

Adoption Team Mid Year update 2024



Recruitment and assessment of Adopters

- 43 initial enquiries.
- 19 initial visits carried out.
- 9 Adoptive families approved as adopters.
- At the final day of this reporting period 9 families were in stage 1, 4 in stage 2 pending and 4 in stage 2.
- No applicants have appealed via the Independent Reviewing mechanism (IRM).

Non-Agency Adoptions

- 5 initial visits completed, 3 of which progressed to assessment.
- 6 Adoption Orders granted.
- 3 Annex A reports filed with Court awaiting completion of the proceedings.
- 2 Annex A reports completed awaiting to be filed with Court and proceedings to commence.
- 9 assessments ongoing.

Adoption Panel

Panel continues to sit fortnightly. There are 2 panel chairs who chair panel alternately. During this reporting period panel has recommended:

- 6 prospective adopter (households) approvals;
- 20 matches for DCC children with RAA and external agency adopters;
- 1 plan of adoption for a relinquished baby.

Future Developments

Recruitment of panel members remains a priority, including the ongoing need to recruit elected members.

Post Adoption Support

Post adoption support is an increasing area of work:

- 119 children and their parents were supported in respect of seeking and securing therapeutic intervention relating to their past traumas. For the majority of these children this work will be ongoing for many months, possibly years;
- Adoption Support fund (ASF) applications are made to secure the funding for therapy for these children. 64 applications were made and granted;
- 77 Birth parents were supported to write letters to their adopted children. 277 letters were received and reviewed before forwarding on.