

Statement of Purpose

Thomas Coram Foundation for Children

URN: SC048496

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Introduction

Details of the Registration Authority

Thomas Coram Foundation for Children (Coram) is a registered Voluntary Adoption Agency (VAA) and a registered Independent Fostering Agency (IFA) operating using the title Coram Ambitious for Adoption.

Alongside its national brief for the supply of adopters and child placements, the agency is commissioned by the London Borough of Harrow to deliver the services of a regional adoption agency (RAA) for participating local authorities including Harrow, Bromley, City of London, Hillingdon, Redbridge, Waltham Forest and the Bi-Borough [Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea and Westminster City Council]. The Royal Borough of Greenwich and Slough Borough Council are to join the regional agency by March 2020 subject to the conclusion of internal due diligences.

Coram Ambitious for Adoption provides all the services of a VAA with a key role to recruit, assess and prepare and train adopters to provide loving and secure families to children requiring adoption. The fostering service relates to early permanence placements and dual approvals of adopters to provide fostering placements for early permanence placement.

Coram Ambitious for Adoption works on having a hub of activities for the recruitment and support of adopters at its main office location at Brunswick Square. With the family finding activities and local post adoption support services being provided by Coram staff located at offices for each of the local authorities. This arrangement will ensure that Coram Ambitious for Adoption RAA works together with each local authority to improve outcomes for children and adoptive families and to meet the objectives of a regional adoption agency to:

- Recruit adopters for children needing permanent families through adoption;
- Provide family finding and matching services
- Provide adoption support services
- To recruit, prepare and assess and train foster carers to undertake early permanency placements

2. Principles and Values Statements

The work of the Coram Ambitious for Adoption is informed by the principles of the National Minimum Standards for Adoption and for Foster Care:

- The needs, rights, wishes, safety and welfare of children are our paramount concern.
- All prospective adopters and carers are treated with respect at all times
- The lifelong implications of adoption and the need for comprehensive support services to adopters, carers, and adopted children and adults, is recognized from the start

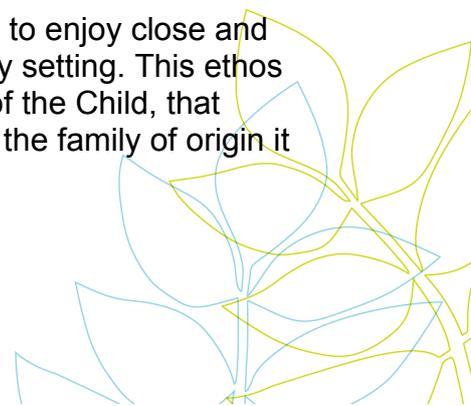


- The service includes support to birth parents and relatives as appropriate to each family and access to records and intermediary services.
- the service actively supports early permanence as in the child's interest working closely with all partner Local Authorities to identify children who would benefit from early permanence fostering for adoption (FFA) placements optimising secure attachments
- The service actively supports birth families of children in placement working towards rehabilitation home where it is achievable within a child's developmental timescales and includes parenting coaching and supervision of contact arrangements.
- Equal opportunities and diversity frameworks are intrinsic to the delivery approach and care offered across all the activities of recruitment of prospective adopters and foster carers, and their preparation and training
- Achieve positive outcomes for children with diverse needs and backgrounds enabling their emotional social and educational needs to be met with respect to identity, ethnicity, race, religion, disability, culture and language and gender.
- Act as champions for the right to family life and the enjoyment of health care, education, leisure time and social interactions and therapeutic support to ensure each child has the best life chances through adoption and permanent families.
- Encourage and support families with attributes to prioritise children's needs, and make a commitment to the child on a permanent basis and with resilience to persevere through difficult times.
- Celebrate all family structures (e.g. single parents, couples who are heterosexual or gay, married, in civil partnerships or unmarried) can provide the nurture and parenting to meet the needs of children coming forward for adoption
- Understand that birth parents and relatives with a plan for adoption of children experience a profound loss, and can be supported to make a meaningful through letter box contact, providing photographs or a letter to read in later life.
- Encourage a spirit of openness so that children grow up with knowledge and understanding of their birth family and support direct and indirect contact between adopted children and birth relatives.
- Prioritise children's safety and welfare and implement Coram's Safeguarding Children Policy consulting with the designated safeguarding lead for Coram and in participating authorities in relation to any concerns.

