

Service Update

Hi all,

I hope you are enjoying the summer and that you are coping with the additional demands of the school holidays. I'd like to update you about some changes of personnel in the Fostering Service.

Following Chris Smith's departure from the service earlier this year, there has been several managerial changes which are now in place. Ruth Goodison has temporarily moved from the IRO post to take up a temporary team manager position for the South fostering team and Short Breaks and Fostering Team (Disabled children). Ruth is really pleased to be part of the team and commented "The past year as an Independent Reviewing Officer for the fostering service has highlighted the excellent standards that foster carers work to and the positive and life changing experiences that are provided for our Looked After children."

Laura Webster and Nicola Hardy are currently temporarily job-sharing Ruth's IRO post.

In addition to Ruth's post, the managerial team for the fostering service are as follows:

Kath Hughes	South Fostering Team and Fostering Family Workers
Dawn Clark-Cain	Family and Friends and Fostering Recruitment Team
Sandra Warner	North Fostering Team
Ian Tabberer	Fostering Futures
Jayne Ripley	Central Fostering Team
Lesley Swift	Central Fostering Team

Chris Neijs has also joined the fostering service as a Fostering Support Officer, for the Short Breaks and Family and Friends team, replacing Lizzie Davis who has left the authority to take up a teacher training post.

Karen Tietjen, took up the post of Payments Team Leader on 12th June, 2017 following Jane Walmsley's retirement. Whilst Karen is new to the authority, her background is in finance and she worked alongside Jane for six months to enable Jane to pass on her extensive knowledge. Karen is really enjoying the challenge and working alongside the existing team.

I hope you enjoy the rest of the summer and thank you for your ongoing hard work and commitment to fostering.

Naomi Sills
Fostering Service Manager