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**To: The Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Board (2)**

**Date: 3 October 2019**

**Subject: Adoption Service Annual Report**

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**1 Purpose of the Note**

1.1 The Adoption Regulations require the executive to scrutinise the work of the adoption service each year. The Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Board (Scrutiny Board 2) considered the progress of establishing of a Regional Adoption Agency on 21 June 2018. The Board requested that this item be returned for a further review following an operating period to identify outcomes from the new arrangements. The Annual Adoption Report documents the adoption activity in Children's Services for the year 2018/19. This includes a report of the activity of the Regional Adoption Agency of which Coventry City Council is a part.

**2 Recommendations**

- 1) That the Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Board (2) note the progress made by Children's Services and ACE in adoption for children in the city.

**3 Information/Background**

3.1 Coventry became part of a Regional Adoption Agency on 1 February 2018. This is a shared services arrangement in partnership with four other local authorities. The host of the Regional Adoption Agency is Warwickshire County Council. An Annual Adoption Report is required by regulation and has been written jointly between staff from Coventry City Council Children's Services and the Regional Adoption Agency. It documents the progress of adoption in the city for the year 2018/19.

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Appendix 1 – Annual Report of the Adoption Service 2018-2019

Appendix 2 – Adoption Central England Annual Report 2018-2019

Appendix 3 – ACE Adoption Panel Chair's Annual Report