



Annual Report of the Fostering Service 2022-23



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1.0 Introduction

This report provides a description of the structure, an overview and summary of the activity of the Fostering Service during 2022-2023.

In Durham, we pride ourselves on knowing our children and young people well and supporting our foster carers to be the best they can. We understand that it takes a special person to be a foster carer and with the right support, encouragement, commitment, and passion together we can achieve something great. Our fostering service is the driving force to ensure this happens and that all our foster carers and the children and young people in their care, benefit from a range of people who are as passionate and committed as they are. We are exceptionally proud of our foster carers and the children and young people in their care. It is amazing when we can talk about and show case the great work people do. Much of this can be seen in or heard as part of our radio, news, tv advert and social media campaigns.

Durham County Council Fostering Service is responsible for:

- The recruitment and assessment of foster carers and connected foster carers
- Ensuring support is provided as well as supervision and training to all our foster carers including connected foster carers.
- Ensuring the provision of safe and supportive foster families for our children and young people who have a wide range of different needs and providing the opportunity to keep brothers and sisters together wherever possible and appropriate.
- Providing a range of homes with foster carers with a varied skill and experience base.
- The range of foster homes offered includes respite and short term breaks which includes Family and Friends households specialising in offering support to children with disabilities and their families; placements with foster carers who have particular experience and skills in transition to permanence through adoption, return home or placement with family; foster carers providing permanence through long term fostering, providing a family based model of care to support children and young people through to independence and beyond, as part of our Staying Put offer. We also have a Mockingbird Constellation with a Hub Home carer supported by a Liaison Worker.
- Promoting placement stability and providing the appropriate help and support when things get difficult.
- Providing ongoing advice and support to our Special Guardians from the making of the SGO through to the child becoming an adult.

In 2022 we set out to achieve some key priorities to help our current foster carers and the children and young people in their care. These were:

- To increase the number of Durham County Council Foster Carers across the board.
- Review the marketing strategy to attract and retain a wider group of fostering families who are able to offer a range of fostering options for our children in care.
- Continue to improve the timeliness and quality of family finding across the service.

- Reduce unnecessary placement moves for children and young people and strengthen the matching arrangements for them.
- Use reporting data to better understand how our fostering service is performing and prioritising key areas of activity across the service.
- Review the training and support offer to our foster carers.
- Evidence the good work we do in ensuring the voice of children and their carers informs the service we provide.
- Establish the first mockingbird hub and potentially have a second one up and running before the end of March 2023.

2.0 The Fostering Service

All mainstream and connected foster carers are supported and supervised by a qualified social worker (Fostering Social Worker) meeting regulatory visiting and supervision requirements. The Service continues to have Strategic Manager and a Service Manager, who oversee and manage the running of the service, driving it forward.

Meet the teams

The Recruitment and Retention Team, work with marketing to attract and recruit potential foster carers. They assess and train them and provide the initial support to new foster carers. They also did organise and run events across the year for our foster carers and children and young people to show our thanks for all of their hard work and is part of our retention strategy.

There are two Fostering Support Teams, one for the North of the county and one for the South. They support all our foster carers ensuring they get good quality supervision and have all of the support they need, when they need it. They also now organise and run the events across the year for our foster carers and children and young people to show our thanks for all of their hard work and is part of our retention strategy

The Connected Carers Team consist of one team with a Team Manager and Social Worker Consultant (SWC). The volume of assessments has continued to increase over the year. As part of our sufficiency strategy, we were able to secure funding for 6 Fostering Social Workers and a Social Work Consultant. This was to follow the increasing number of family carers and support children to live in their family unit where it is safe to do so. This money has been available since 1st April 2023 ensuring the team is better resourced to assess family members to care for their children within their family unit. It was agreed that the Connected Carers Team will support all friends and family carers, whether that be until they secure a Special Guardianship Order or if they are remaining as foster carers until the child reaches adulthood. This will result in our connected foster carers getting the right support and an approach more in line with their family needs. This will also support in a reduction in the caseloads within the North and South Support Teams allowing them to better support their current carers and the new carers we recruit.