3. Aims and Objectives

In accordance with the provisions of the Children and Adoption Act 2002, all local authorities have a duty to establish and maintain an adoption service in their area, to meet the needs in relation to adoption, of children who have or may be adopted, of adults who have been adopted, parents and guardians of such children and persons who have or may adopt a child. Participating authorities to Coram Ambitious for Adoption have delegated this responsibility for adoption services to the regional agency.

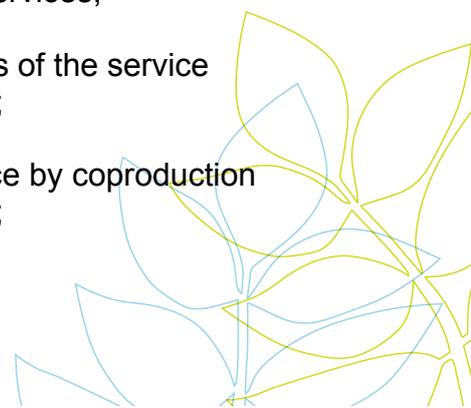
Coram Ambitious for Adoption believes that children are best able to enjoy close and enduring relationships and to develop their potential within a family setting. This ethos is underpinned by Article 21 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, that every child has a right to family life and if it cannot be provided by the family of origin it should be provided by a permanent alternative family.



We recognise that people who have been affected by adoption, both children and adults, may require additional support at different times over the years.

The aims and objectives of Coram Ambitious for Adoption are:

- To work closely with participating authorities to identify children who are looked after where adoption is the plan and in their interest seek to place a child with permanent families as expediently as possible
- To secure for each child a loving family to 'belong' to on a permanent basis and to form secure attachments and reach their potential and developmental milestones;
- Through the location of adoption services within each local authority children with a proposed plan for adoption will be identified and matched early to avoid delay in the child's journey to permanency;
- Actively recruit, prepare, assess and support adopters and carers from a diverse range of backgrounds who have the ability to meet the needs of children coming forward for adoption within the regional agency and beyond.
- Coram adopters will be supported to consider matching options for children identified with a plan for adoption within the RAA
- To recruit and support carers who are willing and able to be dually approved as foster carers and as prospective adopters to undertake early permanence placements for children aged 0-2 where the final care plan remains uncertain.
- To provide post placement support to newly created and existing adoptive families;
- To provide access to information, counselling, intermediary services and support as appropriate to adults whose lives have been affected by adoption, including adopted adults and their birth relatives
- To promote best practice in permanence planning for children by undertaking research and disseminating information to the professional network; This includes providing information through the Coram Centre for Early Permanence which hosts the early permanence subscription scheme.
- To work with each local authority within the RAA to enable best outcomes for children where adoption is the plan by:
 1. Investing in our workforce to ensure staff have the right skills and capacity for reflective and inspired practice to deliver excellent services;
 2. Actively listening to complaints and feedback from users of the service learning and developing to inform the cycle of provision;
 3. Engaging with young people and adopters by experience by coproduction approaches that inform the work of the regional agency;



4. Safely commissioning the delivery of services for adopters and children through the network of specialist adoption support services
5. Delivering sufficiency in the commissioned regional adoption agency to enable best chances for children requiring adoption in timely placement and quality in line the scope of the service specification for the RAA and the scale and quality of the delivery system.

4. Responsible Officers

Sue Lowndes, Managing Director of Coram Ambitious for Adoption is the Responsible Individual for the Voluntary Adoption Agency and the services of Coram Ambitious for Adoption, under Regulation 5 of the Voluntary Adoption Agency (England) Regulations 2003.

Alice Noon is the VAA registered Manager who oversees the supply, support and training of adopters and preparation for placement and of children post placement.

