

Moray Fostering Service

From the previous inspection which concluded on 5 December 2013 there were no requirements and one recommendation: -

“The service provider should ensure that there is a clear procedure in place which allows information gathered about the quality of the service to be analysed, fed back to participants and influence service improvements”.

The following reflects a summary of the inspection that concluded on 21 November 2014.

What the service does well

- Staff at Moray Council provide very good support to their foster carers.
- Staff at Moray Council are experienced and receive appropriate training to enhance their existing skills.
- Foster carers have the opportunity to take part in training.
- Staff at Moray Council are well supported by the management team.
- The management team are approachable and have an open door policy.
- Management and staff continually think of innovative ways in which foster carers can be involved in improving the service.
- The Fostering Panel has a good range of members who have an in-depth knowledge of the duties required by them.
- Staff at Moray Council have coped well with changes since the last inspection and this included a change of premises.
- Staff at Moray Council are well supported by an administration team with a sound knowledge of the service.

What the service could do better

- The service provider should seek a resolution to the delay in foster carer reviews.
- Continue to review, audit case files to ensure that all relevant documents are signed and dated by the appropriate people.
- Progress and finalise the Foster Carers Handbook.
- Progress and finalise the Information Leaflets for young people to ensure young people are aware of what the service being provided is.
- Continue to gain the views of foster carers, young people, parents (where appropriate) and other agencies to inform and assess the quality of service provision.
- Continue to hold the informal coffee mornings and focus groups as this has been a great success and enabled foster carers to meet up and share ideas and concerns with each other.
- Continue to review and finalise the Participation Strategy.

What the service has done since the last inspection

- Moray Fostering Service continues to provide very good support to their foster carers.
- Progress had been made with regards to the new initial handbook for foster carers.
- Internal audit systems have improved.

Conclusion

The Inspection found that the Moray Council Fostering Service continues to provide a very good service.

Enforcements

There has been no enforcement action against this service since the last inspection.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 1

The service provider needs to ensure that a resolution to the delay in the review of Foster Carers is found. This in accordance with The Social Care and Social Work Improvement Scotland (Requirements for Care Services) Regulations 2011: Regulation: 4(1) (a), National Care Standards: Foster Care and Family Placement Services: National Care Standard: 11: 1 and 2 and The Looked After Children (Scotland) Regulations 2009 No. 210. Regulation 25(1) (a).

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Evaluations

Current

Evaluations at November 2014

Quality of Care and Support	5	Very Good
Quality of Staffing	5	Very Good
Quality of Management and Leadership	5	Very Good

Previous

Evaluations at December 2013

Quality of Care and Support	5	Very Good
Quality of Staffing	5	Very Good
Quality of Management and Leadership	4	Good

Evaluations at February 2011-0

Quality of Care and Support	5	Very Good
Quality of Staffing		Not assessed
Quality of Management and Leadership		Not assessed

Evaluations at 9 February 2010

Quality of Care and Support	5	Very Good
Quality of Staffing	5	Very Good
Quality of Management and Leadership		Not assessed

Authority Commentary

As in previous Inspections this is an extremely positive report which continues to acknowledge the commitment of team members in addition to the developments made and continuing high standard of delivery of the service. It recognises that the team in support of children in foster placement includes Foster Carers, Children's Social Workers as well as members of the Fostering & Adoption Team and other relevant services and agencies. This is a very good service.