Our Kinship Care and Support Team, who offer support and advice to our connected carers post SGO/Child Arrangement Order (CAO) are now more aligned to the Connected Carers Team and this will continue over the coming year. We offer these carers a package of training pre and post order, including training with Full Circle Team (Durham's therapeutic Social Work Team). We link them in with the Voluntary Sector and the Early Intervention Teams. We also ensure they are accessing all the benefits they are entitled to and we have a Welfare Rights Officer attached to the team who can assist with this. This year we have held consultation meetings with them to hear the lived experiences of those who live in county Durham. As a result of our most recent meeting held in January 2023, we are going to ensure that all approximately 900 carers have a review over the coming year to ensure they have access to the advice, support and services they need.

The Placement Team works with the Families First, Pre-birth, Children with Disabilities and Children in Care Teams and the Fostering Teams to find the best match possible for any child or young person who needs to live with foster carers. Whether this be when they initially come into care or if they need to move for any reason and this can be either in a planned way or on an emergency basis. In relation to children who require a residential children's home, be that in house or external, there is a separate team within Commissioning that searches for these homes for our children and young people. In order to streamline the service and make it quicker and easier for the Child's Social Worker to request a home for a child or young person, the team currently in commissioning joined the Fostering Service and the staff in the Placements Team to form a new Homefinder Team from 1st April 2023. The Accommodation & Support Co-ordinator who sources accommodation for our 16/17-year-old young people also joined the Homefinder Team on 1st April.

Foster Carers Financial Support Available

In relation to financial support for our foster carers, Durham operates a Payment for Skills (PFS) model for its approved foster carers. All foster carers irrespective of type of approval are supported via weekly child age related allowance payments. At the end of February beginning of March the Government made some recommendations in relation to the increase of age-related fostering allowances and Durham very quickly got agreement from Cabinet for the recommended increase to be paid to Durham Foster Carers, the increase was just over 12.4% across all ages.

As identified in last year's report we have reviewed our PFS's model and new model with higher rates was agreed by Cabinet in February 2023. The new model has 3 levels linked to foster carers skills and experience, Accredited, Mainstream and Advanced, these replaced levels 2, 3 and 4. There is also a Specialist payment and this is linked to the needs of the child. The criteria for the Specialist Payment is as defined below:

- (a) have moderate to severe disability and are open to our Children with Disabilities Social Work Team.
- (b) are stepping down from a residential placement

- (c) have experienced a number of fostering breakdowns due to significantly challenging behaviour, which might otherwise require residential care.
- (d) Who have been assessed as requiring a package of significant support due to complex needs.

Fostering Support Groups

We support our foster carers through regular support groups and following on from the success of the virtual ones, we operate a hybrid model. We have listened to our carers and now offer some face to face, over teams and at varied times of the day. These are monthly alongside additional events, coffee mornings and our Foster Care Consultation Events.

We have continued with the Launch Pad which is our support group for new foster carers. We also have twice yearly consultations which are also both face to face and virtual. From our most recent consultations held in March 2023 we are going to restart the teenage support group, for foster carers who offer our teenagers a home. We are also going to have the support groups more local and look at offering drop-in sessions at the Hubs across the council to be more accessible on a formal and informal basis. Our foster carers are also very keen on working with us to shape the service moving forward and we plan on setting up working groups with our foster carers, on a variety of projects over the coming year.

Kinship have supported in running support groups for our carers who have children living with them under a Special Guardianship Order (SGO). These have extended to more parts of the county and will be focusing on developing these further in the forthcoming year.

Training Support

Training has also progressed down the hybrid route as again virtual training allows a lot more people to participate at any one time. Our Workforce Development Lead has worked very hard over the past 12 months to pull together a comprehensive training package. He has also worked with the Systems team to enable our foster carers to access all training via the Durham Learning & Development Hub. This allows them to keep a record of all of their training in one central place and makes it easier to access for their reviews and when matching children.

We have continued to run our Skills to Foster Training with the help and support of our experienced foster carers and care experienced young people. We are looking at a similar package of training for our connected foster carers prior to the making of a Special Guardianship Order (SGO).

Foster Care Reviews

We work closely with the Independent Reviewing Officer (IRO) service, which is independent to the Fostering Service. The main service they provide is one of ensuring that

our foster carers are reviewed every year by an Independent Reviewing Officer in line with the fostering standards. We have 2 dedicated Independent Reviewing Officers and they ensure that the foster carers have the best support possible and that they continue to meet the fostering standards. The IRO regularly praises our foster carers for all the work they do, the training they are offered and their commitment to the children they care for. The support offered by the FSW's is also regularly recognised and praised.