Each participant local authority to the RAA retains its own registered agency status and will nominate a senior officer with experience of adoption services as the Agency Decision Maker. (ADM). The ADMs retain a twofold responsibility in relation to adoption namely

- a) responsibility for decisions for a Looked After Child and/or relinquished babies to be placed for adoption
- b) the consideration of a panel recommendation for placement of a child and the decision to place a child with a particular adoptive family

The Approval of prospective adopters together with the approval of foster carers for the purpose of early permanence is the decision of the Coram (VAA) Agency Decision Maker, who will consider recommendations from Panel. The Managing Director for Adoption Services undertakes this role.

The nominated ADM for each participant local authority in the regional agency is as follows:

- London Borough of Harrow - Peter Tolley,
- London Borough of Redbridge - Caroline Cutts
- London Borough of Bromley - Janet Bailey,
- London Borough of Waltham Forest - Heather Flinders
- The City of London - Chris Pelham
- London *Borough* of Hillingdon – Jullie Kelly
- Bi Borough – Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea - Glen Peache and Westminster City Council, Nicky Crouch



5. Staffing for Coram Ambitious for Adoption

Leadership: The Service is led and managed by the Coram Ambitious for Adoption Managing Director Susan Lowndes

Sue Lowndes has responsibility for all of the functions for the running of the registered VAA and Fostering Agency alongside a single line of management accountability for the commissioned Regional Adoption Agency, its services and people management. Line managed by the Coram Group Chief Executive Dr. Carol Homden.

Ms Sue Lowndes
41 Brunswick Square, London, WC1N 1AZ
Tel: 020 7520 0383 Email: sue.lowndes@coram.org.uk

Head of Service – London Adoption and Permanent Families Service/Coram Fostering Service

Ms Alice Kathleen Noon
41 Brunswick Square, London, WC1N 1AZ
Tel: 020 7520 0349 Email: alice.noon@coram.org.uk

Coram Ambitious for Adoption RAA –Recruitment and Assessment Team Adoption Team Managers

1. Ms Margaret Davies – Recruitment and assessment Lead
2. Mrs Gillian Kirsch – Recruitment and Assessment
3. Ms Heather Atkinson – Recruitment and Assessment Services, South London Office
4. Ms Yvette Cort – Adoption Support Manager Interim

41 Brunswick Square, London, WC1N 1AZ
Tel: 020 7520 3418 Email: Maggie.davies@coram.org.uk
Tel: 020 7520 2027 Email: Gillian.kirsch@coram.org.uk
Tel: 020 7326 8850 Email: Heather.atkinson@coram.org.uk
Tel: 020 7520 0362 Email: Yvonne.cort@coram.org.uk

Adoption Panel Advisor Tony Quinn

Mr Tony Quinn
41 Brunswick Square, London, WC1N 1AZ
Tel: 020 7520 0383 Email: tony.quinn@coram.org.uk

Coram Service Manager [Ambitious for Adoption] of London Borough of Harrow and London Borough of Hillingdon

Mrs Hellan Timothy-James
Harrow Council Children's Services Harrow Council West Wing
Civic Centre 1, Station Road, Harrow, Middlesex HA1 2UW
Tel: 020 8736 6449 Email: hellan.timothy-james@harrow.gov.uk
Tel: 020 7520 0356 Email: hellan@coram.org.uk

Coram Service Manager [Ambitious for Adoption] of London Borough of Redbridge and London Borough of Waltham Forest

Ms Hilary Bull (Interim Manager)
London Borough of Redbridge Children's Services
Station Road Centre, Barkingside, Essex, IG6 1NB
Tel: 020 8708 7532 Email: Hilary.Bull@Redbridge.gov.uk



Coram Service Manager [Ambitious for Adoption] of London Borough of Bromley

Ms Elena Muller

Civic Centre, Stockwell Close, Bromley, BR1 3UH

Tel: 020 8313 4185 Email: Elena.Muller@bromley.gov.uk

Coram Service Manager [Ambitious for Adoption] of Bi-Borough [City of Westminster and Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea]

Name - to be confirmed on appointment

Address

Tel & Email

Qualifications and Experience of Staff

All the professional staff of the Coram Ambitious for Adoption RAA hold the CQSW's, DipSW or Degree or Masters approved Social Work qualification. All are registered with the Health and Care Professions Council and will automatically transfer to the Social Work England the new regulator from December 2019.

