



## Report to Children, Young People & Family Support Scrutiny & Policy Development Committee Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2021

**Report of:** Carly Speechley, Director, Children and Families

**Subject:** Adoption Service Annual Report 2020/21

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This is the annual report of Sheffield City Council's Adoption Service. It reports on activity and performance in the Service during 2020/21, and details developments that have taken place during the reporting year, and developments planned for the service moving through 2021/22.

Key activity data in the report indicates that the number of Sheffield children adopted from care decreased from 41 in 2019/20 to 33 in 2020/21. This is in line with the national trend. The percentage of children adopted from care reduced from 15% to 12% in the same period. This is in line with the latest national average of 12%. Our performance on timeliness of adoption was strong. On average children adopted in year were moved from becoming looked after to placed for adoption in 421 days, 5 days quicker than the Government target and 73 days quicker than the national average performance.

A key development in the reporting year was the establishment on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2021 of the South Yorkshire Regional Adoption Agency. This is a partnership jointly established between the adoption services of Sheffield, Barnsley and Rotherham Councils, and Doncaster Children's Services Trust. This initiative is in line with the Government drive to regionalise all adoptions services in the country.

**Type of item:** The report author should tick the appropriate box

Reviewing of existing policy	
Informing the development of new policy	
Performance / budget monitoring report	<b>x</b>
Cabinet request for scrutiny	
Full Council request for scrutiny	
Call-in of Cabinet decision	
Other	

**The Scrutiny Committee is being asked to:**

Note the activity and the performance of Sheffield City Council's Adoption Service in 2020/21.

**Background Papers:** South Yorkshire Regional Adoption Agency Six Month Report  
**Category of Report:** OPEN

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