

Services to be delivered by the Regional Adoption Agency

Child Journey	LA	RAA
Case Responsibility and care Planning ADM best interest decision / SHOBPA Support to Children's Social Work Teams in assessing children's needs and early identification of children for whom an adoption plan is suitable. Challenge to care plans and Child Placement Reports. Early identification and tracking of children requiring adoption Tracking children with a plan for adoption	X x	x x x
Early Permanence Placements Payments via common policy for duration of fostering placement Responsibility for early permanence placements and supporting foster carers under these arrangements. Recruit, register, approve and supervise the carers	x	x x
Responsibility for identifying at the earliest opportunity where a child has 'harder to place' characteristics Supporting, challenging and raising LA ambition around the identification at the earliest opportunity where a child has 'harder to place' characteristics Shared use of a common tracking tool Identifying where adopters able to meet specific needs may be required, e.g. where a child has 'harder to place' characteristics	x x	x x x
Identifying suitable adopters at the earliest stage. Preparing profiles of the child, including completing the early profile of the child. Identifying early matching considerations.		x x x
Preparation of the child Delegated responsibility for preparing the child for an adoptive placement. Responsibility for the preparation of the child's Life story book. Delegated responsibility for undertaking specialist preparation work with 'harder to place' children, including therapeutic support Producing the Later Life Letter.	x	x x x
Family finding Linking and matching Introductions Organising the Matching Panel and ADM arrangements for matches, including sourcing legal and medical advisors Agency decision maker (ADM) decision on matches		x x x x x

Adopter Journey	LA	RAA
Adoptive placements (contractual arrangement to include agreement on numbers for each LA?)		x
Recruitment and approval of adopters including: Marketing and recruitment activity including targeted marketing and recruitment of adopters for children who may be harder to place. Provision of information DBS checks for prospective adopters Preparation and training Assessment of adopters Additional training and preparation for potential carers to meet the needs of specific children		x
Purchase and sale of inter-agency placements where most suitable match.		x
Family finding for adopters		x
Introductions and adoption support assessments		x
Matching		x
Panels		x
ADM decision making for adopter approval		x
Court process and costs for adoption applications		x
Support and supervision of placements, including early permanence placements	x	x

Adoption support for families	LA	RAA
As part of adoption support planning, assessment and proposal to LAs of adoption allowances using a common protocol, with agreed financial limits, across all LAs around eligibility for Adoption Allowances for new adoptions made through the RAA		x
Approval of RAA assessments for Adoption Allowance, and making payments for current and future adoptions.	x	
Pre-adoption support assessments and support planning at the point of the SHOBPA decision		x
Post-approval support to adopters		x
Assessment and provision of SGO carer support needs when order is applied for and post order	x	
Post adoption support assessments and support planning for relevant children /families in first 3 years of placement or at the request of the LA (at any time during the adoptive placement), for example alongside a joint assessment for a child in need. Also for new families moving to area after 3 years.		x
Review of adoption support plans		x
Creation of a menu of support and ability to tailor support in line with need		x
Provision of a core adoption support offer (Tier 2) as set out in assessment for the first 3 years of placement for relevant families.		x
Providing or commissioning Tier 3 targeted and specialist support, via a) direct services within A@H, b) VA block contracts and c) (commissioned) bespoke adoption support provision.		x
Assessments and funding applications to the Adoption Support Fund.		x

Support for those affected by adoption	LA	RAA
Pre-adoption support and post adoption contact for birth family members, including Letterbox		x
Birth Parent Support to prevent recurring proceedings		x
Support for adopted adults – access to records and counselling		x
A (limited) non agency adoption service, e.g. for step parents		x
An Inter-country adoption service		x
An Intermediary Service		x