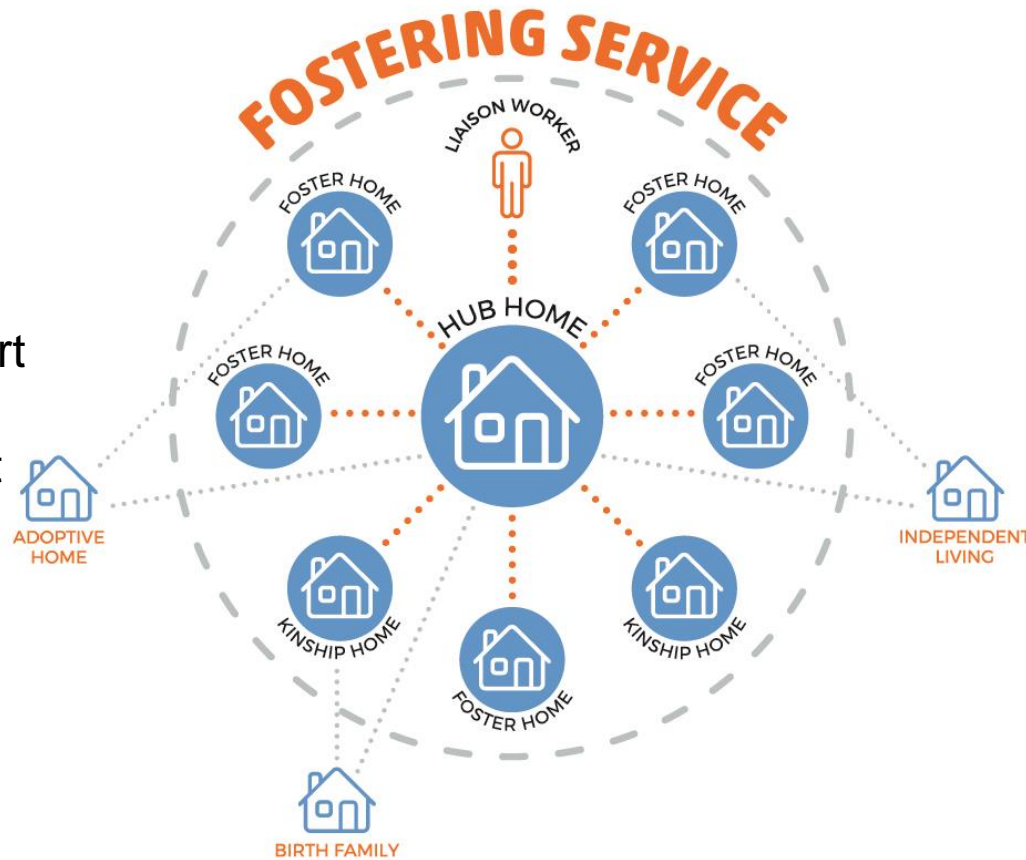
Key Priorities

- To increase the number of available Foster Carers
- To increase the availability of fostering homes for older children, brothers and sisters, disabled children and unaccompanied asylum seeking children.
- Try to recruit carers from all different parts of Durham with all different skills and interests able to meet children's needs.
- Find the right home for a child at the right time where they can stay as long as they need to.
- Provide the very best training offer to carers.
- Make sure that children's experiences of being in foster care are recorded to best support them and to keep improving foster care generally.

Mockingbird

Key elements:

- Peer guidance and support
- Sleepovers
- Training and development
- Socials
- Support to permanence
- Siblings and birth family



Key Fidelity:

- 6-10 families
- 6-18 children
- 2 spare beds
- Diverse

Key roles:

- Hub home carer
- Liaison Worker
- Satellite carer



Impact



- Improved placement stability – reduced placement breakdown
- Improved experience of peer support
- Improved sibling contact
- Improved process and experience of sleepovers
- Improved skills, confidence and role satisfaction for foster carers
- Improved levels of carer retention and recruitment

Progress so far..

- **Forming and introduction phase**

 - Formal planning meetings/Info sharing

 - Informal park or soft play visits

 - Carer WhatsApp group

 - Invites to birthday parties

- **Official Launch**

 - Event planning

 - Sept 2022