



*Making Social Care
Better for People*

inspection report

FOSTERING SERVICE

Fostering People Too Limited

**Unit 8
Braintree Enterprise Centre
46 Springwood Drive
Braintree
Essex
CM7 2YN**

Lead Inspector
David Downes

Key Announced Inspection
7th August 2006 09:30

The Commission for Social Care Inspection aims to:

- Put the people who use social care first
- Improve services and stamp out bad practice
- Be an expert voice on social care
- Practise what we preach in our own organisation

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This is a report of an inspection to assess whether services are meeting the needs of people who use them. The legal basis for conducting inspections is the Care Standards Act 2000 and the relevant National Minimum Standards for this establishment are those for *Fostering Services*. They can be found at www.dh.gov.uk or obtained from The Stationery Office (TSO) PO Box 29, St Crispins, Duke Street, Norwich, NR3 1GN. Tel: 0870 600 5522. Online ordering: www.tso.co.uk/bookshop

Every Child Matters, outlined the government's vision for children's services and formed the basis of the Children Act 2004. It provides a framework for inspection so that children's services should be judged on their contribution to the outcomes considered essential to wellbeing in childhood and later life. Those outcomes are:

- Being healthy
- Staying safe
- Enjoying and achieving
- Making a contribution; and
- Achieving economic wellbeing.

In response, the Commission for Social Care Inspection has re-ordered the national minimum standards for children's services under the five outcomes, for reporting purposes. A further section has been created under 'Management' to cover those issues that will potentially impact on all the outcomes above.

Copies of *Every Child Matters* and *The Children Act 2004* are available from The Stationery Office as above

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SERVICE INFORMATION

Name of service	Fostering People Too Limited
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Telephone number	01376 329460
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Provider Web address	
Name of registered provider(s)/company (if applicable)	Fostering People Too Limited
Name of registered manager (if applicable)	Peter John Russell Turner
Type of registration	Fostering Agencies

SERVICE INFORMATION

Conditions of registration:

None

Date of last inspection Not applicable

Brief Description of the Service:

Fostering People Too was first registered in September 2005. The agency recruits and supports foster carers in Essex, Suffolk, Hertfordshire, Middlesex, and North and East London.

At the time of the inspection, the agency was supporting approved foster carers in ten households, with nine young people in placements. The agency was staffed by two of the three Directors (one of whom was the Registered Manager) and a part-time social worker and employed an administrator, as and when necessary.

The agency occupies premises on the outskirts of Braintree, with easy access from the A120. The small office is situated in a local business centre and has access to meeting rooms and other shared facilities. Ample car parking is available.

The weekly placement fee charged by the agency was £721. The agency negotiated reduced rates with placing authorities for sibling groups and long-term placements.

SUMMARY

This is an overview of what the inspector found during the inspection.

This inspection took place between 7th and 21st August 2006.

This summary has been written using language suitable for children and young people.

For this inspection, the inspector:

- visited two foster carers and the young people placed with them to find out about their experience of fostering
- visited the office used by the fostering service
- spoke to the manager and the other people who run the service
- looked at some young people's files, some carers' files and other records
- asked social workers and foster carers to fill in survey forms to give him their views about the service
- read some of the written guidelines that help the staff and foster carers to look after young people properly.

What the service does well:

These are some of the good things that the inspector saw and that a young person, foster carers and staff told him about.

What a young person and foster carers said:

- The young person said that they felt cared for and well looked after by their foster carers. They said that their views and opinions were listened to. The young person had been given information about the fostering service and knew how to make a complaint if there was something that they were unhappy about.
- The young person was happy with the way that their carers helped them to stay healthy, such as by encouraging them to eat a healthy diet. They said that their foster carers helped them to do activities that they liked. The young person said that their carers supported them at school and helped them with homework.
- A foster carer told the inspector that the agency gave them "excellent support" and said "...they know me and my family very well ...we are supported individually in decisions and given opportunities to meet with the other carers".

