

Appendix 2

Foster Carer Consultation - Fostering, Staying Put, Family Link and Lodgings Plus (LAC) Policy 2018 - 2019

Sent to 238 fostering and Lodgings Plus Households.

19 responses received representing 8% of the Households consulted.

Summary of responses outlined below.

Questions:

Foster Carers Leave			
1	Do you agree with the proposal to remove the 'two child cap' when calculating foster carers leave?	Y 100%	N 0%
Please add any further comments <ul style="list-style-type: none">- This has been an unfair situation- This seems fair- Don't understand why it was policy in the first place- Makes it fair- This seems only fair- Not before time but glad to see finally removed			
2	Do you agree with the proposal to calculate foster carers' leave as a nightly supplement (for each child in placement) and include the leave payment in your weekly fostering allowance payment? The leave payment will appear separately on your remittance advice. This will remove the need for year-end adjustments.	Y 53%	N 47%
Please add any further comments <ul style="list-style-type: none">- We would like to get paid holiday when we take it- Would prefer to get one payment as we currently do- I prefer the system to stay as it is, it is easier financially for myself to manage- Seems to be more practicable- A really excellent idea- I like the way it is now. I like a lump sum			

Skills Fees			
3	Do you agree with the proposal to allow the payment of a skill fee to a temporary approved foster carer, on a case by case basis, where the temporary approved foster carer can evidence they meet the skill fee criteria for that specific child?	Y 89%	N 11%
<p>Please add any further comments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - This needs to be a fair system to all carers - Strongly agree as this enables the children/young people to remain in their homes - This helps young people to have a stable consistent placement as our own children have - This would possibly be unworkable, time consuming and might be open to abuse - I think it ought to be capped at level two and should apply to mainstream carers not just temporary carers caring for a child on respite 			
On Call Emergency Placement Fee			
4	Do you agree with the proposal not to pay an on-call fee to an on-call carer who declines to accommodate a child during the period they are on call (excluding situations where there are safeguarding concerns)?	Y 74%	N 16%
<p>Please add any further comments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It depends if they keep turning children down - This seems fair - It depends on the reason for refusing a placement i.e. appropriateness - Yes but you must take into account safeguarding concerns - If they have agreed to be on call and refuse the placement because of their own personal reasons they should not get paid that night - Carers need to be clear of expectations if they are on call 			

Long Term Savings			
5	Do you agree with the proposal that Respite Foster carers are not required to set aside a proportion of the respite fostering allowance for long term savings?	Y 58%	N 42%
<p>Please add any further comments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We feel savings should be stopped at source as this would save a lot of trouble and the issue with tax - I strongly disagree that the child's savings should be managed by the carer. I believe this should be held by PCC as it was previously. - PCC should take back the long term savings - I believe it was included in their weekly allowance - Should be treated the same as long term carers - have a direct debit in place so would rather pay it myself as the main carer - Yes - no long term saving should be set aside until the child has been in placement for 8 weeks - Yes - Moving money from one carer to another is a nightmare and confusing for us all - If respite carers receive the savings then it is up to the carer to allow the child to spend it or return to main carer when they leave - PCC should look after the long term savings we have enough to do 			