

Aspire managers re Adoption / SG support Meeting - 15th July 2021

Peter- Just a quick report from the meeting that I arranged last Thursday. We had three adopters and five special guardians present, plus Michelle Whiting (interim manager of Aspire) and Peter Moring (just joined as manager of the support team).

They are aiming to change the arrangements for support services to adopters and SGs - in particular to get away from the standard social care model, which is that you don't get any support unless you pass the assessment criteria and get an allocated social worker. So instead they want empower their support team to offer direct access to some courses and therapy groups, and refocus the social workers on the more complex cases.

We had a good discussion on the evening, and it is great to see that the new management is much more open to hearing what we as service users have to say. So there is quite a lot to be positive about, compared to the previous manager, but there is still an ongoing issue (as in most other services, sad to say) that they have a lot less staff than they really need to support all the needs.