

**Isle of Wight Adoption Service
Annual Report**

1 April 2017 – 31 March 2018

1. Introduction

- 1.1** This report is compiled under the National Minimum Standards 2013 (Standard 25.6) and the Care Standards Act 2000. Its purpose is to inform Senior Managers of the Isle of Wight Council and Cabinet of the management and outcomes of the Adoption Agency from 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018.
- 1.2** The Adoption Service comprises of an Adoption Team Manager, 2 Senior Practitioner Social Workers, 2 Social Workers, 2 part-time Adoption Child Practitioners/Support Workers and 2 Administrators.
- 1.3** The Hampshire Service Manager for Adoption took on the additional responsibility for the management of the Isle of Wight Adoption Service on 1 January 2017.
- 1.4** Appendix A sets out data of the key activities of the service for 2017-18.

1.5 This report does not refer to specific information where it may be possible to identify children due to it being in the public domain. Members can be briefed if more information is required.

2. Services Provided by the Isle of Wight Adoption Agency

2.1 The Isle of Wight Adoption Team

The Isle of Wight Adoption Service covers all areas of adoption work, unlike many larger local authorities who have specific teams specialising in different areas. The following areas of work and support are offered by the Service:

- A front door service is provided for all enquiries in respect of adoption
- The Preparation, Assessment and Support of adopters from the point of enquiry through to the granting of an Adoption Order
- Child's Permanence Reports
- Adoption Order Applications
- Family Finding for Children
- Post Adoption Support
- Special Guardianship Assessments
- Step-Parent Adoption Order Applications
- Access to Birth Records Counselling

2.2 Over the year, the team has dealt with **35** enquiries of individuals seeking to adopt. This compares to a figure of **30** for the previous year. Although slightly higher than last year, enquiries have remained low and reflect the low level of marketing activity that has taken place during 2017-18. To address this, a new marketing strategy, similar to Hampshire's, has been implemented and a Marketing Assistant, a joint post for adoption and fostering, has been recruited to. This post has been operational since April 2018 and has the specific task of increasing enquiries to ensure we have sufficient adopters to meet the Isle of Wight's needs. Hampshire's Marketing Officer will oversee the post and take the lead on marketing and

recruitment for the Isle of Wight. The recruitment strategy includes commissioning a digital agency to target prospective adopters, radio, working with faith groups, schools, health, the police, fire service, alongside a range of events being planned during 2018-19. All marketing will be targeted to 'pull in' prospective adopters who have the skills and experience to meet the needs of the Isle of Wight's children who need adoptive families.

2.3 Of the **35** enquiries received over the year, **17** enquiries did not progress to a pre-stage visit. **6** closed due to a lack of response from the enquirer following an initial phone call. Other reasons for enquiries not progressing included;

- lack of child care experience
- no physical room within the household for an additional child
- health issues

50%, therefore, progressed their interest in adoption further which compares very similarly to Hampshire and national data.

2.4 The Adoption Team provide a Duty Service, Monday- Friday, during office hours. They ensure that all enquiries are responded to within 24 hours and follow up calls are made prior to any enquiry being closed. If required, applicants can be contacted during evenings and weekends to ensure a telephone discussion is held with them.

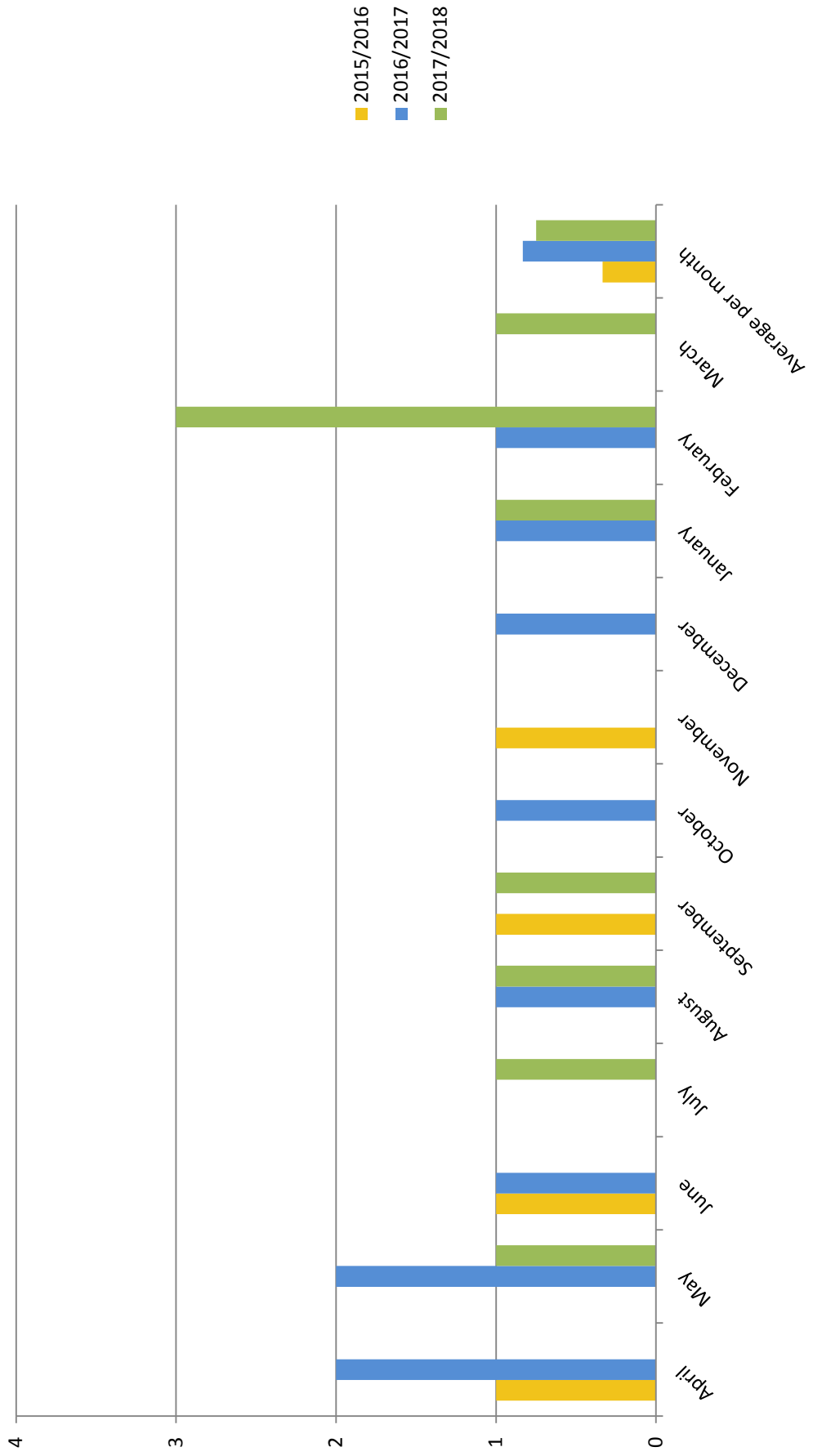
2.5 Of the **35** prospective adoptive households who made enquiries, **17** progressed to a pre-stage visit. All were visited within the required 10 working days. The Adoption Team ensures that applicants are visited without delay and at a time suitable for the applicant.