Social workers, managers and leaders of the services have opportunity to update their continuing professional development and to attain post qualifying training and awards relevant to the services.

Coram Ambitious for Adoption is supported by business support staff and a senior data analyst including full time senior administrator, panel administrators, and marketing, media and provision of quality monitoring.

6. Ambitious for Adoption: Adoption and Permanency Panel

The Adoption and Permanency Panel for the region is constituted in accordance with legislation, regulations and guidance. The panel members, chair and vice chairs, are drawn from an approved central list of panellists. The work of the panel is supported by a Panel Adviser and Panel Administrator.

Members of the Adoption and Permanency Panel include individuals with personal experience of adoption, adopters and adopted adults and other independent members with experience of fostering and looked after children. Panels are balanced as far as possible in terms of gender, age, ethnicity and experience.

Panel Chairs. There are 3 Panel Chairs appointed that rotate to ensure timely panels in response to the needs of the service. In addition there are 3 Panel Vice Chairs appointed to the Panel.

The purpose of the panel is as follows:

- The panel considers all applications from prospective adopters and foster carers (for early permanence) and makes recommendations of approval. The



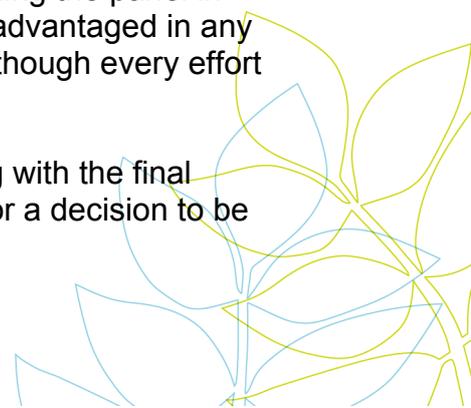
recommendation is made to the Agency Decision Maker for Ambitious for Adoption

- The panel considers all applications for the approval of a match between a child/ren and suitable adopters. This recommendation goes to the Agency Decision Maker for the relevant Local Authority of the child being placed.
- The panel also considers placements for adoption where the birth parent(s) request their child be adopted. The recommendation of the match goes to the ADM for the relevant Local Authority.
- The Panel considers 'brief reports' on adoption and fostering applications during stage 2 of the assessment on whether the assessment to approve adopters should continue if the agency is considering terminating the assessment.
- The Panel may consider reports on proposed or actual placements for the purpose of information and advice.
- The Panel considers reports on the progress of placements from time to time and gives advice.
- The Panel considers reports on disrupted placements and reports of any cases referred to the IRM and advises on lessons to be learned.
- The Panel performs a quality assurance function, commenting on the standard of reports received and the quality of assessments. This may relate to a particular complex case, or the required six monthly or annual report
- An annual quality report is received from the panel and submitted to senior managers and Trustees, the findings of which are incorporated in progress reporting for the regional agency.
- Panel training is offered regularly to ensure child centered and informed delivery incorporating case law and panel outcomes.

The Panel can also give advice about the numbers and ages of children in relation to prospective adopters; about post adoption contact; delegated parental responsibility and adoption support plans.

The Panel makes recommendations based on written reports prepared in advance by the relevant social worker, and the social worker and/or team manager attend at Panel to discuss and clarify any matters relevant to the application. When considering the approval of prospective adopters or a match between prospective adopters and a child, prospective adoptive and adopters have the option of attending the panel in person. Applicants who decide not to attend in person are not disadvantaged in any way and no judgement is made from their decision not to do so although every effort will be made to assist their attendance.

The recommendations and advice of the Panel are referred, along with the final minutes of the meeting, to the relevant Agency Decision Maker, for a decision to be



made and conveyed to all parties within the time scales laid down in the Adoption & Children Act 2002.