What the inspector saw and heard about:

- Young people were being well looked after. Carers' homes were comfortable and had plenty of space for young people. If carers needed special equipment to help them look after a young person, the agency made sure that it was provided for them. Safety checks were carried out each year.
- Foster carers were trained to help them to look after young people as safely as possible. Carers had the information they needed to help them to support each young person. If this information was not written down, the fostering service asked the young people's social workers to do it.
- The fostering service helped foster carers to take good care of young people's health and made sure that young people had regular checks with doctors, dentists and opticians.
- Foster carers and staff gave young people plenty of help with their education. They also helped young people to stay in touch with their families and friends, as far as possible. Carers and staff helped young people to say what they wanted to say in their reviews.
- The manager and the social workers who supported the foster carers were all well qualified and experienced in working with young people and their carers.
- The fostering service kept files with all of the information that it needed to know about the staff working there. This information is important because it shows that they are the right people to be doing the job.
- The service had good arrangements for making sure that it chose suitable people to become foster carers. They took care to make sure that young people were placed with carers who understood their needs and had the right skills and training to look after them properly.
- Foster carers were given very good support by Fostering People Too, which helped them to look after young people well.
- Young people's social workers said that they were very pleased with the way that foster carers looked after the young people. Social workers were also very pleased with the way that the agency kept in contact with them and told them about any important things that happened in the young people's lives.

What has improved since the last inspection?

This was the first inspection of the fostering service.

What they could do better:

- The fostering service should make sure that each young person's social worker gives them a plan called a "foster placement agreement". This is where the young person's social worker writes down the important things that the foster carers need to know to help them look after the young person in the best way possible.
- The fostering service needs to make sure that there is a written health plan for every young person. This is so that everyone has a record of what needs to be done to help the young person to be healthy.
- The people who run the service regularly check their records and ask for people's views to see whether there is anything that they can do better in working with young people and foster carers. The results of these checks need to be written down, so that everyone knows what they are doing to improve the service.
- There is a good 'children's guide', which tells the young people about the fostering service. This guide would be better if it included more information about what an 'independent advocate' does and how young people can get this extra support if they need it.
- Some foster carers need to have First Aid training to make sure that they know how to help if a young person has an accident.

Please contact the provider for advice of actions taken in response to this inspection.

The report of this inspection is available from enquiries@csci.gsi.gov.uk or by contacting your local CSCI office.

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Being Healthy

The intended outcome for this Standard is:

- The fostering service promotes the health and development of children.(NMS 12)

The Commission considers Standard 12 the key standard to be inspected at least once during a 12 month period.

JUDGEMENT – we looked at the outcome for Standard:

12

Quality in this outcome area is good. This judgement has been made using available evidence, including a visit to the service.

Carers were supported by the agency in promoting children's health and development. Health records were maintained for each child, but these were not in the form of a clear written health plan in all cases. The agency's staff and carers worked effectively with other agencies to meet children's health needs.

EVIDENCE:

The agency had developed a policy on health promotion, incorporating written guidance for carers about a range of health-related matters, including medication administration. The agency was in the process of implementing a new system for foster carers to use to record medication administered to children and young people. Some carers had received training in first aid before joining the agency. However, at the time of the inspection, the agency did not have arrangements for all carers to receive this initial training and refresher training, as appropriate.

The sampled files contained evidence that each young person was registered with a GP and a dentist. Records of children's statutory reviews and supervising social workers' visits to carers included references to regular health checks being arranged and consideration of any issues as they arose. Foster carers said that the agency provided good support with health-related issues. One of the young people told the inspector that their foster carers gave them advice about living a healthy lifestyle.

In one case, the agency had made strenuous efforts to obtain the necessary additional written consent from the child's placing authority for a specific medical procedure and prescribed medication. The foster carer highlighted this as an example of the agency's proactive approach to helping them meet individual children's needs.