9 prospective adopters wished to progress and completed Registrations of Interest Forms, **1** less than last year when there were **10**.

Of the 8 households that did not progress following a pre-stage visit, the reasons are as follows:

- 5 - felt the time was not right for them as a family.
- 1 - decided to continue with fostering.
- 1 - were still exploring reasons for their infertility.
- 1 - found they were expecting a baby.

Number of Registration of Interest Forms Returned



April 2015- March 2016- Total- 4
April 2016- March 2017- Total- 10
April 2017- March 2018 - Total- 9

2.6 Assessment

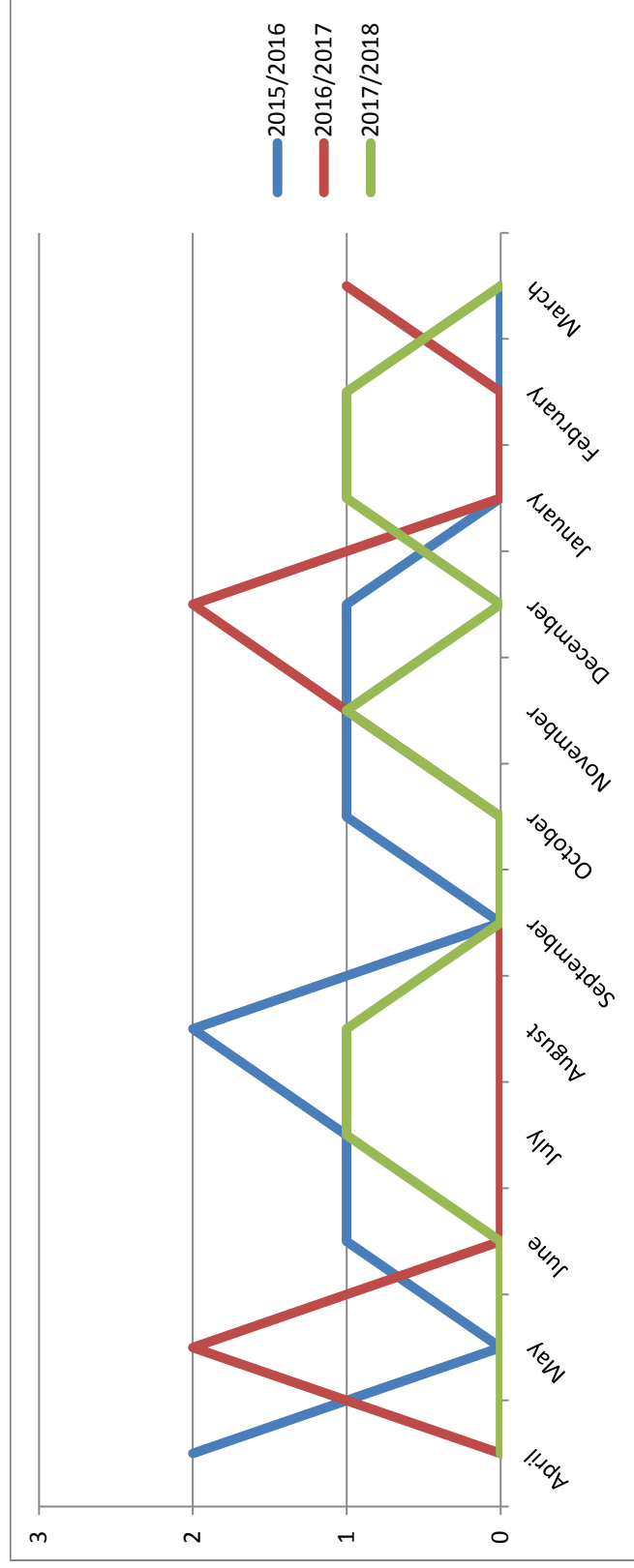
2.7 The Isle of Wight approved **5** households during 1 April 2017 – 31 March 2018. An identical number of households were approved during 1 April 2016 – 31 March 2017. **9** households were approved during 1 April 2015 – 31 March 2016.