Feedback from IRO:

“Just received some lovely feedback from a set of carers. They offer special thanks to the Fostering Social Worker who has always been there for them both inside and outside office hours (including Christmas day!).” Chris Bartle, IRO

Progress against Key Priorities of 2022

2.1 To Increase the number of Durham County Council Foster Carers.

The major challenge during 2022-2023 for Durham Fostering Service and nationally for other Local Authorities and Independent Fostering Agencies remained the recruitment of new foster carers to the service. This has been recognised by the Government and moving forward into 2023-2024 Durham Fostering Service will be part of a Pathfinder Pilot scheme which is being run across 12 North East Local Authorities, headed up by Together for Children (Sunderland). This will include joint marketing through a 6 month pilot funded by the DFE as the Pathfinder Hub for the channelling of all enquiries about becoming a foster carer. The Hub staff will offer advice, support, and training throughout the assessment period; however, the assessments will still be completed by the individual Local Authorities.

Table 1 – Recruitment and Retention figures for 2022/23

	Initial Enquiries	Expressions of Interest	Foster Carers Approved
2019-2020	353	122	7
2020-2021	278	88	25
2021-2022	210	146	29
2022-2023	150	112	12

Initial Enquiries were low, Expressions of Interest were lower than 2019-20 & 2021-22 and Carers approved was lower than the last 2 years with only 12 foster carers being approved. This is a national issue and our neighbouring authorities and also been a drop this year across the board similar to our own. Unfortunately, there is no benchmarking in relation to Fostering however the introduction of the Pathfinder Pilot will give us this moving forward.

In 2022-23, we de-registered 33 foster carers giving us an overall decrease of -21 mainstream foster families. The reasons for the de-registrations varied from significant

health issues either of themselves or close family, retirement, starting a new job, through to Standards of Care issues. This is an area we continue to monitor. We have started to use our data analysis to understand our foster carers profiles such as understand the age range of our foster carers so we can predict how many carers will retire over the coming year.

2.2 Review the Marketing Strategy to attract and retain a wider group of Fostering Families who are able to offer a range of fostering options to our children looked after.

We have continued to focus our marketing on social media campaigns, tv and radio adverts, digital campaigns, Search Engine Optimisation (SEO), local magazines etc. We were able to run another tv advert at the beginning of 2023. We have been able to get out and about across the county to events such as Pride, Eccleston Fair, Farmers Markets, Hardwick Park Dog Walk and also set up face to face Q&A session in coffee shops across the county, the Town hall and as well as continuing to offer virtual Q&A sessions.



We have had some of foster carers interviewed on local radio to promote fostering with Durham. We have had articles in Durham Magazine, local new websites and articles on social media.



Our targeted campaigns focussed on foster families for teenagers, brothers and sisters, children with complex needs and unaccompanied asylum seekers.



We have a number of unique selling points in Durham Fostering Service which includes:

- A wide range of children requiring foster placements
- Full Circle and Clinical Psychologist
- The benefits of being a large Local Authority with all the support this provides
- A comprehensive personal development package
- Support Groups including a one solely for new foster carers.
- Competitive financial package
- Fostering Family Retention events
- M8's group for carers own children
- An active Children in Care Council providing training for prospective carers, and involvement in recruitment activities, highly valued by prospective carers
- The involvement of existing foster carers in supporting/ mentoring prospective carers
- Independent Advice and Mediation Service.

Retention events are invaluable as they are our way of thanking our foster carers for all of their hard work. In 2022-2023 we managed to have a number of face-to-face events. Following on from our very successful Foster Carer Awards in March 2022 we held a smaller event in July 2022 in the Town Hall for all of our foster carers who were due their 5 & 10 years long service awards. There was an afternoon tea and all recipients received a star, certificate, and flowers

There was a Halloween party in October in the Sjovili Centre, which was enjoyed by all. We were able to have a Christmas Party this year which was held on Saturday 10th December at St Luke's Parish



Centre, Ferryhill. We had a wonderful day and we were lucky enough to have a very special visitor when Santa Claus came to see our children and they all received a present for him.



3.0 Placement Stability and Sufficiency Strategy

3.1 Reduce unnecessary placement moves for children and young people and strengthen the matching arrangements for them

We started this year with 252 foster families at the end of March 2022, however we ended it with 235 foster families.

