

Agenda Items	Notes	Actions
1. Introductions and apologies	Present; Cheryl Pedley, Steve Appleby, Jackie Lovelock, Julie Charlesworth, Mary Wilton, Chris Dunn, Ruth Peat, Alison Piddington, Lesley Smyth, Evanne Wigmore, James Pedley, Paul Johnson, Chris Lavelle, Lou Parlett, Amanda Watson Alex Dale, Tracey Tudor-Jones Apols: Julie Brown; Jane Randolph etc	Apologies taken
2. Mission Statement	Agreed- no changes	
3. FCC 2019 Draft annual review	<p><u>Foster carer charter</u>- still needs work to raise the profile with social workers, both fostering and children's, and make it a working document.</p> <p><u>Exit survey feedback</u>- a work in progress, due to staff vacancy. Agreed that when we are able to progress this- will involve Evanne and possibly other Foster carers in the wording of the questionnaire</p> <p><u>Children in care council</u>- a different model being considered to boost numbers- possibly some meetings in localities and transport being provided. Suggestion that young people do a pod cast to feed into FCC</p> <p><u>OFSTED</u> were impressed with the fostering service.</p> <p><u>Foster carer reports for CIC reviews</u>- this is mixed. It would assist IRO's if the reports were with them 3 days before the review, so that foster carer's views/comments can be fully considered and FCs asked that IROs confirmed back that they have received their report.</p> <p>Also, all agreed that short breaks carers should be invited to reviews, or invited to give written feedback?</p> <p><u>CSW and IRO feedback to foster carers reviews</u>- again, mixed picture - busy workloads, changes of staff, sick leave all impact on this.</p> <p><u>Finance</u>- work in progress, this is a standing item on the agenda.</p>	<p>Some of these to remain standing agenda items.</p> <p>Ruth Peat to discuss podcast idea with CIC council members.</p> <p>Further discussion in the IRO group SW to continue to promote with foster carers.</p> <p>Mary W- For discussion at fostering managers meeting</p> <p>For discussion in CIC and IRO teams</p> <p>Mary W to feedback at next FCC</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Day care allowances- still to be resolved, a report has been written and is being considered.</li> <li>• Rise in foster carer allowances in line with inflation is being considered.</li> </ul> <p><u>Foster carer's voice-</u> Cheryl represents fostering at the Corporate parenting board; Julie Patton (Cllr) sits on fostering panel.</p> <p><u>Horizons-</u> the 'support for emotional well-being of children' contract is being re-tendered.</p> <p><u>Recruitment-</u> foster carers help at recruitment events. Could they have feedback about which of the people they spoke to have gone on to apply and become foster carers?</p>	<p>Foster carer council is a standing item on the corporate parenting board.</p> <p>Alex Dale- could the fostering Christmas card be DCC's official card in 2020?</p> <p>Mary W to provide update when new arrangements are in place.</p> <p>Mary W- to explore with recruitment team</p>
4. FCC 2020 Aims and Discussion	<p><u>Foster carer charter to become embedded;</u> to be part of newly employed social workers induction.</p> <p><u>Building relationships with children social work teams;</u> rolling programme of joint training and 'meet the team days.'</p> <p><u>Valuing foster carer own children and grandchildren;</u> vouchers to continue and DBMA awards evening nominations have increased.</p> <p><u>Valuing existing foster carers;</u> carers reviews to feel meaningful and teams to think of creative ways to ensure the foster carers voice is heard (e.g. positive feedback re telephone review where attendance was not possible);</p> <p><u>Mentoring-</u> making this role more meaningful; training continuing to improve accessibility.</p> <p><u>Building links with local community-</u> e.g. links with community events, role of the corporate parenting board;</p> <p><u>Improving links between foster carers and foster carer reps.</u></p>	

FOSTER CARER COUNCIL AGM 22/01/2020

5 .Agree membership and meetings for 2020	AGM closed.	agreed