The Isle of Wight's approval rate across all 4 quarters is as follows: Q1- 0; Q2- 2; Q3- 1; Q4- 2.

The higher number of enquiries have not, therefore, led to increased approvals due to a number of prospective adopters not being suitable to progress. This reflects the marketing activity which has not been targeted. The new marketing strategy has addressed this with a target set of 12 new adoptive families to be approved during 2018-19 to ensure there are sufficient adopters for the children that can be placed in families on the Island.

Whilst the national data suggests that the number of adopter approvals has been falling since Q2 2014/15 to the end of Q3 2015/16, with approvals continuing to fall from 710 in Q1 2016/17 to 700 in Q2 2016-17, the new targeted marketing strategy that has been put in place should ensure the Isle of Wight, as with Hampshire, does not follow this trend and has sufficient adopters for the children that can be placed in families on the Island.

Panel Activity



- **Total for 2015-16 - 9**
- **Total for 2016-17 - 5**
- **Total for 2017-18 - 5**

2.8 All 5 assessments completed during 2017-18 were recommended for approval by panel.

2.9 No cases have been referred to the Independent Review Mechanism (IRM) which provides adoptive applicants in England with the option of applying to an independent body to review the adoption agency's decision.

- 2.10** The average adopter journey overall from commencing Stage 1 to approval was **5 months** during 2017-18, a significant improvement on last year when the average was **8 months** and on the previous year which was **6.5 months**. The improved scrutiny and monitoring of the assessment process has clearly had a positive impact and adopters are receiving a timely service. This is also within the government's timescale of 6 months.
- 2.11** Government guidance outlines that Stage 1 of the adoption assessment should be completed within 2 months. The average timescale for completion of Stage 1 assessments this year was **1.6 months**, a significant improvement, therefore, on last year's average of **3.5 months**, and well within government timescales.
- The actions proposed in last year's report were fully implemented and have had the desired impact to significantly improve the timeliness of Stage 1 applications. This included adding the checks and references to the initial application form so that all of the information required for checks to be actioned is received at the time of the initial application, alongside balanced decisions being made about progression to Stage 2 whilst awaiting some checks.
- 2.12** Government guidance outlines that Stage 2 of the adoption assessment should be completed within 4 months unless there are exceptional circumstances that lead to the agency not being able to make a decision within that time, or the prospective adopter requests that the decision is delayed.
- Of the 5 assessments completed, **100%** were completed within this timescale, an improvement on last year when **80%** were completed within timescales. The average time for completion of Stage 2 was **3.6 months**, again, well within government timescales.
- Again, the proposed actions from last year's report have been fully implemented and performance has reached the required standards. The actions included the delays in the timeliness of Stage 2 being addressed through setting clear expectations for staff around assessment visits and the writing up of assessments. There has also been close scrutiny by the Team Manager during the last year.

- 2.13** Fast Track assessments relate to those applicants who are second time adopters or are foster carers applying to adopt. The statutory guidance allows these applicants to by-pass Stage 1 of the process and enter straight into Stage 2. Timescales for Fast Track assessments should be no longer than 4 months from acceptance of the application to the end of Stage 2. The Isle of Wight started one Fast Track assessment during 2017-18. However, the applicants withdrew.
- This compares to one Fast Track assessment being undertaken during 2016-17, which was completed in 5 months.
- 2.14** At the end of March 2018 there were;
- 4** sets of applicants in Stage 1
 - 1** set of prospective adopters in Stage 2
 - 2** sets of prospective adopters being supported post-approval by the team
- 2.15** As at 31st March 2018, there were **4** households approved and waiting to be matched. There continues to be a focus on matching Island adopters with Island children where this has been risk assessed.
- Over the last year, **4** adoptive households were linked with children placed from other local authorities, which is an increase of **3** from the previous year. This has generated an income of **£108,000** for the Local Authority, compared to **£43,000** last year.
- 2.16** No applicants withdrew or were counselled out (assessed as not suitable) during Stage 1; **1** household withdrew in Stage 2. The household that withdrew from Stage 2 did so as they decided to offer a long term fostering placement to a child already in placement and to continue as foster carers.
- 2.17** The average time for prospective adopters to be matched following approval was **7 months**, which compares to **4.5 months** during 2016-17 and **1.4 months** during 2015-16.

The increase in time from suitability to adopt to matching from last year is due to one couple not being matched for 17 months due to having very specific criteria of children they wished to adopt. Two further couples were matched in **2.7 months** and **1.2 months** respectively.

- 2.18** The Adoption Team is also involved in joint recruitment events with the Fostering Service as well as delivering the training and preparation course for prospective adopters.
- 2.19** The Adoption Team also undertakes step parent adoption work. The team received **14** enquiries during 2017 -18 which is a reduction on the **23** received during 2016-17.
- No new assessments have been commenced in 2017-18. In 2016-17, **9** step parent adoption assessments were completed, **11** in 2015 -16 and **14** in 2014-15. The reduction in this area of work is a direct result of implementing a more rigorous approach following a meeting with the courts where it was identified that step-parent applications in the region are significantly higher than other areas. The team are continuing to actively support families to explore all other potential options for permanence prior to considering step parent adoption, which is in line with the advice and guidance issued through the court.
- 2.20** The Isle of Wight Adoption Service undertakes all Special Guardianship Order Assessments. A Special Guardianship Order is an order appointing one or more individuals to be a child's 'special guardian'. It is a private law order made under the Children Act 1989 and is intended for those children who cannot live with their birth parents and who would benefit from a legally secure placement.
- The team received **29** referrals during 2017-18, compared to **36** in 2016-17, **29** in 2015-16 and **12** in 2014-15. The team have co-worked on **23** of these cases with the Fostering Service where dual Special Guardianship Assessments and Connected Carer Reports have been directed in court proceedings.