7. Adopter Assessment

Stage 1

- Potential adopters who contact Coram and meet the criteria to be considered will be given an Initial Interview by a member of the Social Work team. This will be recorded as an Initial Interview.
- Enquirers will be asked to agree to their information being held by the agency, according to GDPR regulations.
- After the initial interview the social worker will make a recommendation to their manager about whether the applicant (s) are suitable. If the manager confirms that they meet the requirements and are ready to proceed they will be encouraged to submit their Registration of Interest (ROI). If the information submitted in the ROI evidences that the enquirers are not currently suitable they will be offered information and advice about what they would need to do to meet the criteria, for example they may need additional child care experience.
- Once the adopters meet the criteria for assessment their ROI will be accepted and the adopters are deemed to be in Stage 1 of the adopter assessment process. The adopter will be allocated a social worker from the Coram Recruitment and Assessment Team to undertake Stage 1. Stage 1 includes Stage 1 statutory checks and these must be completed and reviewed by the line manager before Stage 2 can commence. In addition the prospective adopters will be asked to complete a series of work sheets in order to increase their understanding in relation to adopting a child from care.
- Every effort will be made to complete the work of Stage 1 within two months, unless there are clear reasons why it needs to take longer, for example when a criminal record check is delayed, or if a prospective adopter needs more time for personal or other reasons. Stage 1 of the process is adopter led and a Stage 1 agreement will be completed based on the individual circumstances and needs of the prospective adopter and be allocated to a social worker in the Recruitment & Assessment Team.

Stage 2

- Stage 2 involves the full assessment of prospective adopters. Once statutory checks have been satisfactorily received, the prospective adopters will meet with social workers and a manager to discuss whether the agency will accept a formal application into Stage 2, with particular reference to the children whom the agency seeks to place for adoption.
- An assessing social worker is allocated and a Stage 2 agreement set up. The allocated social worker will be responsible for completing the PAR. Once completed the Prospective Adopters Report (PAR) will be viewed by prospective adopters and they are given 5 days to review it or to attach their own comments.
- Prospective adopters are invited to attend the meeting of the Adoption Panel at which their approval will be considered, but if they do not wish to attend, this will not influence the outcome of the Panel.
- The panel will make a recommendation to the Agency Decision Maker, ADM, in relation to approval. If the ADM agrees with the recommendation the adopters will be informed within 5 working days that their approval has been ratified.



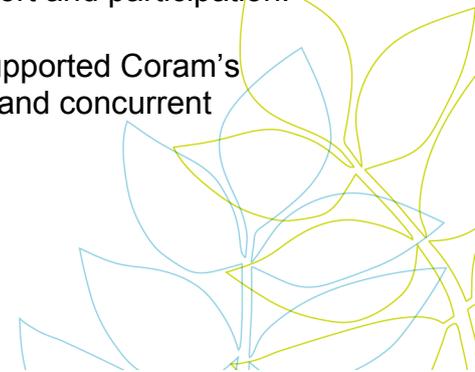
- We are guided by the statutory timescales for the adoption approval process and adopters are asked to ensure that they are able to meet these at the start of the assessment. This is a child focused process, and adopters need to understand our commitment is to the welfare of children needing permanence through adoption.
- Once an adopter's approval by the ADM is confirmed the allocated social worker will work with the adopter to identify a child who will benefit from the skills and experience of the prospective adopters. This will include working with colleagues in Ambitious for Adoption, and also referring children to other agencies and to Link Maker.

8. Matching

- When a suitable child is identified by an adopter lead process there will be a series of meetings with the LA to ensure that adopters have full information about the child – as far as is available. This will include meeting with the Medical Advisor, the current foster carer, the child's school, when applicable, and may also include a child appreciation day to gather detailed information about the child's experiences and history to date. Prospective adopters are entitled to all available information about the child that they are considering and will need to feel confident that all information about the child has been shared with them.
- When a child is placed for adoption with a Coram approved adopter the allocated social worker for the adopters will visit the placement regularly and reports will be provided to the placing authority. The allocated SW will also attend all reviews and any other meetings that are convened in relation to the placement.

