

## Presentation

<b>Committee/Panel:</b>	Children and Families Advisory Panel		
<b>Date:</b>	2 February 2016		
<b>Title:</b>	Update on Fostering Services		
<b>Reference:</b>	7271		
<b>Report From:</b>	Director of Children's Services		
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# Children & Families Advisory Panel

2 February 2016

Update on Fostering Service

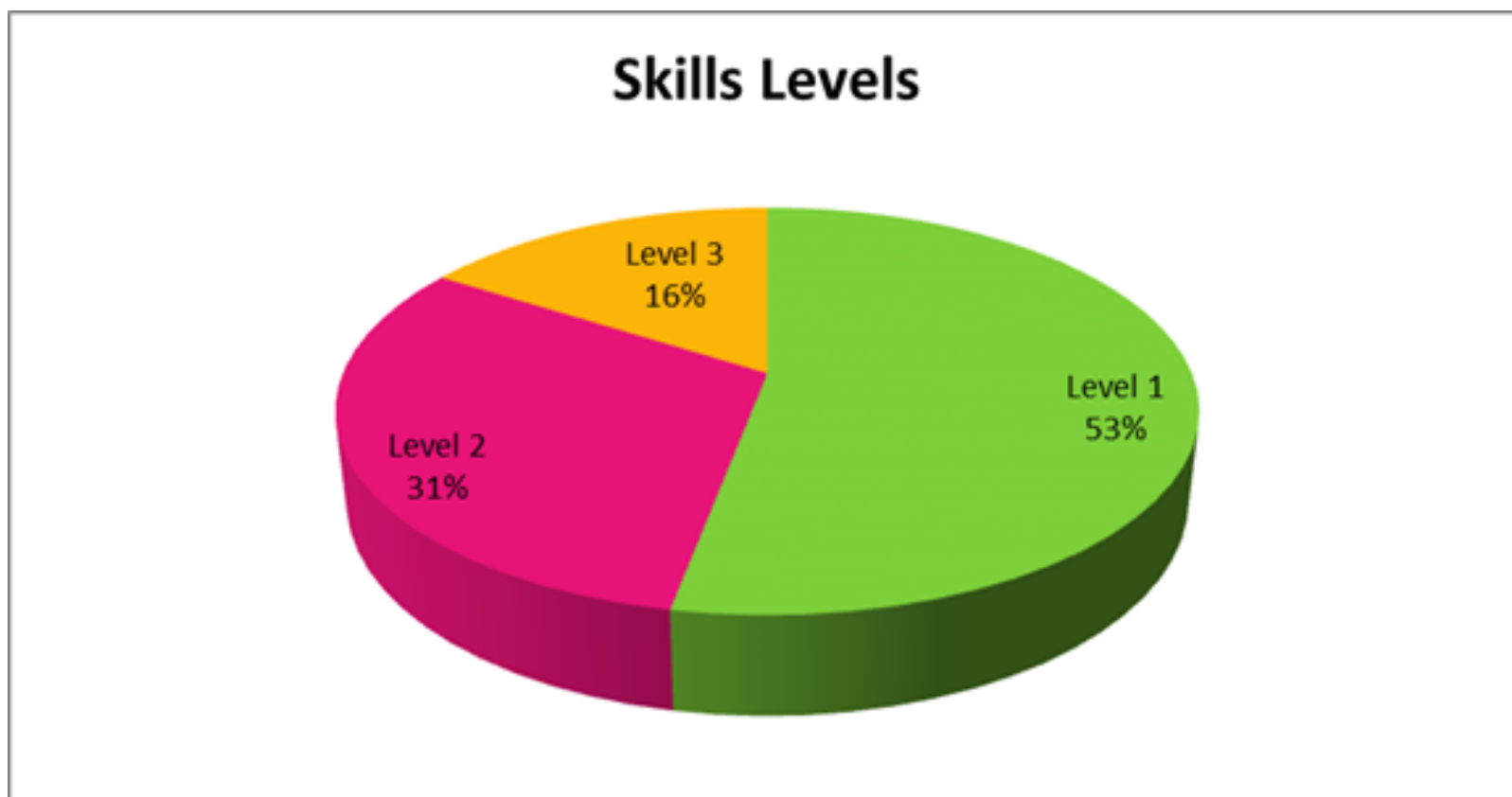
# Objectives

- Update on fostering activity over the last 3 years
- Celebrate the successes
- Outline the plans for the next 12 months