The level of work has remained consistent in this area as courts are continuing to direct a range of assessments and are requesting that Special Guardianship Assessments are routinely considered in the majority of Care cases.

Children's Adoption Work

- 2.21** A social worker is allocated to all cases to begin parallel planning, where adoption may be an option and is being considered as part of childcare planning. On the making of a Placement Order, the Adoption social worker becomes the child's case holding social worker and takes over the responsibility for all of the statutory work for those looked after children. The work includes statutory visits, family finding, supervised contact between the children and birth family, court work involved in the adoption proceedings, writing later life letters for the children and ensuring that each child has a life story book.
- 2.22** The Adoption child practitioners/support workers assist with the following; direct contact between children and their birth families; individual support to children as part of adoption preparation; support to Foster carers to prepare carers reports for social workers; support the preparation of life story books; direct post adoption support work with children and families as directed by the post adoption social worker; joint facilitation of life story work training for the wider service; co-leading the Adopting Changes training for Adopters; support to the Team Manager to ensure all adoption allowances and Special Guardianship Order allowances are reviewed regularly in line with requirements to ensure appropriate financial oversight and management.
- 2.23** The Adoption Team is represented at all Local Authority legal planning meetings. The team undertakes all Child Permanence Reports for children within parallel planning. **34** requests for Child Permanence Reports were received during 2017-2018, which compares to **35** requests in 2016-17 and **25** in 2015 -2016. There has not, however, been a correlated rise in the number of Placement Orders being granted which has risen slightly to **13** from **10** in the previous two years. Whilst the

conversion rate remains low, the work involved in commencing the Child Permanence Reports requires a high level of resource from the team to meet the requirements of parallel planning.

2.24 Post Adoption Support

2.25 The Team has continued to provide a range of support services for adoptive families and children, in addition to support to birth parents and their families. There are currently **98** adoptive families on the team's data base who receive a newsletter and regular updates.

2.26 Services provided during 2017-18 include;

- A counselling service to adopted adults who were seeking access to records about their adoption and family of origin.
- A service was provided to **11** adults during the year, compared to **20** last year.
- Support/counselling to birth relatives seeking to make contact with a relative who had been adopted.
- Requests for adoption support services and an Adoption Support Needs Assessment. **28** families were open to a social worker with an active adoption support plan during 2017-18, which is an identical number to last year. **31** Adoption Support Needs Assessments were completed, **6** more than last year when **25** were completed.
- Supporting children and families post adoption in Common Assessment Framework (CAF) meetings.
- Adoption Information Exchange, overseeing contact arrangements between adopted children and their birth families. It facilitated **100** exchanges during 2017-18, an identical number to last year. .
- Regular support groups for adopters run independently by a local adopter and supported by the team.
- Full-time duty service for information/advice and support.
- Consultation sessions were available for adopters.
- Links with The Education Psychology department, from whom the team purchased a set number of consultations and training courses.
- 'Moving on' training was delivered jointly with the Fostering Service to prepare Foster carers to move children into adoptive placements.

- Direct therapeutic life story work was provided.
- Support Groups were provided for approved Adopters who have not yet been matched with a child.
- A LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender) support group has been set up this year.
- A social worker and child practitioner have completed the Adopting Changes Facilitators Training Course, to enable them to deliver this to Island Adopters to support them with strategies to manage complex behaviours.

2.27 The Isle of Wight made **32** applications to the Adoption Support Fund during 2017 -18 and **£55,569.25** was approved for services for adoptive families. This compares to **16** applications during the previous year and an income of **£58,834.20**.

The Adoption Support Fund is a national, government fund, available for children up to and including the age of 21 (or 25 with an SEN Statement/Education Health and Care Plan) who have been adopted from Local Authority care in England or adopted from Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland but living in England. From 1 April 2016, the Fund became available for Intercountry adoptions (once the placement has been made and the child is in England) and for Special Guardians who care for children who were looked after immediately prior to the Special Guardianship Order.

Although more applications have been made this year, this has attracted less financial support. This is due to last year's applications concerning older children with both learning and complex needs and who required a higher level of therapeutic support. These applications were made prior to the £5,000 fair access limit being imposed.

2.28 The services included therapeutic parenting courses, play therapy, psychotherapy sessions; trauma based sensory processing assessments and sensory integration and attachment sessions.

2.29 Inter Country Adoptions

There have not been any requests for Intercountry adoption assessments this year. As requests are very low, given the level of knowledge that is required to undertake an Intercountry adoption assessment, the team would explore commissioning assessments with a specialised agency, should this be required.