A carer stated that, where appropriate, the agency ensured that prompt referrals were made for young people to receive specialist medical assessment or treatment; this was also reflected on sampled files.

Carers kept daily records, which included references to young people's health needs and any treatment that they received. Although at least one carer was maintaining the child's Parent-Held Health Record, other carers did not have a separate health record for each young person that could be updated during their placement and able to move with them to any future placement.

One of the agency's carers was experienced in providing specialist placements for children with disabilities. The carer's home had been fully adapted to meet the needs of the young person in placement. The agency was seeking appropriate details of the child's needs from the placing authority.

One case provided good evidence of the carer working closely in partnership with a parent and health professionals to meet a young person's complex health needs. This carer was very knowledgeable about the young person's needs and the original placement pre-dated the care's transfer to the agency. The carer and the agency had, however, identified the need for updated Looking After Children (LAC) documentation in respect of this young person to reflect changes in their health needs. The Registered Manager was taking appropriate action to address this. Records showed that the carer had been trained to undertake specific nursing tasks for another child with complex health needs, who was about to start a placement with them. However, the agency did not have similar up-to-date records in respect of specific training that was reported to have been provided for the young person currently in placement and this needed to be addressed as part of their individual health plan.

Two placing social workers commented extremely positively on the 'excellent' support that foster carers and staff provided for young people's health and to encourage a healthy lifestyle.

Staying Safe

The intended outcomes for these Standards are:

- Any persons carrying on or managing the service are suitable. (NMS 3)
- The fostering service provides suitable foster carers.(NMS 6)
- The service matches children to carers appropriately.(NMS 8)
- The fostering service protects each child or young person from abuse and neglect.(NMS 9)
- The people who work in or for the fostering service are suitable to work with children and young people.(NMS 15)
- Fostering panels are organised efficiently and effectively.(NMS 30)

The Commission considers Standards 3, 6, 8, 9, 15 and 30 the key standards to be inspected at least once during a 12 month period.

JUDGEMENT – we looked at outcomes for the following Standard(s):

3, 6, 8, 9, 15 and 30

Quality in this outcome area is good. This judgement has been made using available evidence, including a visit to the service.

The people managing and working in the agency were appropriate people for their roles. Suitable carers were provided and children were matched appropriately, resulting in stable placements with positive outcomes. The agency's policies and practices served to promote the safety of children and young people.

EVIDENCE:

Evidence from the registration process (which included assessment of the 'fitness' of the Manager) and a meeting with the responsible individual for the company, demonstrated that the agency employs suitable personnel to manage the service.

The inspector visited two foster carers' homes, both of which provided comfortable accommodation suitable for the young people's needs. These visits, together with records of annual reviews of carers' approval indicated that safe, healthy and nurturing environments were provided young people. Health and safety audits of carers' homes were undertaken as part of the initial assessment and for annual reviews of approval.

The Registered Manager described an appropriate recruitment strategy to provide a range of carers to meet the needs of young people for whom the agency aims to provide placements.

The placements of the young people selected for tracking had commenced before the carers transferred to the agency from other fostering services. The young people's files did not contain full evidence of the matching process. In one case, a foster placement agreement had not been completed by the placing authority and in another other case the agreement needed updating. However, discussions with supervising social workers and foster carers indicated that placements had been well planned, with careful consideration given to meeting the children's needs and any support that the carers would require. Planning meetings had been held, involving the placing authority, foster carers and agency staff. Carers confirmed that they were fully informed and consulted as part of the matching process. LAC review reports for these young people and reviews of the carers' approval all contained evidence of the placements being able to meet the young people's needs. Placing social workers commented very positively on the stability of placements. A social worker praised the "...evident high standard of care, which has enabled these children to make so much progress." Sampled records of a placement that had been arranged recently showed that the agency was making appropriate records of the matching process.

