

SCRUTINY COMMITTEE REPORT

Date Written	February 2019
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Service Area	Children's Services
Committee Date	10 th March 2020

To: Chair, Ladies and Gentlemen

Vale, Valleys and Cardiff Adoption Collaborative (VVC) Annual Report for 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019

1.0 SUMMARY OF THE REPORT

1.1 The VVC Adoption Annual Report which is attached provides information about the business of the Regional Adoption Service during 2018-19.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION

2.1 That the scrutiny committee discusses and comments on the issues set out in the attached report, and identifies any further information it would like to receive

3.0 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

3.1 The Vale, Valleys and Cardiff Adoption Collaborative (VVC) is the largest of the five regional collaboratives which form part of the National Adoption Service in Wales (NAS). It provides a regional adoption service to the Vale of Glamorgan Council, Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council, Cardiff Council and Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council. The service is hosted by the Vale of Glamorgan Council.

3.2 The service functions include:

- Recruitment and Assessment of Adopters
- Adoption Panel
- Family Finding
- Adoption Support

4.0 WHERE WE WERE

4.1 During the year 2018-19, the regional adoption service responded to our high demand of business as usual in relation to the adoption process.

5.0 WHERE WE ARE NOW

5.1 The Regional Adoption Management Board meets monthly and receives updates in relation to the work of the business plan, performance reporting the budget and other challenges and developments. The Portfolio Councillor for Social Services is a member of the Regional Adoption Committee that meets bi-annually and approves the budget for the Regional Adoption Collaborative.

6.0 WHERE WE WANT TO BE

6.1 We are making plans for all Merthyr Tydfil looked after young people to achieve safe and successful lives and our commitment to the Adoption Service is key to that objective for children with a plan for adoption.

7.0 WHAT WE NEED TO DO NEXT

7.1 Merthyr Tydfil Children's Services will continue to support the developing work of the Regional Adoption Collaborative in pursuit of ensuring successful permanent outcomes for younger looked after children with a plan for adoption.

8.0 CONTRIBUTION TO WELLBEING OBJECTIVES

8.1 This area of business is located in the following wellbeing objective:

People are empowered to live independently within their communities, where they are safe and enjoy good physical and mental health.

LISA CURTIS JONES
CHIEF OFFICER (SOCIAL SERVICES)

COUNCILLOR CHRIS DAVIES
CABINET MEMBER FOR
SOCIAL SERVICES

BACKGROUND PAPERS		
Title of Document(s)	Document(s) Date	Document Location
Scrutiny Report 2017-18	February 2020	Council website and Civic Offices.
Does the report contain any issue that may impact the Council's Constitution?		No