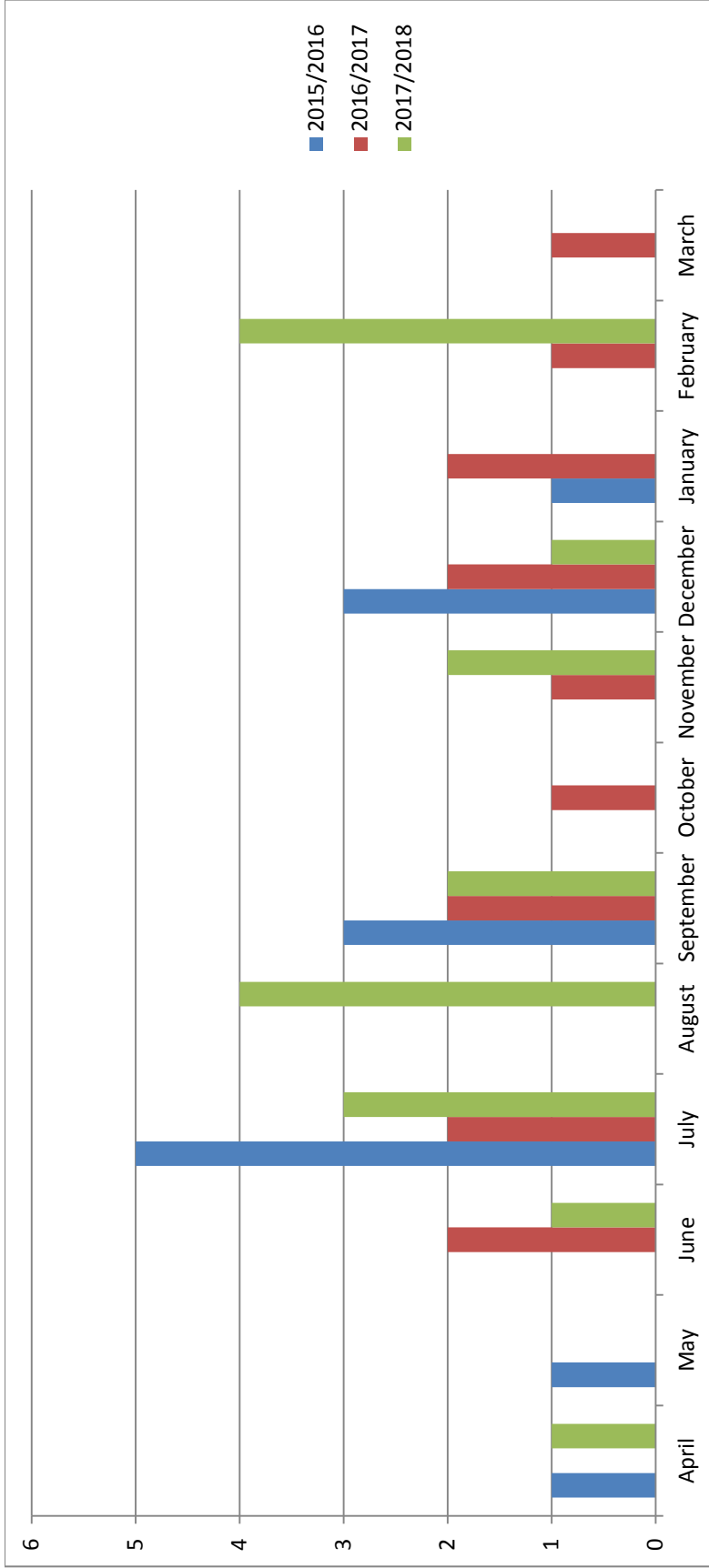
2.30 Children with Plans for Adoption; Placed for Adoption and Prospective Adopters Approved from 1 April to 31 March 2015-16; 2016-17 and 2017-18.

1 st April to 31 st March			
	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
Children's Plans for Adoption	14	14	17
Plans for Adoption Rescinded	4	1	2
Children Linked/Placed	15	13	8
Adoption Orders Made	9	16	13
Disruptions (pre-Adoption Order)	0	0	0
Approved adopters	9	5	5

2.31 There were **17** children's plans referred to the Agency Decision Maker (ADM) or Adoption Panel (where the child is relinquished) during 2017-18. This is **3** more than last year, 2016-17, when there were **14**.

The breakdown of these is as follows: Q1- 2; Q2- 9; Q3- 2; Q4- 4.

