

London Borough of Bromley

PART 1 - PUBLIC

**Briefing for Care Services
Policy Development and Scrutiny Committee
3rd September 2013**

**ANNUAL FOSTERING PANEL REPORT
1st April 2012 – 31st March 2013**

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1. Summary

This is the third annual report of the LBB Fostering Panel and covers the period April 2012 – March 2013.

2. THE BRIEFING

- 2.1 Under regulation 23 (constitution and membership of fostering panel) of the Fostering Services (England) Regulations 2011, Bromley Council as a Local Authority is responsible for appointing an appropriate Fostering Panel.
- 2.2 Fostering panels are intended to be multi-disciplinary bodies with a considerable element of independence from the fostering service. The annual report provides information about the membership of the panel and how the decision making process works.
- 2.3 The panel met 15 times in 2012/13 and approved 22 new fostering households they also approved six short term breaks placements and four supported lodgings. The annual report also provides a demographic profile of the looked after children population as at 31st March 2013. For 2013/14 the panel has set the following priorities (full details are given on page 11 of the annual report):
- Continue to recruit a number and range of foster carers to meet the diverse placement needs of looked after children and young people;
 - Review current recruitment policy including the process, and the pro-forma that is currently being use;
 - Continue to provide quality support and training to foster carers;
 - Introduce a new pre-approval course that has a particular focus on the needs and circumstances of connected person carers;

3. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

- 3.1 Annual Report of the Bromley Fostering Panel 2012/13