The agency's had written policies covering child protection, anti-bullying and unauthorised absences, all of which were included in the information given to carers. The agency provided 'safer caring' training for foster carers. A copy of the household 'safer caring' policy was held on each carer's file and the process for annual reviews of carers' approval included a review of this policy. The manager confirmed that there had been no child protection referrals or investigations concerning children placed with the agency's foster carers since the agency was registered.

The agency had a written behaviour management policy, which set out the agency's expectations of foster carers. Feedback received from carers indicated that they were in agreement with this policy and were aware of their responsibilities.

The Registered Manager and other social work staff were all appropriately qualified and experienced. The recruitment records relating to a recently appointed member of staff contained all of the required details and demonstrated a thorough approach to staff recruitment and selection.

Since registration, the agency had been operating a fostering panel jointly with another agency, Fostering People Ltd. The panel was not observed during this inspection, but records of panel meetings were sampled. Evidence from records and information provided by the agency, together with the findings from the Commission's inspection of Fostering People Ltd in June 2006, indicated that the panel was appropriately constituted and worked effectively.

At the time of the inspection, Fostering People Too was in the process of establishing its own fostering panel. The Registered Manager said that the agency could continue to have access to the joint panel, if necessary, until the agency's own panel became operational in October 2006. The agency also still had access to the services of the medical advisor on Fostering People Ltd's panel. Written procedural guidance had been developed for panel members, but this did not include decision-making when not all of the members are in agreement.

Enjoying and Achieving

The intended outcomes for these Standards are:

- The fostering service values diversity.(NMS 7)
- The fostering service promotes educational achievement.(NMS 13)
- When foster care is provided as a short-term break for a child, the arrangements recognise that the parents remain the main carers for the child.(NMS 31)

The Commission considers Standards 7, 13, and 31 the key standards to be inspected at least once during a 12 month period.

JUDGEMENT – we looked at outcomes for the following standard(s):

7, 13 and 31

Quality in this outcome area is good. This judgement has been made using available evidence, including a visit to the service.

The agency's foster carers and staff were sensitive to children's individual needs and this was reflected assessment and training of carers. The agency's practice supported children in reaching their educational potential. Where short-term breaks were provided, the arrangements reflected that parents continued to be the child's main carers.

EVIDENCE:

The agency had recently developed a policy on equality and diversity. Training in equality and diversity issues was planned for foster carers and members of the fostering panel. Carers reported that the agency's training incorporated consideration of diversity issues. The agency seeks to recruit carers who can meet the range of needs of the young people for whom it aims to offer placements. Sampled 'Form F' records demonstrated that the assessment process for foster carers considered equality and diversity issues. Discussions with the manager and staff, together with feedback from foster carers and a young person, indicated that careful consideration was given to the provision of individualised support for each young person during the matching process. Records of carers' supervision and young people's review reports provided evidence that their identified individual needs were being met. Visits were made to foster carers who specialised in providing placements for children with disabilities and for large sibling groups and it was evident that these

placements were providing a high level of individualised support. Appropriate medical support and equipment was in place for the carer who provided placements for children with disabilities. A placing social worker commented positively on agency's "holistic approach" to working with children and young people and two of the three social workers who sent comments for the inspection rated the way that the agency responded to equality and diversity issues as 'excellent'.

Discussions with foster carers and the supervising social worker provided evidence of good support being provided for children's education. A placing social worker said that the agency provided "active, positive support" for a young person's education. All of the school-age children placed with the agency at the time of the inspection were in full-time education. A young person's case file, together with a visit to their foster placement, demonstrated that careful consideration had been given to education arrangements during the placement planning process. This young person was reported to be settled in a local school and making good progress. The foster carers had established effective links with this and other local schools attended by children placed with them. Another foster carer was liaising regularly with a specialist teacher for children with sensory impairment, in order to ensure that the needs of the child were being met.