Children's Plans for Adoption

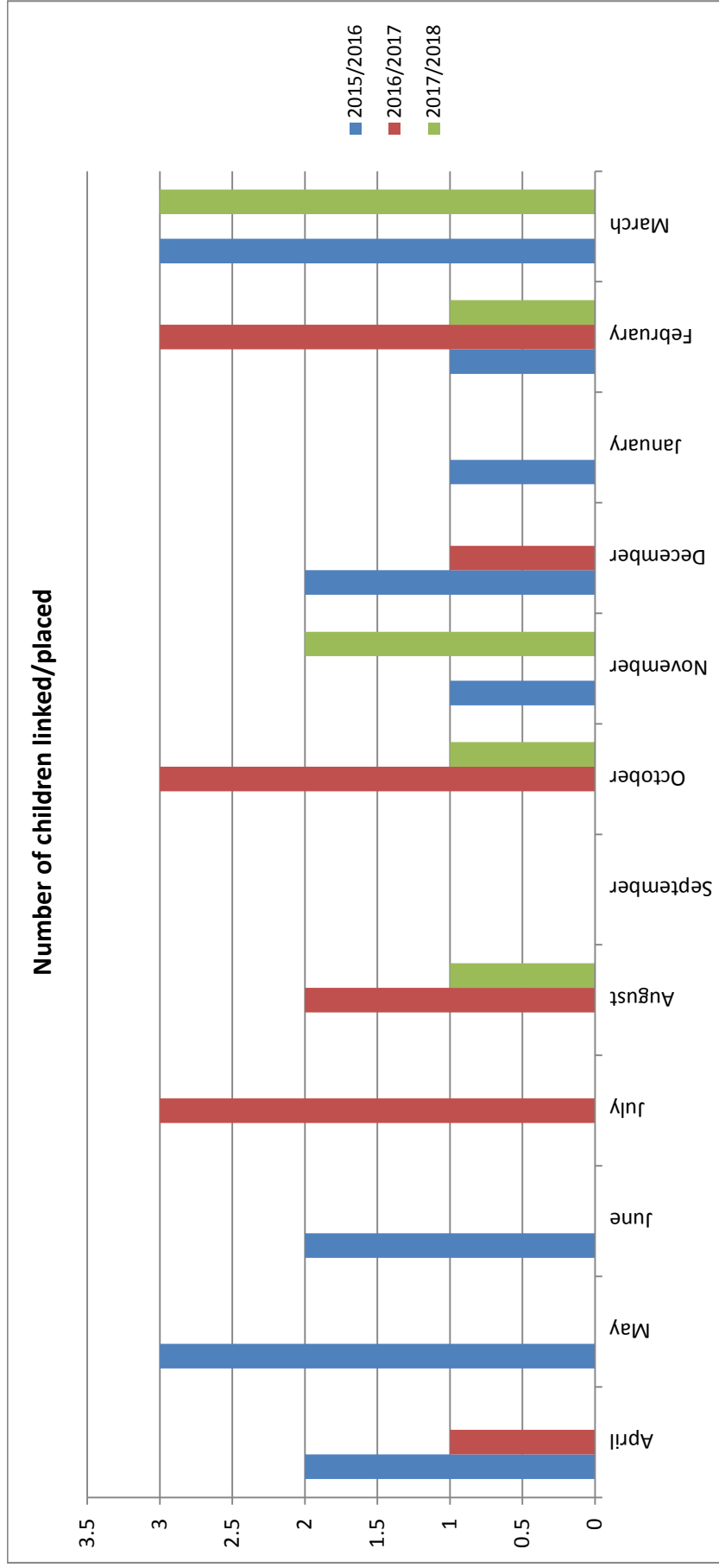


2017-18 Total 17
2016-17 Total 14
2015-16 Total 14

- 2.32** Between 1 April 2017- 31 March 2018, there were **2** children who had their plans for adoption rescinded, compared to **1** child in 2016-17 and **4** children in 2015-16.
- The plans were rescinded due to the Placement Orders not being made after ADM. 1 child was made subject to a Full Care Order with a plan of Long Term Fostering. The other child was made subject to a Special Guardianship Order to a grandparent.
- The Adoption Team continues to have close, positive working relationships with the child care teams from the point of legal planning to ensure ADM decisions are requested at the latest possible point to enable all other options to have been ruled out. Even with this measure in place, there are still occasions, however, when last minute approaches are made to the court by other relatives which require decisions to be delayed.
- 2.33** Between 1 April 2017 and 31 March 2018, **13** Placement Orders were made on the Isle of Wight. This compares to **10** last year.
- 2.34** At the end of March 2018, there were **3** children awaiting adoption with Placement Orders, 1 single child and 1 sibling group of 2, compared to 2 children in 2016-17 and 3 in 2015-16.
- 2.35** A total of **8** children were placed with **8** adoptive families during 2017-18. This compares to **12** children being placed with **11** adoptive families in 2016-17 and **15** children being placed with **13** adoptive families in 2015-16.
- Only **1** child was able to be placed with Island adopters this year, compared to **7** in 2016-17 and **2** in 2015-16. This is assessed in all cases to ensure that Island children maintain their links to the Island when it is safe to do so.
- There were **3** children that were linked and in introductions at the end of March. All were successfully placed in April 2018.

Two further children who had Placement Orders granted in April, have also since been linked and successfully placed.

Number of Children Linked/Placed.



2017- 2018 Total - 8

2016- 2017 Total – 13
2015- 2016 Total - 15

2.36 Appendix B lists the children linked and placed in other agency adoptive placements during 2017-18 (REMOVED).

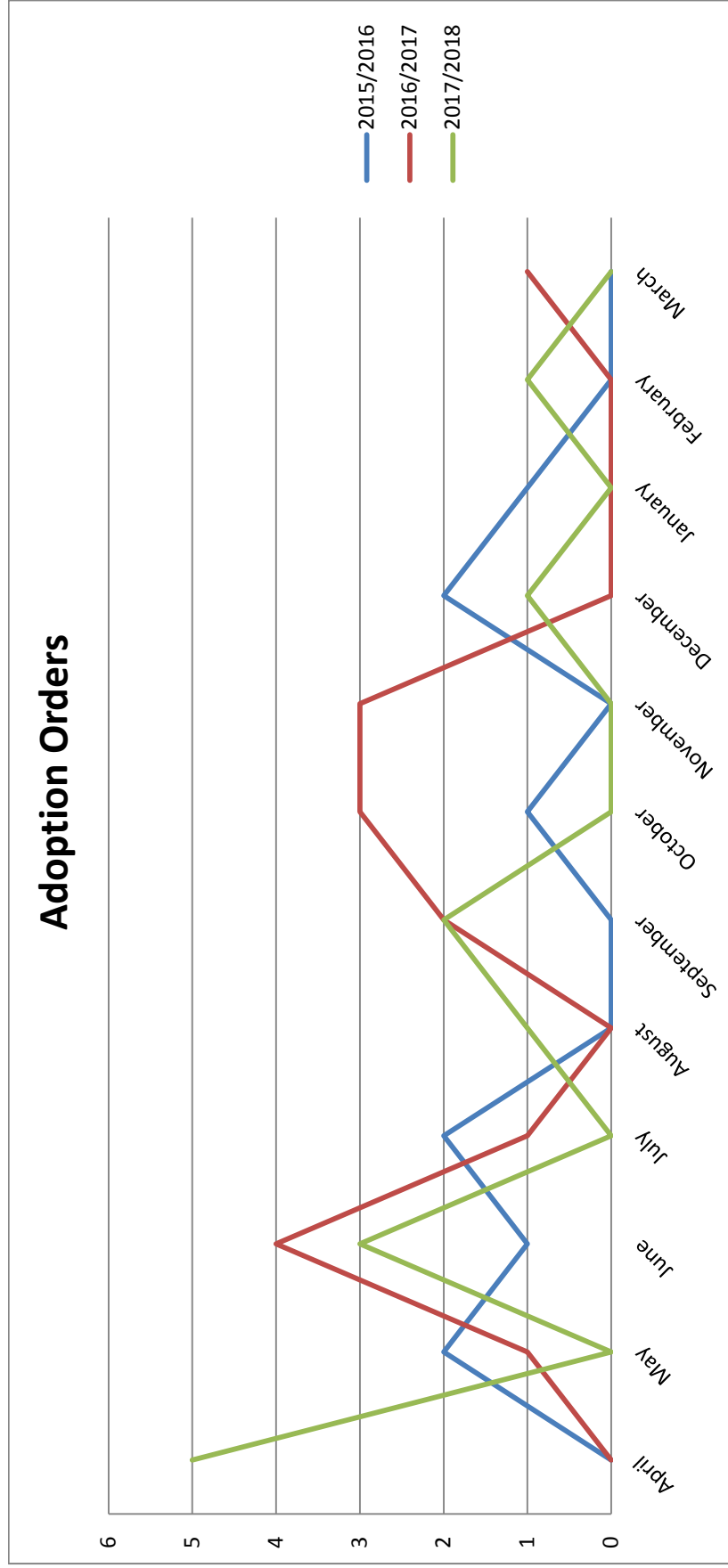
2.37 There have been no disruptions during 2017-18.

