



Adoption News!

You may by now have heard that I have taken up a secondment to work on the development of a Regional Adoption Agency with Derbyshire County Council, Derby City Council, Nottingham City Council and ourselves. The secondment is for a year and hopefully, in that time, we will establish a Regional Adoption Agency (RAA). At the moment, the plan under consideration is that Nottinghamshire hosts the agency and we are already working in partnership with our neighbours on elements of the adoption approval process.

Nationally, there are now several regional adoption agencies, and whilst the path is somewhat difficult to negotiate, once live, the benefits are being seen including increases in the recruitment of adopters and opportunities for matches for children.

We remain part of a bigger RAA development, with Lincolnshire, Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland, working to a different model, but we will all come under the umbrella First4Adoption East Midlands. We are currently developing a website which we will direct enquiries from the whole region through.

We are trying to develop consistent and best practice for permanence and adoption teams across D2N2, and hopefully if you are involved in adoption care plans, you too will benefit from this.

I look forward to updating you on progress in future newsletters.

Shelagh Mitchell
Interim Head D2N2 RAA