9. Adoption Support

- Coram offers its approved adopters support post placement and post order. Post placement support is provided by both the allocated child's social worker and the Coram social worker. Once a child is adopted support is provided by the adoption support team and the case will be transferred to this service.
- Statutory adoption support is a key service to the regional agency and these services operate from local authority settings though managed by the regional agency. Such services include management and support for contact arrangements including direct and indirect contact between children adopted and birth families or during the early permanence process. Providing Birth Record Counselling for individuals requesting access to the records held by the local authority and independent counselling to birth parents where the plan is for a child to be adopted in line with the statutory guidance for such support.
- A Stay and Play group for pre-school children with the support of the Adoption Support Manager, Family Support worker and a Child Psychotherapist are held monthly. These groups provide opportunities for peer support and participation.
- Adopters and Concurrent Planning Carers have actively supported Coram's work by participating in media events to promote adoption and concurrent planning and to recruit adopters and carers.



10. Systems for the Monitoring, Quality assurance and Evaluation of Services

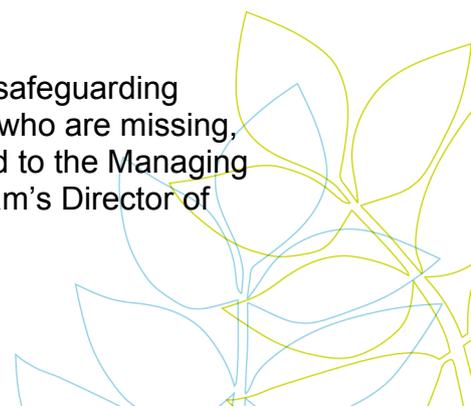
Coram Ambitious for Adoption will undergo regular internal and external scrutiny to ensure that services are robust and of good quality. This will be achieved by:

i) Supervision & oversight of the service:

- a) All social workers/senior practitioners/ managers receive regular reflective supervision and annual performance appraisal. The frequency depends on the needs of the supervisee, but is generally not less than monthly. Coram Ambitious for Adoption has a supervision policy. The therapists in the Adoption Support Gateway receive clinical supervision from the Clinical Lead, who is supervised by the overall Clinical Lead of therapeutic services.
- b) All children's, adopters' and post adoption records entries are read and signed by the relevant manager and a robust case management system in place.
- c) There is a protocol within the Adoption and Permanent Families Service for regular file audits by managers.
- d) Assessments of prospective adopters are discussed in group supervision sessions as well as in individual supervision, and second opinion visits to adoptive applicants are undertaken if appropriate.
- e) Regular team meetings take place and whole service meetings to consider and analyse performance across the service and for staff to take part in thematic practice development sessions.
- f) There is an induction programme for new Adoption Panel Members and annual appraisals for all members, including Panel chairs, to monitor performance.

ii) Safeguarding:

- a) All safeguarding issues or serious concerns about placements are discussed with the Managing Director by the relevant Manager, and are acted on and recorded by the social worker and submitting to the Coram Safeguarding Lead. Monitoring reports are submitted to the Managing Director and in consultation with the agency's Safeguarding Lead.
- b) All safeguarding concerns are reported to the appropriate statutory authority promptly.
- c) There is a quarterly return of safeguarding referrals and file audits to the Children's Services Committee, including quarterly and annual summaries to review themes and take any action necessary.
- d) Where children are placed for adoption or foster care, any safeguarding concerns, accidents, serious illnesses of children, children who are missing, deaths of children or complaints, are recorded, and referred to the Managing Director. Such incidents and concerns are reported to Coram's Director of



Operations. They are carefully investigated to ensure that children are safe and receiving appropriate care and that any lessons about the future operation of the service are disseminated and learnt.

iii) **Adopter and Carer feedback on the service**

- a) Evaluation forms are completed by prospective adopters/ carers who have:
attended the Information Events
attended preparation and training groups, and
attended the adoption and fostering panels.
adopters and young people ('the adoptables') coproduction groups inform the service evaluative feedback is sought at key points in the adoption process