2.38 13 children were adopted between 1 April 2017 and 31 March 2018. This compares to 16 children in 2016 -17 and 9 in 2015 - 16.

Out of the 13;

- 11 were under 5;
- 2 were aged 5
- 8 were female;
- 5 were male;
- 2 were part of a sibling group;

2.39 Adoption Orders



April 2015 - March 2016 – Total- 9
April 2016 - March 2017 - Total - 16
April 2017 - March 2018 - Total - 13

- 2.40** Of the **13** children adopted during the year, **8** were adopted by Island adopters.
- 2.41** Of the **13** children adopted during the year, **11** were of white British ethnicity, 2 children were from minority ethnic backgrounds. This compares to **2** of the **16** children being from minority ethnic backgrounds in 2016-17 and **none** in 2015-16.
- 2.42** Of the **13** children adopted during the year, **4** children were aged 5 years or over. This is an increase of **1** from the previous year.
- 2.43** During 2017-18, the total spend on inter-agency payments was **£173,700**, compared to **£226,000** in 2016-17, and **£234,000** in 2015-16. These figures include final payments carried over for children placed in the previous year.
- 2.44** During 2017-18, four sets of Island adopters have been matched to four siblings from other Local Authorities, providing an income of **£108,000**. This is an increase from 2016-17 when one set of Island adopters were matched to two siblings from another Local Authority, providing an income of **£43,000** and in 2015-16 one set of prospective adopters were matched providing an income of **£27,000**. The Team have actively sought to profile Isle of Wight adopters to other Local Authorities to offset the interagency fees required for those children that cannot safely remain on the Island.

2.45 Breakdown of profile of children with new plans for adoption

Breakdown of profile of children with new plans for adoption	April 2015 – March 2016	April 2016 – March 2017	April 2017 – March 2018
Single male children:	6	4	10
Single female children:	1	9	7
Sibling pairs:	2 (4 children)	0	3 (6 children)
Sibling group of 3:	1 (3 children)	0	0

2.46 Ethnicity of children with new plans for adoption

Ethnicity of Children with new Plans for Adoption (Total Number of children:)	April 2014 – March 2015	April 2015 – March 2016	April 2017 - March 2018
White British (WBRI)	11	14	17
Mixed: White & Black African (MWBA)	0	0	0
Mixed: White & Black Caribbean (MWBC)	1	0	0
Mixed: White & Asian (MWAS)	0	0	0
White Other (WOTH)	2	0	0
Mixed: Other (MOTH)	0	0	0
Black Other (BOTH)	0	0	0
Black African (BAFR)	0	0	0
Other Ethnic Group (OOTH)	0	0	0
Not known (refused/unable to provide): REFU/NOBT	0	0	0

2.47 Ages of children with new plans for adoption at time of agency decision

April 2015 - March 2016

0-6mths	7-12 months	1-2 yrs	2-3 yrs	3-5 yrs	5+ yrs	TOTAL
4	3	3	1	2	0	14

April 2016 - March 2017

0-6mths	7-12 months	1-2 yrs	2-3 yrs	3-5 yrs	5+ yrs	TOTAL
6	0	2	3	1	2	14

April 2017- March 2018

0-6mths	7-12 months	1-2 yrs	2-3 yrs	3-5 yrs	5+ yrs	TOTAL
0	1	6	4	3	3	17

2.48 Adoption Scorecards

2.49 Adoption Scorecards were introduced by the government as part of an approach to tackle delays in the adoption system. The scorecard allows local authorities and other agencies to monitor their performance and compare it with others.

2.50 Scorecard 1 – Average time between the child entering care and moving in with their adoptive family.

For the 13 children adopted between 1st April 2017 and 31st March 2017, the average time in days between entering care and moving in with their adoptive family was **335** days which, for the first time since the commencement of scorecards, is within the government's threshold of 426 days. This compares to **627** days last year and **528** the previous year and is a significant improvement.

Clear expectations and timescales around matching processes have been set during the past year and have been closely monitored by the Team Manager and Service Manager. This has had a significant impact on adoptive families being identified and children moving in, in a timely manner.

