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# **Executive Briefing Permanence Strategy**

CYPS Scrutiny: 13 January 2021

Lead director: Martin Samuels

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## **Useful information**

- Ward(s) affected: All
- Report author: David Thrussell, Head of Service Corporate Parenting
- Author contact details: 0116 4541657
- Report version number: 1

## **1. Summary**

- 1.1 This report outlines our strategy to achieve permanence for our children and young people to ensure they have a safe place to live and thrive and that they achieve the best outcomes possible.
- 1.2 Permanence provides an underpinning framework for all social work with children and their families. It aims to ensure that children and young people have a sense of security, continuity, commitment, identity and belonging.
- 1.3 The report sets out the principles and objectives that ensure children in Leicester receive the best permanence outcomes. The first principle is to work with families and children in need to support them staying together. The best place to provide care for most children is in their family and if this is not possible within an alternative family setting. We will always support families to stay together and ensure that the home is a safe and caring place.
- 1.4 The report outlines the ways in which the council provides suitable long-term permanence options for children to live within family households including kinship care arrangements, long term fostering arrangements, special guardianship and adoption.

## **2. Recommended actions / decision**

- 2.1 This report is for information only and the Executive are asked to note and approve the Permanence Strategy for 2020 / 2023.

### **3. Scrutiny / stakeholder engagement**

- 3.1 The report has been prepared in consultation with the Service Managers for Children's Social Care and Early Help. The report will proceed to Children & Young Peoples Scrutiny subject to agreement.

### **4. Background and options with supporting evidence**

- 4.1 This is a covering report for the attached Permanence Strategy for 2020 / 23.

### **5. Detailed report**

- 5.1 Please refer to the attached main report. If you have any questions about the Permanence Strategy, please contact the Head of Service Corporate Parenting.

### **6. Financial, legal, equalities, climate emergency and other implications**

#### **6.1 Financial implications**

- 6.1.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

Martin Judson, Head of Finance

#### **6.2 Legal implications**

- 6.2.1 There are no direct legal implications arising from this report.

Pretty Patel, Head of Legal Services 0116 4541457

#### **6.3 Equalities implications**

- 6.3.1 When making decisions, the Council must comply with the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) (Equality Act 2010) by paying due regard, when carrying out their functions, to the need to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct prohibited by the Act, to advance equality

of opportunity and foster good relations between people who share a 'protected characteristic' and those who do not.

6.3.2 In doing so, the council must consider the possible impact on those who are likely to be affected by the recommendation and their protected characteristics.

6.3.3 Protected Characteristics under the Equality Act 2010 are age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.

6.3.4 There are no direct equality implications arising from this report as it is for information, however equality considerations, including relevant protected characteristics, should be considered as part of the permanence strategy when placing a child.

Sukhi Biring, Equalities Officer, 454 4175

#### **6.4 Climate Emergency implications**

6.4.1 There are no significant climate change implications associated with this report.

Aidan Davis, Sustainability Officer, 0116 4542284

#### **6.5 Other implications (You will need to have considered other implications in preparing this report. Please indicate which ones apply?)**

6.5.1 None

#### **7. Background information and other papers:**

7.1 None

#### **8. Summary of appendices:**

8.1 None

**9. Is this a private report**

9.1 No

**10. Is this a “key decision”? If so, why?**

10.1 No