

## **Fostering Panel Activity – 1/4/23 – 20/2/24**

### **Membership of the Central List**

Panel Chair - Reshma Kodampur – January 2022

Professional Advisor to the Panel – Richard Watts until 19/11/23: Belinda Greasby from 20/11/23

At the beginning of the period there were 12 members on the Central List (including the Panel Chair). During the year 2 Panel members have resigned (Medical Advisor and Vice Chair retired) and 5 new members have been recruited. Central List now has 14 members. 2 of the newly recruited members are “live” on Panel, the other 3 will be “live” from 15/3/24 having completed all their recruitment checks and induction. All 5 new members observed Panel as part of their induction.

### **Diversity of the Central List as at 20/2/24**

12 women; 2 men

5 members are non agency registered SW's – one of whom is care experienced.  
Chair is a SW

1 is an elected member

2 members are mainstream foster carers for another LA

5 are Independent members (1 previously elected member; 3 with education background; 1 with health background)

2 members have disclosed disabilities

3 members have minority heritage

### **Annual appraisals**

9/5/24 – 4 appraisals completed

10/5/23 – 5 appraisals completed

5/6/23 – 2 appraisals completed

Panel Chairs appraisal was completed by ADM – 9/2/24

### **Panel Development**

21/6/23 – Restorative Session – Service Audit feedback to members of the Central List alongside the Service

22/9/23 – Panel Development Day alongside representatives from the Service

Quarterly meetings between ADM/Panel Chair/Panel Advisor/Panel Administrator

9/2/24

Prior to this meeting they were called Panel Management meetings and took place

16/6/23 and 11/8/23

**Panel meetings**

To date 33 Panels have taken place. These were all held virtually via Microsoft Teams.

Breakdown of Items heard at Panel

Mainstream assessments	7	ADM supported positive Panel recommendations
Connected Carers assessments	23	ADM supported Panel recommendations. ADM sought additional information in respect of 1 item before making decision. Panel initially deferred 1 item for more information
Negative full connected carers assessments	2	
Brief reports	1	
Long term matches	8 families (12 children)	5 IFA carers– 3 inhouse carers  Sibling groups – one of 3 children and 2 sibling groups of 2.  ADM supported positive Panel recommendations
<u>Reviews</u>		
Mainstream (inc: 2 Post Allegation)	5	ADM supported Panel recommendations.  1 item was initially deferred for further information  1 item has gone to IRM – hearing 15/3/24
Connected Carers (inc: 1 change of approval; 1 deregistration)	7	
Reg 25 extensions	25	ADM supported Panel recommendations. 24 were positive recommendations one was negative.

<u>Resignations</u>		
Mainstream	13	6 Personal circumstances (had children remain on Staying Put) 2 went to an IFA 2 resigned following placement breakdowns 3 resigned citing agency support issues
Connected Carers	26	15 as a result of SGO 6 as child/ren returned to birth parents 1 due to personal circumstances 2 following placement breakdowns 2 retired when children turned 18 – Staying Put in place.

## Complaints

No formal complaints have been recorded during this period.

Belinda Greasby – Professional Adviser to the Fostering Panel

Reshma Kodampur – Independent Panel Chair

20/2/24