Over the year the number of all children looked after, rose from 982 on 28th March 2022 to 1067 on 27th March 2023. The table below shows that the number of children living with in house foster carers and the decrease over the year of -25. This would coincide with the reduced number of in house foster carers in the service over the year. We have seen an increase of children living with IFAs over the year of +29 which coincides with the rising number of children needing a home and the decrease in our ability to offer this in house. However, the biggest increase over the year is with our connected foster carers as this has increased by + 39. This is an area of success as we should always support children to live within their family unit if safe to do so.

Approximately 72% of our children in our care live in a fostering arrangement whether that be in house, IFA or with connected foster carers. From March 2022 through to March 2023 we have seen the percentage of children living within, in house carers drop from 56% to 50%, with IFA's increase slightly from 24% to 26% and with connected foster carers increase from 20% to 24%.

Table 2 – Number of children in placement type 2021/22

Date	Children in In House Foster Care	Children in IFA Placements	Children with Connected Foster Carers	Total Number of Children in Foster Care
28 th March 2022	407	173	143	723
24 th October 2022	386	189	164	739
27 th March 2023	382	202	182	766

We need to continue to focus on recruitment and support the Connected Carers Team to enable as many of our children as possible to live either with their own family or with Durham foster carers. In line with this we plan we are going to increase our Social Worker capacity within the Connected Carers Team, to enable them to support all our connected foster carers and this should reduce the pressure on our North and South Support Teams. This will also provide the right level of support at the right time for our carers to respond to our children in a trauma informed approach. This should prevent children needing to move home and placement breakdowns.

3.2 Improve the timeliness and quality of family finding across the service

Over the last year there has been a continued focus on family finding and ensuring we help our children and young people to live in the right family for them. We continued to have a family finding clinic every week to review the matching needs for each child. The focus of the clinic is on finding appropriate permanent carers for children and young people in line with their plan for permanence. This is then tracked monthly at a Strategic Clinic.

Recruiting foster carers to offer a permanent home is also part of recruitment campaigns and all new foster carers are assessed and approved at panel for permanence, even if at the beginning of their fostering journey and their preference is short term placements. This reduces delay if a child or young person bond with their current carers, and it develops into a permanent arrangement. This minimises movement for children and supports sustaining relationships.



We have worked hard over the past year to find the right family for our children and have had 33 matches approved and are now only actively searching for

7 children/young people. Targeted recruitment companies will be looked at to achieve a permanent home for these young people. All other children and young people are living with the family that is right for them with matching reports to be completed when the time is right and we are sure they are settled. These are tracked within Strategic Clinic.

Table 3 –Family Finding Activity 2022/23

Date/ Quarter reporting cycle	Ongoing Active family Finding	Matching report in progress	Matches approved
30 th June 2022	10	61	1
30 th September 2022	14	61	2
31 st December 2022	14	65	12
31 st March 2023	7	57	18

4.0 Fostering Panels

The volume of connected foster carers has increased from 171 in April 2022 to 191 in April 2023. The team are getting involved in assessments earlier in the process. This means that we are approving connected foster carers at panel prior to children being placed as well as when they have been placed in an emergency under regulation 24.

Over the past year we have had 3 connected carers panel each month and 1 mainstream panel per month. The connected carers panel approves family and friends who have been assessed as connected foster carers for a particular child/ren. The volume of carers being assessed as connected foster carers has meant at times; we have had to arrange an extra panel. Looking forward at the number of ongoing assessments we have and predicting when they will need to be approved at panel to keep within the 16-week timescales, we have identified that moving forward into the next year we will need to run a 4th panel for at least the first 3-6 months and then we will review the need for this as a permanent panel. In view of the work, it takes and commitment of our independent members who sit on panel, agreement was given to pay them a small fee as well as their expenses for sitting on panel.

The mainstream panel considers and approves our mainstream foster carers and also reapproves any carer, either mainstream or connected foster carer, after their first review. This panel has remained very busy particularly with first reviews.

Our panel chairs are very experienced and manage the panels well. All panel members have a yearly appraisal, are kept up to date with the service and any changes and have at least 1

training day over year. We have a part-time Panel Advisor who advises on all of the panels, which provides consistency across them all.