# The Hampshire Foster Carer Workforce December 2015

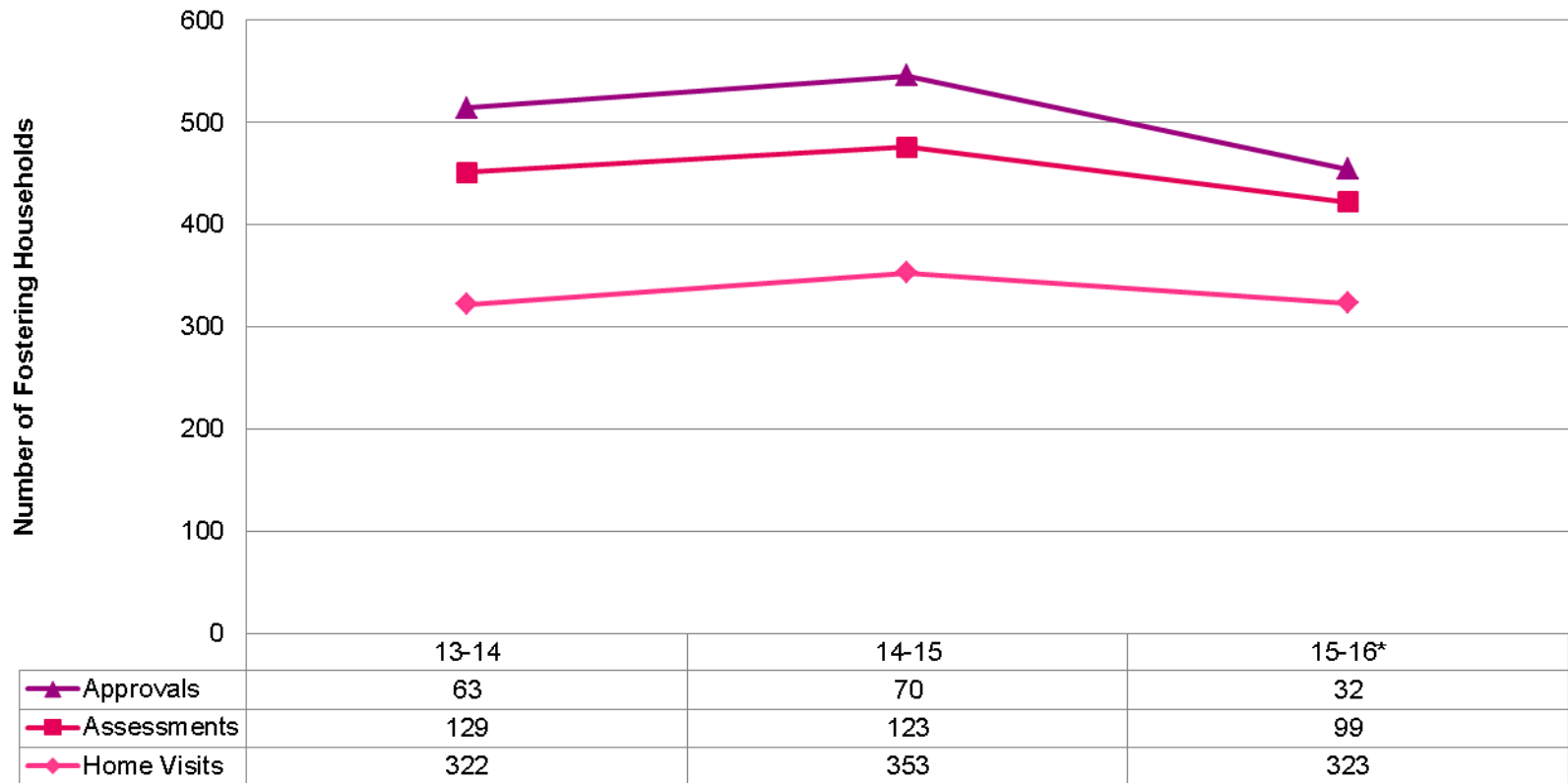
<b>Foster Carer Approval</b>	<b>Number</b>
County Carer	367
Connected Carer	122
Family Link	28
Total	517
<b>Children placed with In House Foster Carers</b>	<b>706</b>
<b>Children placed with Independent Foster Carers</b>	<b>299</b>