A written policy and guidance had been produced for foster carers to help them in supporting children's education. Foster carers attended Personal Education Plan meetings. Foster carers expressed satisfaction with the support that the agency provided for young people's education. A young person told the inspector that their foster carers helped them to get on well at school.

A visit to a foster carer who provided short break placements for children with disabilities, together with information from sampled case files, showed that the parents remained fully involved in arrangements as the child's main carers.

Making a Positive Contribution

The intended outcomes for these Standards are:

- The fostering service promotes contact arrangements for the child or young person. (NMS 10)
- The fostering service promotes consultation.(NMS 11)

The Commission considers Standards 10 and 11 the key standards to be inspected at least once during a 12 month period.

JUDGEMENT – we looked at outcomes for the following standard(s):

10 and 11

Quality in this outcome area is good. This judgement has been made using available evidence, including a visit to the service.

Foster carers and staff actively promoted and supported young people's agreed contact arrangements. Consultation took place with young people and the organisation gave appropriate consideration to their views.

EVIDENCE:

Visits to foster carers and feedback received from a young person demonstrated that children were being encouraged and supported to maintain and develop family contact and friendships, in keeping with their care plans. Carers provided transport and facilitated contact. In one case, the agency had provided an independent supervisor and a venue for contact. Carers said that the agency supported them in dealing with any difficult contact issues. Young people's contact arrangements were recorded in placement planning and review records on sampled case files. Foster carers provided placing authorities with information about the progress of contact. The agency was planning additional training for foster carers in relation to promoting and managing contact.

The agency actively sought feedback from placing authorities about placements. Records indicated that supervising social workers sought young people's views during their visits. Each young person was asked to fill in a form or give their views verbally about the placement in preparation for their foster carer's annual review. Placing social workers confirmed that the agency

involved children and young people in decisions about their lives in ways appropriate to their age and understanding.

Foster carers said that the Directors (in their capacity as supervising social workers) knew the young people placed with them personally and spoke to them regularly. A young person also said that they knew the supervising social worker and would be able to talk to her about any concerns or worries. The agency had organised two social events for carers, their own children and any young people placed with them, which provided opportunities to meet informally.

Written information about the agency's complaints process was made available in the children's guide. A young person spoken with confirmed that they knew how to make a complaint to the agency, if necessary. The Registered Manager confirmed that the agency had not received any complaints since registration.

Achieving Economic Wellbeing

The intended outcomes for these Standards are:

- The fostering service prepares young people for adulthood.(NMS 14)
- The fostering service pays carers an allowance and agreed expenses as specified.(NMS 29)

JUDGEMENT – we looked at outcomes for the following standard(s):

These Standards were not assessed.

EVIDENCE:

Management

The intended outcomes for these Standards are:

- There is a clear statement of the aims and objectives of the fostering service and the fostering service ensures that they meet those aims and objectives.(NMS 1)
- The fostering service is managed by those with the appropriate skills and experience. (NMS 2)
- The fostering service is monitored and controlled as specified. (NMS 4)
- The fostering service is managed effectively and efficiently.(NMS 5)
- Staff are organised and managed effectively.(NMS 16)
- The fostering service has an adequate number of sufficiently experienced and qualified staff.(NMS 17)
- The fostering service is a fair and competent employer.(NMS 18)
- There is a good quality training programme. (NMS 19)
- All staff are properly accountable and supported.(NMS 20)
- The fostering service has a clear strategy for working with and supporting carers.(NMS 21)
- Foster carers are provided with supervision and support.(NMS 22)
- Foster carers are appropriately trained.(NMS 23)
- Case records for children are comprehensive.(NMS 24)
- The administrative records are maintained as required.(NMS 25)
- The premises used as offices by the fostering service are suitable for the purpose.(NMS 26)
- The fostering service is financially viable. (NMS 27)
- The fostering service has robust financial processes. (NMS 28)
- Local Authority fostering services recognise the contribution made by family and friends as carers.(NMS 32)

The Commission considers Standards 17, 21, 24 and 32 the key standards to be inspected at least once during a 12 month period.