5.0 Ofsted Inspection of Durham local authority Children’s Services

From 9th to 20th May Ofsted visited and inspected Durham’s Children’s Services. The outcome of the inspection was very good and recognised the hard work across the service including in the Fostering Service. Durham’s Children’s Services achieving the following Judgements and grades:

Judgement	Grade
The impact of leaders on social work practice with children and families	Outstanding
The experiences and progress of children who need help and protection	Good
The experiences and progress of children in care and care leavers	Good
Overall effectiveness	Good

In relation to the Fostering Service the Inspectors found that leaders are working hard to increase sufficiency and choice of places for children in their care. They also stated that the recruitment, assessment, and approval of foster carers is rigorous and foster carers are well supported by social workers. They recognised the services available, that offer extra support to both children and their carers when they are under pressure and how it supports stability and reduces risk of multiple moves. They also commented on the assessments of connected carers stating they *“are completed promptly, with a good quality assurance process and senior management oversight. When approved, connected carers are receiving tailored support to ensure that they can safely care for children and meet their needs.”*

6.0 Fostering and Liquid Logic and Signs of Safety

6.1 Liquid Logic and the Fostering Module

In 2022 - 23, the fostering management team have continued to work with the systems team and performance team to improve the system and our understanding of our performance data.

We continue to use Liquid Logic and now have access to our performance data daily via the BI reports. This covers the work of the North & South Support teams and the Recruitment & Retention Team. This has enabled us to see at a glance which foster carers have had a supervision within the last 6 weeks an unannounced visit with the last 12 months and also

their Foster Carer review held within statutory timescales. It allows managers to them drill down and cross reference with the Fostering SW as to what the issue is and get it resolved quickly.

We also have a better understanding on a daily basis, of what availability we have across our foster families in relation to being able to match and place a child and this assists the Placement Team.

We can track children and young people health assessments and dental check-ups to ensure that they are having all of their needs met while with our carers. Team Managers can understand caseloads and focus on quality across all areas as everything is accessible on one system.

We can look at the recruitment data and understand the reasons why people do not progress through the full process, the timeliness of the assessment process and management oversight. We can cross reference with campaigns so we can see what has increased enquiries into the service and what campaigns have not worked as well as we hoped they would.

We are progressing in relation to having the same system for our connected foster carers which will ensure we keep abreast of timescales of assessments and panels. However due to Liquid Logic essential updates and issues in other parts of the service this has not happened this year but is on track to be available as BI reports by the summer of 2023.

6.2 Signs of Safety/Success.

The Signs of Safety/Success model is more established now in the Fostering Service. There are practice leads in each team, and all staff have now been on training. All of the forms used in Fostering are written using the signs of safety/success language and model, including the supervision documents, foster carer review documents and family finding form.

There are regular workshops for the practice leads who then feed back into the teams in relation to improvements being made in each area. This all feeds into the Quality Improvement Board and Signs of Safety Implementation Board.

Foster carers understand the language both in relation to themselves and their documents and forms but also in relation to the child/young person in their documents, including their safety plan and care plan. Signs of Safety/Success training for foster carers is to be part of the training programme.

Reflective supervision and also group supervision are now embedded into all of the teams in the service. This is being explored for the Team Managers as part of their learning and development.

7.0 Continued focus on the voice of the child and carers.

This is something that is central to the whole service from beginning to end. To ensure we truly understand what children need and what they are wanting to tell us we ensure we involve them and listen to them every step of the way.

We work very closely with the Children in Care Council and they are heavily involved in shaping the service moving forward from the language we use to the training of new and existing foster carers. The young people formulated and presented a whole section of training to new and existing foster carers and also to staff.

They also work alongside the teams in our events such as Halloween and Christmas. We involve young people in the recruitment of new staff to the service, as they sit on the interview panel. They also attend some of the events to help us recruit new carers such as Pride.



However, we do not just focus on the voice of the child who is classed as 'looked after/in our care,' but we also work with and support the children of our foster carers. During the training of prospective foster carers, a training session is offered specifically to carers sons and daughters which is age appropriate. This offers children the opportunity to meet other's whose parents are undergoing the assessment process, to share their views, ask questions and talk about any potential concerns.

Foster carers children were very clear about how they feel when a child or young person moves on from their home and how they must be considered or thought about in this process. As a result of this the M8's group was formed which supports them and was designed by them, it is run how they want it, when they want it and they can do things they want to do.

We also use the Mind of My Own app. This is to enable all children and young people, not just those involved in the Children in Care Council, to be able to share their views and worries at any time. They can share their views in readiness for their own reviews, also on the foster carers for their reviews and they can contact their Social Worker at any time with a query or worry. All fostering social workers have been trained to use it and support and encourage children and young people to use it when they talk to them. Over the past 12 months the fostering service has promoted the use of Mind Of My Own and have won awards for the most use of this service.