# Foster Carer Skills Levels



# Fostering Marketing & Recruitment Activity 2012-2015

\*15-16 data is to end of December only



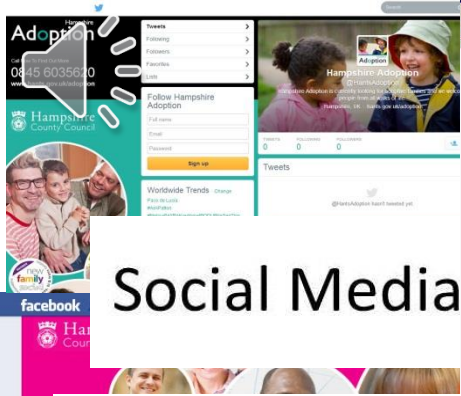
# Back of Bus Advertising Adver

## Online

Fostering a happy home - couple have looked after more than 65 children in years



## Social Media



# National Adoption Week



Ever considered for your thought  
**Car Park Tickets** are  
Call now Hampshire FosterCare support you to foster  
Hampshire County Council  
0845 6035620  
www.hants.gov.uk/fostering

## Photo



## Geocaching

GEOCACHING.COM

## Roundabout Sign



## Recruitment Stands



## Mail Drops

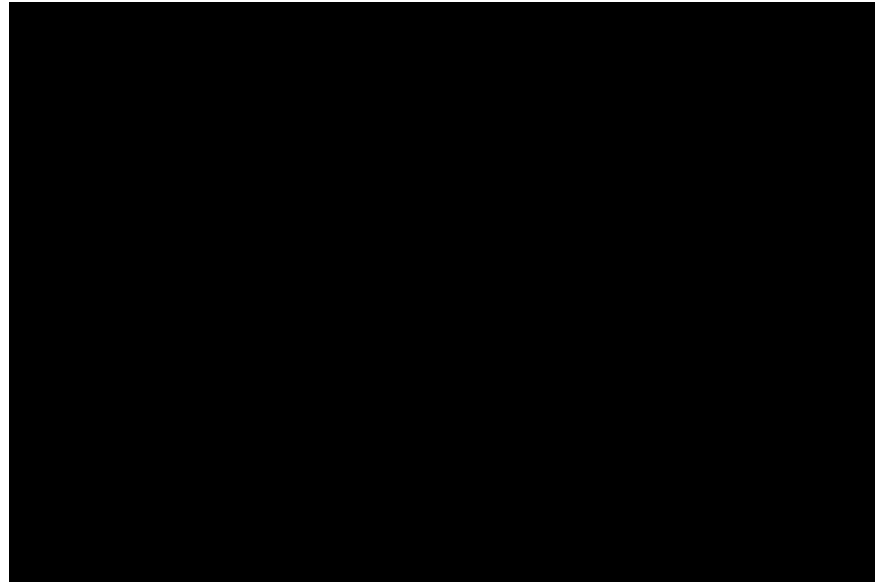


## Adoption Website



## Bus Stop Advertising

# Laura's (Child Looked After) Radio Advert June 2015



# Team Fostercare

- Team Fostercare has taken part in a number of endurance events to raise awareness
  - The Great South Run
  - Southampton 10k & Half Marathon
  - Walk this Way (20 miles!)



# Who took part in the Southampton ½ marathon and 10k race?



# Engagement with Foster Carers

- Hampshire Fostering Network conference
- Foster Carer Survey
- Skills fees work
- Welcome pack for foster carers and children
- Complaints and allegations against foster carers procedure
- Fostering Friendly employment

# Support, Supervision and Training

- Developed and updated the support and supervision to foster carers
- Implemented a new pre-approval training pathway
- Implemented a new fostering website
- Co-delivered an education themed workshop for foster carers and children in care

# Celebrations

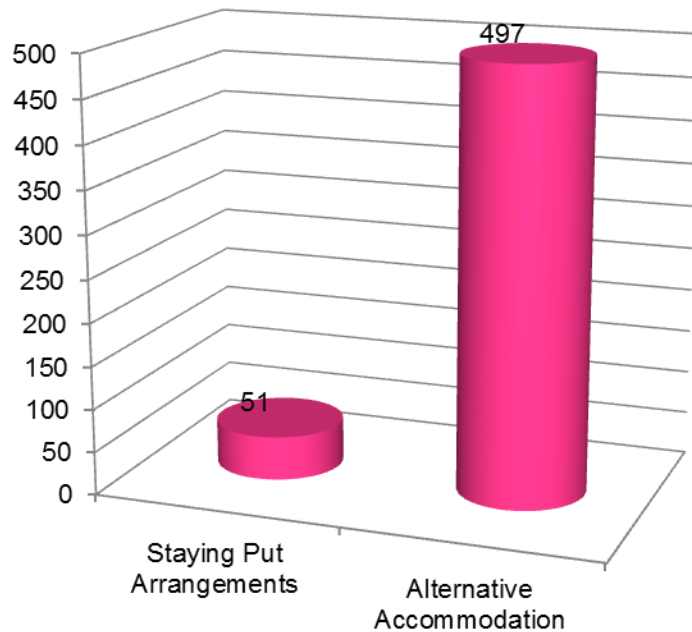
- Foster carers receive MBEs – Val & Mike Andrews and Cynthia & Ken Blake
- The Fostering Network Fostering Social Worker of the Year – Roger Ward
- Staying Put – supporting young people to stay with foster carers post 18

