

To the Chair and Members of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Panel

**DONCASTER CHILDREN'S SERVICES TRUST - FOSTERING SERVICE
2016/2017 ANNUAL REPORT**

Relevant Cabinet Member(s)	Wards Affected	Key Decision
Councillor Nuala Fennelly Cabinet Member for Children Young People and Schools	All	None

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of the report is for Doncaster MBC Scrutiny Members to give consideration to the Fostering Service Annual report 2016/2017.

EXEMPT REPORT

1. There is no exempt information contained in the report.

RECOMMENDATIONS

2. That the Scrutiny Panel considers the information presented.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR THE CITIZENS OF DONCASTER?

3. The Overview and Scrutiny function has the potential to impact upon all of the Council's key objectives by holding decision makers to account, reviewing performance and developing policy.

BACKGROUND

4. The Doncaster Childrens Services Trust must provide a written report on the Fostering Service and informs Elected member about key outcomes in service provision, identify any issues of concern and outline plans for improvement to the quality of service provision.
5. The Foster Service Annual Report is attached at Appendix A for Members consideration.

OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REASONS FOR RECOMMENDED OPTION

6. There are no alternative options within this report but offers the Scrutiny panel the opportunity give consideration to the Annual Report.

IMPACT ON THE COUNCIL'S KEY PRIORITIES

7.

	Outcomes	Implications
	<p>All people in Doncaster benefit from a thriving and resilient economy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Creating Jobs and Housing</i> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Be a strong voice for our veterans</i> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Protecting Doncaster's vital services</i> 	<p>The work of Overview a Scrutiny has the potential to have an impact on all the Council's key objectives.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The opportunity to foster for Doncaster residents provides access to additional funding and support whilst caring for vulnerable children.
	<p>People live safe, healthy, active and independent lives.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Safeguarding our Communities</i> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Bringing down the cost of living</i> 	
	<p>People in Doncaster benefit from a high quality built and natural environment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Creating Jobs and Housing</i> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Safeguarding our Communities</i> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Bringing down the cost of living</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The provision of high quality fostering placements in Doncaster will ensure vulnerable children are safeguarded and families supported to care for their own children.
	<p>All families thrive.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Protecting Doncaster's vital services</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foster carers provide an essential service to families and enable parents to work with social care staff in times of need.
	<p>Council services are modern and value for money.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In-house fostering provision is delivered at significantly less cost than external placements and represents value for money.
	<p>Working with our partners we will provide strong leadership and governance.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The performance of the fostering service is monitored through the corporate parenting committee and the Multi Agency Looked After Partnership (MALAP)

RISKS AND ASSUMPTIONS

8. The specific risks and assumptions relating to this issue are set out in the attached report.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

9. There are no specific implications arising from this report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

10. Specific Implication are set out in the attached report.

HUMAN RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS

11. Specific implications are referred to in the attached report.

TECHNOLOGY IMPLICATIONS

12. There are no technology implications arising from this report

EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

13. There are no significant equality implications associated with this report. Within its programme of work Overview and Scrutiny gives due consideration to the extent to which the Council has complied with its Public Equality Duty and given due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, promote equality of opportunity and foster good relations between different communities.

CONSULTATION

14. Specific consultation is referred to in the attached report.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

15. None.

REPORT AUTHOR & CONTRIBUTORS

Sue May
Head of Looked After Children's Services
Doncaster Children's Services Trust