JUDGEMENT – we looked at outcomes for the following standard(s):

1, 4, 16, 17, 21, 24 and 25

Quality in this outcome area is good. This judgement has been made using available evidence, including a visit to the service.

The agency had a clear statement of aims and objectives. Monitoring systems were generally satisfactory, but some aspects needed developing to support the process for reviewing the quality of care. Suitable written information about the agency was provided for young people. Social work staff were well

qualified, suitably experienced and sufficient for the number of carers. Staff were organised and managed effectively. The level of support provided for carers was particularly good. Children's case records and administrative records were generally well maintained.

EVIDENCE:

The content of the agency's Statement of Purpose, which had recently been updated, met regulatory requirements. The children's guide was well presented, easy to read and available in two versions, designed for different age groups. The guide included a list of organisations providing assistance for young people, but it did not explain how a young person could access independent advocacy.

The registered manager was able to explain how he and the other Directors monitored the range of matters specified in Schedule 7 (Fostering Regulations 2002). These arrangements were satisfactory, taking into account the size of the agency. However, the results of the monitoring process had not been collated to demonstrate how the information was being used to review and improve the quality of care provided by the agency. The agency had recently appointed a well-qualified and experienced Director to take particular responsibility for developing quality assurance processes.

The manager explained the financial records kept by the agency and described the developments that were taking place with the introduction of improved IT systems. Carers reported that payments were made efficiently. However, the agency did not have written financial procedures to support the financial processes in place.

In addition to the two Directors who undertook the supervision and assessment of carers, the agency also employed two independent social workers, as necessary, to carry out specific tasks, such as assessments and carers' annual reviews. The supervising social workers were suitably qualified and experienced. Staff were receiving regular supervision and an annual appraisal system was being implemented. An administrator was employed on a sessional basis. The Registered Manager said that there were plans to increase the amount of administrative support in line with the growth in the number of carers being supported.

Sampled records, discussions with staff and feedback from foster carers indicated that the agency operated an effective system for assessing potential foster carers, underpinned by appropriate policies and procedural guidance. Reviews of foster carers' approvals were undertaken by an experienced independent social worker. Carers' files showed that reviews had taken place

within the prescribed timescales and covered the required areas. An unannounced visit had been made to each carer within the last twelve months.

Discussions with the manager and feedback from carers indicated that the agency was well staffed for the number of foster carers being assessed and supported at the time of the inspection. Carers valued the level and quality of support that they received from the agency and, in particular, from their supervising social workers. Records were available to demonstrate that foster carers received at least monthly visits from their supervising social worker and in some cases the frequency of visiting was more frequent. The agency had introduced an improved format for recording carers' supervision visits and related training had been provided. The sampled carers' files contained signed Foster Care Agreements. The agency had been creative in finding ways of providing support for carers who were geographically quite widely spread; this included the use of mentoring and telephone conferencing.

The agency's register of foster carers contained the required details. The register of children placed with foster carers (which was combined with the register of carers) contained most, but not all, of the information that needed to be held about each child.

Foster carers were provided with an appropriate range of written policies and guidance and these had been recently updated. An out-of-hours service was operated by social work staff. Carers' comments about their experience of working with the agency were extremely positive. Carers spoke of their supervising social workers knowing them and their own children, as well as the young people placed with them, particularly well.

Carers' files and other records demonstrated that a range of appropriate training had been provided for carers and further training was planned. Experienced carers had been involved in delivering some of this training, together with staff and external trainers. One carer had completed National Vocational Qualification (NVQ) Level 3 and the agency was in the process of identifying a suitable training provider so that other carers could complete this award.