2.51 Scorecard 2 – Average time between the Local Authority receiving court authority and the Local Authority identifying a match.

For the 13 children adopted between 1st April 2017 and 31st March 2018, the average time between Placement Order and the Local Authority identifying a match was **98** days which, again, for the first time since the commencement of scorecards, is within the government's threshold of 121 days. This compares to **259** days last year and **224** days the previous year and is a significant improvement.

Similarly, timescales have been addressed through setting expectations and timescales around matching processes, which has had the desired impact on ensuring there have been no delays with matches being identified.

2.52 Scorecard 3 – % of children who wait less than 14 months between entering care and moving in with an adoptive family.

For the children adopted between 1st April 2017 and 31st March 2017, **46%** (6 out of 13 children) waited less than 14 months between entering care and moving in with an adoptive family. This compares to **43.75%** in the same period last year and **41%** the previous year, although it is important to note that the threshold last year and the previous year was 16 months. This year has, therefore, seen a good improvement, particularly taking into account the revised threshold.

Timescales will continue to be addressed during the coming year through improved targeted recruitment and continuing to monitor closely timescales around matching processes.

2.53 Adoption Panel and Advisory Service

2.54 The Isle of Wight Adoption Agency provides an advisory service which oversees the recruitment, training, management and administration of the Central List of Adoption Panel Members for the Isle of Wight's adoption panel. A Team Administrator oversees this aspect of the service.

2.55 The Isle of Wight has one panel which usually meets for half a day once a month with an agenda containing up to **4** cases. The panels are flexible and extra panels can be convened when needed to meet the needs of the children requiring decisions.

2.56 Between 1 April 2017 - 31 March 2018, the panel met on **9** occasions. **14** cases were presented to panel during the year.

- 2.57** The Isle of Wight currently has **11** persons on its Central List of Adoption Panel Members.
- 2.58** Adoption panel members attended a joint training session with Fostering Panel members during 2017-18. A further joint training day is being scheduled for next year. A joint action plan has been reviewed yearly at the training events and informs the training needs of panel.
- 2.59** Adoption panels are required to provide feedback to the agency on the quality of the reports presented to the panel. This includes whether the requirements of the Restrictions on the Preparation of Adoption Reports Regulations 2005 have been met (that children's and adopter's reports are only completed by registered and experienced social workers or student social workers who are supervised by registered and experienced social workers) and whether there is a thorough, rigorous, consistent and fair approach across the service in the assessment of whether a child should be placed for adoption, the suitability of prospective adopters and the proposed placement.
- 2.60** All panel members have up to date appraisals.
- 3. Regional Adoption Agencies**
- The Government has continued to progress its proposals to move to Regional Adoption Agencies. The aim is to improve adopter recruitment and adoption support, speed up matching and reduce costs.
- 3.1** The Isle of Wight's partners in the Regional Adoption Agency (Adopt South) are Hampshire, Portsmouth and Southampton Local Authorities and three Voluntary Adoption Agencies, Barnardo's, Adoption UK and Parents and Children Together (PACT).

3.2 Plans are progressing to establish Adopt South with the aim for it to commence in April 2019. The Adoption Team and the Adoption Panel have been kept informed at every stage to ensure they are able to contribute to the new agency.

4. Summary and Work Plan for 2017-18

Strengths during 2017-18 include;

- Matching Island children to Island adopters when it is appropriate and safe.
- Significantly improved timeliness of Stage 1 assessments.
- Continued timeliness of Stage 2 assessments.
- Numbers of children linked with prospective adopters.
- Significantly improved timeliness of Scorecards 1, 2 and 3.
- Numbers of children adopted.
- Number of successful applications to the Adoption Support Fund.
- 100% of life story work and later life letters being completed within government timescales. (to be complete within 5 days of Adoption Order.)
- A new targeted marketing strategy now being in place.
- A joint Adoption and Fostering Marketing Assistant post being appointed to.

Work Plan for 2018-19

- To implement the new targeted marketing strategy, where the drive is to attract adopters who have the child care skills and experience to meet the needs of the children waiting.
- To recruit sufficient adopters to meet the needs of the children needing to be placed for adoption. A target of 12 new adoptive families has been set.

- To support the work of the newly appointed Marketing Assistant. Hampshire's Marketing Officer to oversee the marketing strategy and ensure it is implemented for the Isle of Wight.
- To continue to address, maintain and monitor the timeliness of Scorecards 1, 2 and 3.
- To continue to maintain the timeliness of assessments.
- To continue to make full use of the Adoption Support Fund.
- To continue to embed the policy and process for Fostering for Adoption, to enable the early placement of children.
- To continue to support families to consider alternative orders to a step parent adoption order, in line with the Court's view.
- To support the work of the Regional Adoption Agency, developing services in preparation for implementation in April 2019.

Rachel Reynolds
Adoption Service Manager
May 2018

APPENDIX A APRIL 2017- MARCH 2018

Activity	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
Total No Adoption Enquiries	0	2	2	3	2	1	5	3	5	9	1	2
No of enquiries with no response/counselled out on Duty	0	1	2	2	2	1	3	2	2	1	1	0
RIF forms returned/General	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	4	1
Total number of PAs approved in this month	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	0
No of PARs to Panel (sets of PAs)	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	0
Childrens Plans for Adoption (CPR'S)	5	8	3	1	0	3	1	8	1	2	2	0
Children's Plans for Adoption Referred to ADM (as from 01.09.12)	1	0	1	3	4	2	0	2	0	0	4	0
Total No of Linkings to panel (no of children/sets of adopters)	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/0	1/1	0/0	1/1	2/2	0/0	0/0	1/1	3/3