# Celebrations Continued...

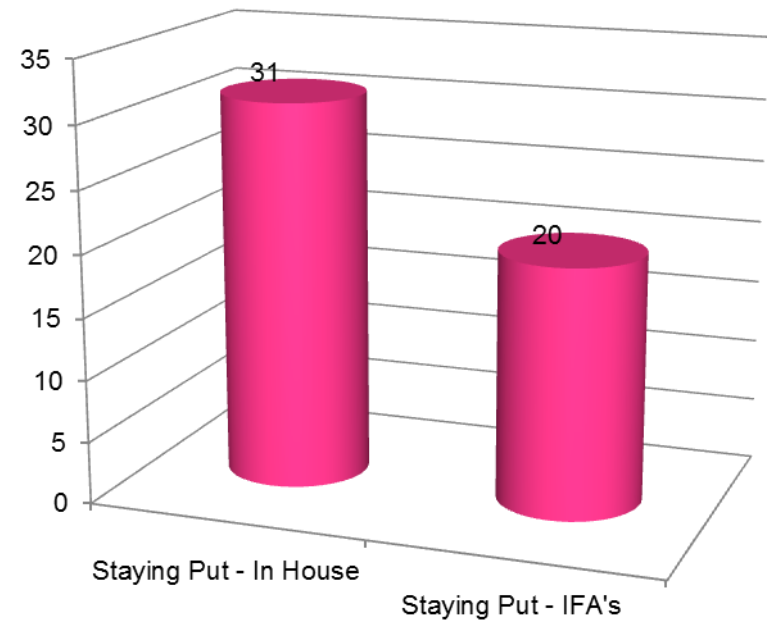
- “When the boys came into our care, they were both working on Level 2 at school. Neither were interested in reading, which is something, as a family, we have always promoted. After three years of doing this, we have been told that SM now reads above 15 years of age. We have purchased a Kindle for his 11<sup>th</sup> birthday and he chose to spend £40 of his birthday money on Amazon vouchers to buy more books! He now really enjoys going to the library, choosing nine books at a time and always reads them within about a week”.
- “Beverley provided a parent and child placement who were successfully rehabilitated to live independently. The parent provided a reference stating that without Beverley’s support she would not be where she is today, and that she has helped her to rebuild the relationship with her son”.
- “Gary and Tracie have, in their first year of fostering, cared for four young children. Two of these have successfully moved onto to adoption and they now have another set of siblings with quite complex needs. When they were first placed all the children had their own challenges and problems. The work Gary and Tracie have done with these children is outstanding. The carers’ patience, understanding and empathy have brought these children on so much so that it is really quite difficult to associate them to the children they were 18 months ago”.

# Staying Put Statistics

## Hampshire Care Leavers



## Type of Placements



# What it means to Stay Put

“Ben has remained a part of the family and there is no sign that this will ever change. He has very strong links with those he lives with and also the wider family. Ben has been supported to remain in contact with his birth family and is supported to work through any emotions and feelings that come with this contact. He is supported to initiate the contact as and when he wants to and supported in making changes and cancelling when he feels the need. Should Ben not have remained in this placement it is unlikely he would have been able to develop his independence skills to the level he has done and secured and remain in employment”

“This has been really positive for Kay as her former foster carers are her family. She calls them mum and dad and they are very supportive with everything that Kay does. Kay has severe Dyslexia and Dyspraxia which means that she is not able to manage her own money and struggles with both reading and writing. Both Carers completely support Kay with this and she is treated as one of their own daughters. Kay is able to remain within the family home until she chooses to become more independent”



# What Next for Hampshire FosterCare

- Foster carer payments
- Skills fees
- Work with partners and businesses
- Procurement and commissioning work
- Recruitment and marketing update
- More Team FosterCare challenges