8.0 Mockingbird Model.

In January 2022 we started our journey with the Fostering Network in relation to introducing the Mockingbird Model to Durham. This is a model that was developed in America and is based on the family network model.

Our first Mockingbird Hub was launched on 19th September with a launch event being held on 1st October 2023. This first constellation has been very successful and has had a significant impact on the children and carers involved. One success story was where the carers have supported each other and ensured children did not need to move home when one foster carer was taken poorly and taken into hospital in an emergency. The Hub carers have offered lots of hands-on support to the satellite carers even doing virtual bedtime stories and the male hub carers has worked really well with one young man who was quite isolated and struggled to build relationships.

The Fostering Network were impressed with how Durham has embraced this model they asked our Hub carers and Liaison worker if members of the Scottish Government could visit to see how successful it has been, as the Scottish Government considering promoting it across the Children's Services in Scotland. The visit took place on 29th March and was very successful with very positive feedback from the members who visited.

We are now planning a second hub that will be launched in the summer of 2023.

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9.0 Conclusion

Over the past twelve months a lot has happened not only in Durham but across the country. It has been recognised that demand for foster families far outstrips the number available and this is not just in Durham but a national issue.

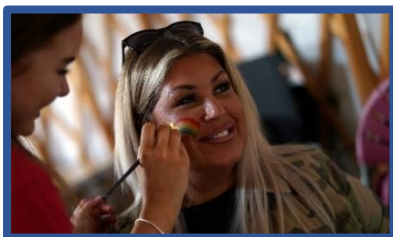
However, we continue to support our foster carers well, offer them a thorough training package, especially when starting on their journey, ensure the voice of the child is embedded in all areas of practice including the voice of the children of our foster carers. We work closely with the Children In Care Council and listen and take on board their views and ideas. We work closely with our experienced foster carers and share their experience across the service and in our recruitment campaigns. We have continued to embed Signs of Safety and we are using our performance data to enable us to improve our recruitment strategy and improve the support and service we give to our foster carers. We have been very successful over the past year in finding families for our children with a plan of permanent foster care. We have launched our first Mockingbird Hub which has been very successful and are looking forward to the launch of our second Hub in the coming months.

Our challenges remain around recruitment, especially for brothers and sisters, teenagers, unaccompanied asylum seekers and children with complex needs, but this is a national issue and something which is top of our agenda moving into 2023-2024. We recognise the increase in connected foster carers and the impact of this on the team and service and are

committed to increasing the staffing in our Connected Carers Team and also improving the offer of support to our SGO/CAO carers

10.0. Key Priorities for 2023-2024

- To increase the number of Durham County Council Foster Carers across the board.
- Continue to work with the other 12 Local Authorities to make the Pathfinder Pilot a success to increase our recruitment of foster carers.
- Continue to provide a timely approach and good quality of family finding across the service.
- Reduce unnecessary placement moves for children and young people and continue to strengthen the matching arrangements for them.
- Use reporting data to better understand how our fostering service is performing and prioritising key areas of activity across the service.
- Evidence the good work we do in ensuring the voice of children and their carers informs the service we provide.
- Continue to build on the success of our first Mockingbird Hub and launch our second hub in the summer of 2023.
- Expand the capacity within the Connected Carers team to improve our offer to connected foster carers pre and post the making of an SGO.
- Align the Kinship Care and Support Team more to our Connected Carers Team to improve the offer and support to our SGO/CAO carers both pre and post order.
- Review and improve our training offer to our Connected Foster Carers.



Appendix 1

The Children Act 1989 requires a local authority who are looking after a child, to place that child with a foster carer if it is not possible to arrange for the child to live with a parent or family member. The local authority's duties in relation to the fostering service are set out in the Fostering Services (England) Regulations 2011; the Fostering Services National Minimum Standards and the Statutory Guidance contained in Volume 4 of the Children Act Guidance. The Regulatory Framework for the inspection of fostering services by Ofsted is contained in the Care Standards Act 2000.

The work undertaken by the Service is governed by legislation which include:

- Children Act 1989
- Children Act 2004
- Children & young Persons Act 2008
- Care Standards Act 2000
- Fostering Services Regulations 2011
- Fostering Services: National Minimum Standards 2011
- The Children Act 1989 Guidance and Regulations Volume 4: Fostering Services 2011
- The Children Act Guidance and Regulations Volume 2: Care Planning, placement and case Review 2010 & Updated 2013 & Updated 2015.