

# Adoption Bi Annual Report

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Adoption Service Manager.



# Who are we and what do we do

## Who's in the team?

- 1 Team Manager
- 12 social workers
- 2 consultant social workers
- 1 adoption support worker

## What are our main roles?

- Train, assess, support to approval and match our prospective adopters
- Find suitable adopters for children with plans of adoption
- Provide post Adoption Support
- Support adopted adults of all ages to access their adoption records
- Carry out non agency adoption assessments/Court work

# Performance

## 1 April 2024 to 31 September 2024

- 52 Enquiries - leading to 34 initial visits
- 12 families have been approved as adopters
- 30 matches for children were approved
- 40 children had a plan of adoption ratified by ADM
- 5 children were matched with Early Permanence carers
- 289 Keeping in Touch letters received from adopters/birth family members
- 12 sets of adoptive parents for 14 children were supported to meet with the adopters of their children's birth brothers and sisters
- 184 children have been supported via Post Adoption Support

# Developments in Keeping in Touch

Keeping in touch arrangements for adopted children and their birth families is changing for the better!

The national drive to promote direct contact, where safe to do so is underway.

We are actively supporting this, and improvements are already being made when planning for adoption for children.

This is also no longer just being once a year as standard.

Keeping in touch now includes drawings and pictures made by the child being sent with letters to birth family, photographs are also being included.

# Our Key Priorities 24/25

- To continue to work collaboratively with our partner in Adopt Coast to Coast to recruit, assess and approve prospective adopters in a timely manner.
- To ensure children's plans of permanence via adoption are progressed without delay.
- Early Permanence carers are to be identified at the earliest possible stage in children's planning to prevent delay and ensure minimal moves for children.
- Ensure that assessments of prospective adopters progress within timescales in particular in stage 1 of the adoption process.
- Build on the Post Adoption Support offer including upskilling adoption social workers to offer support such as Theraplay.
- To continue to recruit new Panel members to the Central List, particularly Elected Members.