



To: Cabinet

Date: 31st October 2017

Subject: Creation of a Regional Adoption Agency

1 Purpose of the Note

- 1.1 To inform Cabinet of the outcome of the consideration of a briefing note on the Regional Adoption Agency.

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 Cabinet are recommended to accept the approach to a regional adoption agency as proposed in the briefing note received by the Educations and Children's Services Scrutiny Board.

3 Information/Background

- 3.1 At their meeting on 12th October 2017, the Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Board considered a briefing note on the Creation of a Regional Adoption Agency.
- 3.2 Members questions officers on the following:
- The rationale behind the choice of regional partners
 - Concerns about the performance of partners' Children's Services
 - Governance structures and accountability, including the inspection process
 - The arrangements for current adoption panels
 - Arrangements for transfer of staff, including morale, protected pay and contrast of Warwickshire's terms and conditions.
 - What responsibilities lie with Adoption Central England and the local authorities, in particular, matching and adoption decision making.
 - Details of the funding arrangements
 - Where responsibility for post-adoption support will lie, including assessment and delivery of service, and that it will be available for families over a long period of time.
- 3.3 Members were satisfied with the responses they received from officers and endorsed the approach proposed in the briefing note.

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