

**Executive Summary of the Corporate Parenting Statement for Adoption
Lancashire & Blackpool 1 April – 30 September 2023.**

This executive summary provides a condensed overview of Adoption Lancashire & Blackpool Corporate Parenting Statement, highlighting key aspects and outcomes achieved during this reporting period.

Introduction:

The commitment of Adoption Lancashire & Blackpool to both Lancashire County Council and Blackpool Councils Corporate Parenting Boards underscores our responsibility to every child who has a care plan of adoption in both Local Authorities as part of the Councils' responsibilities to ensure the well-being and development of every child with a care plan of adoption. This statement focuses on Adoption Lancashire & Blackpool's adoption initiatives to achieve for as many children as possible permanency through adoption by securing loving and secure adoptive homes. Whilst ensuring that every effort has been made for those children who do not achieve an adoptive home.

Key Achievements:

Over this reporting period:

- 39 children were adopted (21 Lancashire County Council and 18 Blackpool Council) demonstrating a significant impact as they will grow up in secure and loving families.
- 42 children (19 Lancashire County Council and 23 Blackpool Council) were matched to adoptive families.
- 41 children (19 Lancashire County Council and 22 Blackpool Council) were placed with their forever families.
- 24 adopters were approved who can provide adoptive children with permanent loving homes.
- 73 items were presented to the Adoption Panel
- Adoption Lancashire & Blackpool is part of 3 Regional adoption Agencies strategic BID's.
- Managers have worked as part of national working groups to develop new practices in adoption.

Collaborative Approach:

Adoption Lancashire & Blackpool works collaboratively with both Lancashire County Council and Blackpool Council. This approach allows for Adoption Lancashire & Blackpool to be a critical friend to the two local authorities and vice versa, to be

creative, review and develop adoption practice to promote better outcomes for adopted children.

Whilst Adoption Lancashire & Blackpool continue to work regionally with regional partners and has been awarded monies to look at commissioning in adoption support.

Success Stories:

Highlighted within this statement is the data showing adoption successes, illustrating the positive impact of adoption on the lives of adopted children and their families.

Challenges and solutions:

Addressing challenges head-on, Adoption Lancashire & Blackpool have identified areas for improvement in governance via the Adoption Lancashire & Blackpool Board and post approval training of adopters and implemented targeted strategies to develop practice. Our proactive approach ensures continuous development of adoption practice in Adoption Lancashire & Blackpool, Lancashire County Council and Blackpool Council.

Statutory Compliance:

Upholding compliance is paramount in adoption. During this period an Adoption Support audit has been implemented. This builds on the Recruitment and Assessment audit implemented in the previous reporting period. This statement underscores Adoption Lancashire & Blackpool's unwavering commitment to compliance with all regulations and guidelines to develop good practice.

Future Initiatives:

Adoption Lancashire & Blackpool commitment to continuous improvement ensures that adoption continues to develop to meet the changing needs of adopted children, adopters, and birth families. This statement considers the planned initiatives for the next period including the implementation of post approval training, improving feedback and the adoption dashboard.

In conclusion this statement provides information to the Lancashire and Blackpool Corporate Parenting Boards, to ensure that they are aware of progress in adoption and are reassured that Adoption Lancashire & Blackpool is meeting its responsibilities and understand the progress and challenges in adoption.

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