

FosterWiki®



THE 2024 INDEPENDENT FOSTER CARERS SURVEY

Question 14 Additional Comments

I. INTRODUCTION

Welcome to The Independent Foster Carer's Survey 2024 powered by FosterWiki Ltd.

We appreciate all the Foster Carers/Carers' time in completing this survey as it is your voice that needs to be heard to help raise the outcomes for the children and young people we care for.

The survey was completed by current or carers who have left fostering in the last 5 years.

The question was as follows:

“Are the children's care plans sufficiently up-to-date, followed and effective?”

2348 people answered this question and left 274 additional comment responses.

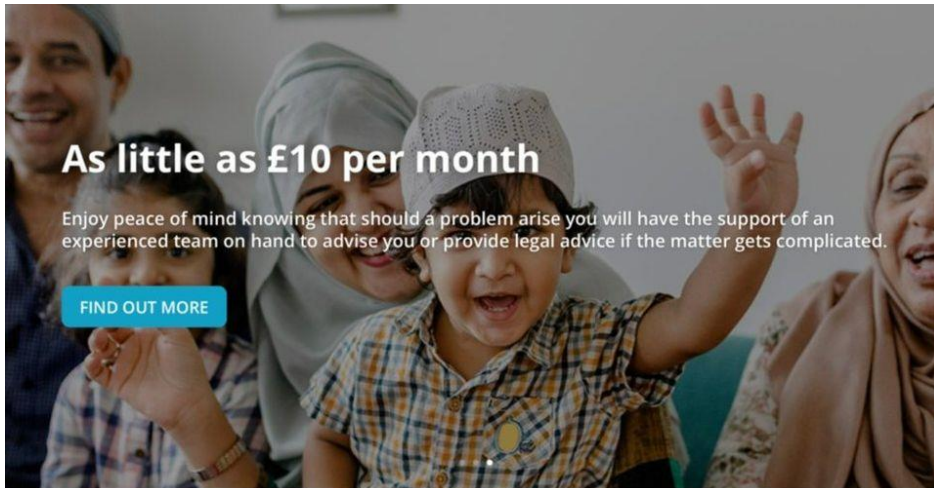


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2. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

1. Currently awaiting court so has been reviewed in preparation.
2. Often delays in receiving plans.
3. Only changed intermittently or if OFSTED are in.
4. Up to date. Not sure anyone uses them though.
5. Mostly as I am driving things forward.
6. We always ensure this is done and will call meetings when needed to be updated of course this is often met with a sour tone
7. Even after requests to discuss and update.
8. Both need reviewing, due to the constant challenges with have had with the girls their care plans go out of date very quickly.
9. As a respite carer the "carer to carer" forms are often inadequate to give me a full picture of the child.
10. Yes and no for one it's not but working on it the other is because we rewrote it recently with school and SW as in year 11
11. Child been in placement with us since June 23 and no new care plan issued.
12. No medical record books
13. we have requested they be updated but nothing has been done.
14. Every six months at the LAC reviews we will challenge them if they are behind with anything.
15. I have found that I need to chase this.
16. They are up to date but they aren't effective or followed.
17. They currently relate to about 4 placements ago. (the 1st time they moved on) My boys came to me as an emergency, then moved out after 8 weeks, then moved back after 2 months, moved out again after a fortnight, then moved back about 3 days later. I only know most of my information because they were with me initially. If I was a new carer for them I'd have nothing.
18. Up to date but never followed.
19. Lots of copy and paste.
20. His EHCP contains a lot of information from years ago and is supposed to be newly updated but had the wrong ethnicity!!, wrong address and no current information about his learning needs at all. The only current info is the name of the school with no contact info. His mother's mobile number is given as mine! So potentially GDPR/ safeguarding risk as she has threatened to kidnap him from school so was not allowed to know details. But the transport company called her thinking it was me!
21. So long as nothing changes. I've lost count of the amount of times I have requested a change but the IRO never ever makes changes and always puts the parents first.
22. Nursery inclusion funding stops on 6th March, LA currently have no plan for funding this and no plan for specialist support needed to access reception year in September despite documented complex needs since Jan '22.
23. Only some sections are updated the rest are the same every year and don't match what's now
24. Planning can be unclear and poorly explained to foster carers and the child, SWs appear fearful of revealing a plan which might later change or be reconsidered, rather than talking openly about the possibilities and likelihoods.

25. No pathway plan done and she's 18 in December.
26. Sometimes they're token plans, not at all realistic for the child's abilities.
27. Due to be reviewed and updated as far as family time is concerned.
28. We need to update them as there have been issues recently.
29. Has taken months to get the care plans adapted
30. Haven't seen one for a while.
31. Don't be involved in them.
32. Information about who is important to the child is out of date or wrong.
33. Child's parents' assessment is incomplete & needs to be redone. A big failure with LA & a procession of social workers on long-term sick or leaving.
34. Promises are made but rarely come to fruition.
35. Depends on the social worker.
36. It all looks lovely in writing on the child's plan and if it was followed that would be great.
37. Current LAC review almost 6 months overdue.
38. This is worker dependent and needs more consistency.
39. Not sure, never seen them.
40. Often timescales are out.
41. Not effective.
42. Current placement care plan delayed due to CSW not doing the work in time.
43. They are a tick box exercise. Most SW are not well enough trained in report writing.
44. Child SW changes her mind as she goes along.
45. Care plan agreeing funding for activity, mysteriously changed from what was agreed at meeting
46. Care plans are up to date but not always followed.
47. Pathway plan is outstanding over 1 1/2 years overdue. Child care reviews do take place within timescales. But often the CSW does not attend. Or virtual school staff.
48. copy and paste - copy and paste same mistakes. When I am ready was due July 2021 - still waiting.
49. Been waiting 2 years for care plan because SW keep leaving. No pathway plan, no up to date (2 years old) EHCP.
50. No one follows the care plan unless it suits their own agenda.



<https://nupfc.com/>

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FosterWiki Toolkit for New Social Workers



FosterWiki Toolkit for Top Ten Tips

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