

SERVICE DESCRIPTION FORM

Department: Education and Social Care	
Name of Service: Fostering and Adoption	
Income:	(£000's)
Description: <p>The Fostering and Adoption team provides placements for children who need to be cared for away from home and can be looked after in a family setting (including relatives).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(i) Foster care placements on either a short-term or permanent basis.(ii) Adoptive placements for children who have been looked after and whose care needs are such that adoption is the best legal basis to secure their permanent care.(iii) Choices for Children Fostering Scheme for children who require an enhanced 'wrap round' service from with the fostering service due to their particular needs. <p>The team currently supports 85 foster placements in Moray with the total number of available placements being 93. The number of children going forward to adoption in 2011 was eight and five new adoptive placements were assessed. The team supports some 30 kinship care placements and the establishment of placements with external fostering agencies.</p> <p>The team is based in Elgin but delivers a service across Moray.</p>	
Outcomes/ Impact: <p>Outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) The number of available foster placements at the end of 2011/12 was 95 against a target of 91.(b) The percentage of looked after and accommodated children in family placements at the end of 2011/12 was 80% against a target of 85% (revised to 80% in 2012/13 based on benchmarking data)(c) The percentage of fostering and adoption assessments completed within six months of application was 100% in three of the four quarters in 2011/12 (75% in the first quarter) <p>Contribution to Council priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) Ensuring that children who require to be cared for outwith their family where appropriate are cared for within a family setting.(b) Maintaining stable placements for children looked after away from home.(c) Recruiting, training and supporting carers. <p>Contribution to SOA:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) Our children are more ambitious and confident and young people are able to fulfil their potential(b) Achievement and attainment of looked after children and young people.(c) Our children have a better start to life and are ready to succeed. <p>Other Scottish Government expectations:</p> <p>To maximise the number of children who need to be cared for away from home who are in family placements, with a particular emphasis on kinship care.</p>	