iv) **Financial and Business Management**

- a) Monthly finance returns to monitor and ensure that the Service is within budget. This includes statistics in relation to referral and placement trends in order to monitor the ongoing viability of the Service.
- b) Quarterly reports are made to trustees summarising the trends arising from the data; planning is then tailored to changing circumstances.
The Managers of the service meet monthly to discuss issues impacting including financial and strategic planning, policy, training needs, and learning from safeguarding reports, complaints and complex cases.
- c) Quarterly progress reports are received by the Strategic Governance Board for the regional agency made up of Director of Children's Service across participant authorities to ensure continuing sufficiency of resource, capacity to meet increased or shifting patterns of demand for the services across the functions of adopter recruitment, family finding and adoption support.
- d) An Operational group of Heads of Service for participant local authorities is chaired by the Managing Director for the services meeting throughout the year to review outcome against the service specification for the regional agency, key performance indicators using qualitative and quantitative data analysis and diagnostics to support continuing quality in delivery.
- e) Periodically Coram undertakes a user satisfaction survey of adopters or carers over a period of years asking for information on the adoption support they have received and their overall experiences (both positive and negative) of the adoption and early permanence process, with an opportunity for them to provide suggestions regarding improvements. These reports are taken to managers for discussion, and suggestions are implemented if appropriate.
- f) There is a high level of participation of users across the organisation:
 - a coproduction group of adopters serves to inform service developments and provide insight into key priorities for the service and;
 - a young peoples group namely *The Adoptables* made up of young people from participating local authorities operates alongside the service.



- g) Selected adopters serve as Governors and members of the Children's Services Committee at Coram.

v) **Data**

- a) Child level data from across the partnering local authorities is captured centrally using a Coram-i developed tracking tool. Local authorities provide Coram with regular updates to ensure the tracking tool is maintained and is a live reflection of the children with a plan for adoption across the RAA.
- b) Adopter data is recorded in 'Charms', a case management system used to track the number of enquiries received from potential adopters, attendance at information evenings and progress made throughout the adopter journey. All details of the assessment including timescales are recorded on Charms. This data is used to submit returns to the Adoption and Special Guardianship Leadership Board (ASGLB) as well as other national data collections.

vi) **Compliments/complaints feedback**

- a) Coram welcomes feedback from service users on the service they receive, including complaints and compliments. Service users are provided with a leaflet about the complaints process.
- b) The outcomes of complaints are monitored to ensure that lessons are learned and service provision can be improved as a result. The Coram complaints officer is responsible for collating the quarterly monitoring data for all departments and reporting it to the Senior Management Team, Audit Committee and Children's Services Committee. The reports contain a summary of any service issues and action taken to resolve the situation.

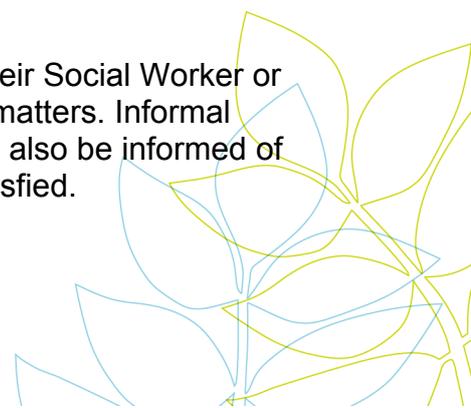
The Managing Director has responsibility for monitoring and reviewing all complaints that relate to the service (including informal complaints). They are also required to assess the outcomes of the complaint to determine whether any changes in policies, procedures or working practices are appropriate.

vii) **Summary of Complaints Procedure**

All those receiving a service or acting on behalf of a child or in other respects in relation to adoption will be advised of their right to make representations or complaints.

Stage 1: Informal Complaints

If people are unhappy with the service received they can talk to their Social Worker or the Service Manager in the first instance who will try and resolve matters. Informal complaints will be dealt within 10 days, when the Complainant will also be informed of the right and process to make a formal complaint if s/he is not satisfied.



Stage 2: Formal Complaints

When a formal complaint is received, a member of the Senior Management Team will be appointed by the agency complaints officer to carry out a formal investigation. This investigation will be completed within 20 days and the Complainant involved of the outcome in writing and of any action to be taken. All complainants will be informed about their right of appeal.

Stage 3: Appeal Stage

An appeal will be considered by the Chief Executive Officer, who will appoint a Coram Trustee to undertake a review and investigation. This investigation will be completed within 35 days. The Complainant will receive a response as to the outcome of the investigation and what action is to be taken, together with information about Ofsted where a direct complaint may be made and if s/he remains dissatisfied.