Separate case files were maintained for children and foster carers and these were well organised. The agency had identified gaps in the LAC planning paperwork for some children and there was evidence that staff were taking appropriate steps to address this. A foster placement agreement had not been completed for one young person and the placement agreement for another young person needed updating. As a result, there was no single clear plan covering all of the arrangements for meeting each of these young people's needs. The legal responsibility rests with the placing authority to ensure that this written agreement is made with the foster carer before the child is placed. However, the Registered Manager was aware of the need to make every effort to ensure that these agreements were completed and the records of a

placement that had been made more recently contained a placement agreement.

Carers demonstrated how they made records of significant life events for children and young people by, for example, keeping 'memory boxes' and albums of photographs. A carer regularly sent photographs to a child's parent following periods of respite care. A supervising social worker had undertaken life story work with a young person, by arrangement with the placing authority.

The agency had developed a policy on access to records by young people and foster carers. Carers had been provided with training in relation to record keeping.

SCORING OF OUTCOMES

This page summarises the assessment of the extent to which the National Minimum Standards for Fostering Services have been met and uses the following scale.

4 Standard Exceeded (Commendable) **3** Standard Met (No Shortfalls)
2 Standard Almost Met (Minor Shortfalls) **1** Standard Not Met (Major Shortfalls)

"X" in the standard met box denotes standard not assessed on this occasion

"N/A" in the standard met box denotes standard not applicable

BEING HEALTHY	
<i>Standard No</i>	<i>Score</i>
12	2

STAYING SAFE	
<i>Standard No</i>	<i>Score</i>
3	3
6	3
8	3
9	3
15	3
30	2

ENJOYING AND ACHIEVING	
<i>Standard No</i>	<i>Score</i>
7	4
13	3
31	3

MAKING A POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION	
<i>Standard No</i>	<i>Score</i>
10	3
11	3

ACHIEVING ECONOMIC WELLBEING	
<i>Standard No</i>	<i>Score</i>
14	X
29	X

MANAGEMENT	
<i>Standard No</i>	<i>Score</i>
1	3
2	X
4	2
5	X
16	3
17	3
18	X
19	X
20	X
21	4
22	3
23	X
24	2
25	3
26	X
27	X
28	X
32	N/A

Are there any outstanding requirements from the last inspection?

N/A

STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

This section sets out the actions, which must be taken so that the registered person/s meets the Care Standards Act 2000, Fostering Services Regulations 2002 and the National Minimum Standards. The Registered Provider(s) must comply with the given timescales.

No.	Standard	Regulation	Requirement	Timescale for action
1.	FS4	42 (1)	The registered person must develop a system for monitoring the quality of care provided by the fostering agency and producing reports, as specified in the Regulation 42, Fostering Services Regulations (FSR) 2002.	01/12/06
2.	FS12	15 (2)(b)	The registered person must maintain records of each child's identified health and development needs and how these needs are to be met by the placement. This refers to the need to have a written health plan for each child.	01/11/06
3.	FS24	11 (a) 34	The fostering agency must ensure that a written Foster Placement Agreement is in place for each child, covering the matters specified in Schedule 6, FSR 2002.	01/12/06
4.	FS25	22 (1)	The registered person must ensure that the register of children placed with foster carers includes all of the information specified in Schedule 2 (1), FSR 2002.	01/11/06

RECOMMENDATIONS

These recommendations relate to National Minimum Standards and are seen as good practice for the Registered Provider/s to consider carrying out.

No.	Refer to Standard	Good Practice Recommendations
1.	FS1	The children's guide should be developed to explain how young people can access independent advocacy.
2.	FS4	The agency should develop written financial procedures.
3.	FS12	The agency should provide foster carers with a written health record for each child placed in their care and that this is updated during the placement and moves with the child.
4.	FS12	The agency should ensure that all foster carers are provided with training in First Aid.
5	FS30	The written procedural guidance for members of the Fostering Panel should be developed to include decision-making when not all members are in agreement.

Commission for Social Care Inspection

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