

Meeting: Cabinet

Date: 18 January 2022

Wards Affected: All

Report Title: Fostering Annual Report 2021-22

Is the decision a key decision? No

When does the decision need to be implemented? For Information

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1. Purpose and Introduction

- 1.1 The Fostering Annual Report sets Torbay's vision for the Fostering Service, its core principles, its key aims, main priorities and actions, the role of the Fostering Service and its various functions, the Fostering Service organisational structure, recruitment performance information, an outline of the fostering recruitment and marketing strategy and campaign, improvements in terms of foster carer support and retention, information relating to the Special Guardianship support team and next steps.

2. Reasons for Decision

- 2.1 It is a statutory requirement established by the National Minimum Standards for Fostering for each Local Authority to produce and publish an Annual Report and present this to the Corporate Parenting Board. This Annual Report should be considered in conjunction with the Fostering Service Statement of Purpose, required under the Fostering Services (England) Regulations 2011, which is also included as an appendix. Given the importance of the work of the Fostering Service in the wider context of Children's Services and the sufficiency strategy, wider political oversight was sought.

3. Proposed Decision

- 3.1 To enable the Fostering Annual Report 2021-22 to be published in accordance with Council's requirements

4. Recommendation/ Proposed Decision

- 4.1 That the Fostering Annual Report 2021-22 set out in Appendix 1 be noted.
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Appendices

Appendix 1: Fostering Annual Report 2021/22

Appendix 2: Fostering Statement of Purpose