The relevant Service Manager will report back to the Chief Executive within 10 days as to how the recommendations have been implemented.

Complainants will be given any necessary help to register their complaint.

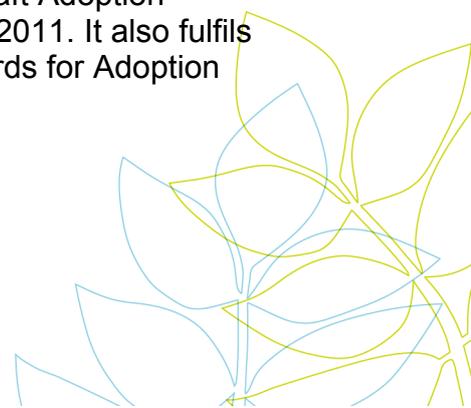
The Complaints Procedure is included in the staff handbook and is given to all prospective adopters and carers as well as to other service users. It includes the address of the Ofsted office which inspects the service.

Information will also be given on the Independent Review Mechanism (IRM). If the Agency Decision Maker decides a person is not suitable to adopt, the person has a right to be informed of the reasons and the recommendations of the panel and the person will be informed of the option of making representation or asking for the matter to be referred to the IRM.

The Children's Guide tells children about whom to contact if they are unhappy about a service from Coram. It includes contact details for Coram managers, independent children's advocacy services for children and the Children's Commissioner for England.

11. Legal references

This statement of purpose is written in accordance with the Adoption and Children Act 2002 and associated Regulations, and the Adoption Statutory Guidance 2013. It fulfills the requirements of Regulation 2 and 4 of the Local Authority Adoption Service (England) Regulations 2003; Regulations 3 and 24B and Regulations 4 and 24C of the Voluntary Adoption Agencies and the Adoption Agencies (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2003; and of Regulations 5 and 6 of the Adoption Support Agencies (England) and the Adoption Agencies (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2005. The Voluntary Adoption Agencies and the Adoption Agencies (miscellaneous amendments) Regulations 2003 – Schedule 1, Draft Adoption Regulations July 2014; Fostering Service (England) Regulations, 2011. It also fulfils the requirements of Standard 18 of the National Minimum Standards for Adoption 2014.

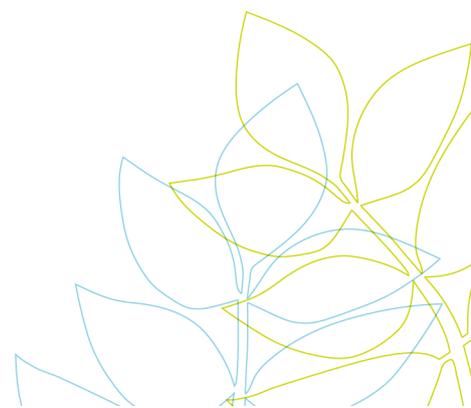


The Adoption Minimum Standards 2014 may be accessed at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/336069/Adoption_NMS_July_2014_for_publication.pdf

The Statutory Adoption Guidance 2013 may be accessed at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/270100/adoption_statutory_guidance_2013.pdf



Annexure A:

Details of the Registration Authority

The Registration Authority is Ofsted whose address is: Ofsted
Piccadilly Gate Store Street Manchester M1 2WD
Telephone No. 0300 123 1231
Fax: 0300 123 3159
E mail: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
Web: www.ofsted.gov.uk
<https://contact.ofsted.gov.uk/contact-form>

Anne Longfield, Children's Commissioner for England can be contacted by young people at:
Office of the Children's Commissioner
Sanctuary Buildings
Great Smith Street
London SW1P 3BT
Freephone: 0800 528 0731
<http://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/get-advice>

The Registered Provider is Coram, which is a children's charity established by Royal Charter and Act of Parliament in 1739. The Adoption and Permanent Families Service is one of the main child care services which are run by the charity. The charity's address is:
Coram
41 Brunswick Square London
WC1N 1AZ

