



Statement of Purpose 2017-18

Ansacare Fostering Agency
Weatherill House
New South Quarter
23 Whitestone Way
Croydon. CR0 4WF
Tel: 020 3747 4757
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MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission at Ansacare is to make a real difference in children and young people's lives. We aim to do this by achieving successful outcomes for the children and young people in our care while also complying with all Government regulations. Ansacare celebrates diversity and strives to instil integrity, compassion and confidence in each child and young person. We endeavour to give each child support and encouragement to become his or her own unique self.

AIMS and OBJECTIVES

ANSACARE Fostering Agency aims to help local authorities obtain the best possible outcomes for the children in their care, and to improve the day to day lives of these children in relation to:

- Physical and Mental Health and Emotional well-being
- Safeguarding from ALL forms of abuse
- Education, Training and Social Recreation
- Their Contribution to Society
- Their Social and Economic well-being.

Ansacare will help to improve these outcomes by:

- Always acting in the best interests of the child
- Helping a child to lead a normal a life as possible and manage the usual risks associated with a child's life
- Providing guidance and support to its staff and Foster Carers
- Working in partnership with all relevant local authorities and agencies
- Providing an inclusive service to all parties
- Matching as carefully as possible the children and fostering families
- Providing adequate training and supervision to Foster Carers and staff.

This agency understands that the best possible outcomes for a child can only be achieved if stability is provided in their lives. Stability can only be achieved if children and Foster Carers are generally happy and this can be helped by careful and considered matching.

Ansacare will strive to be the best provider possible in order to fulfil its primary aims and objectives.

ANSACARE Provides Fostering Services for children aged 0-18 yrs:

Short term and long term placements

Respite

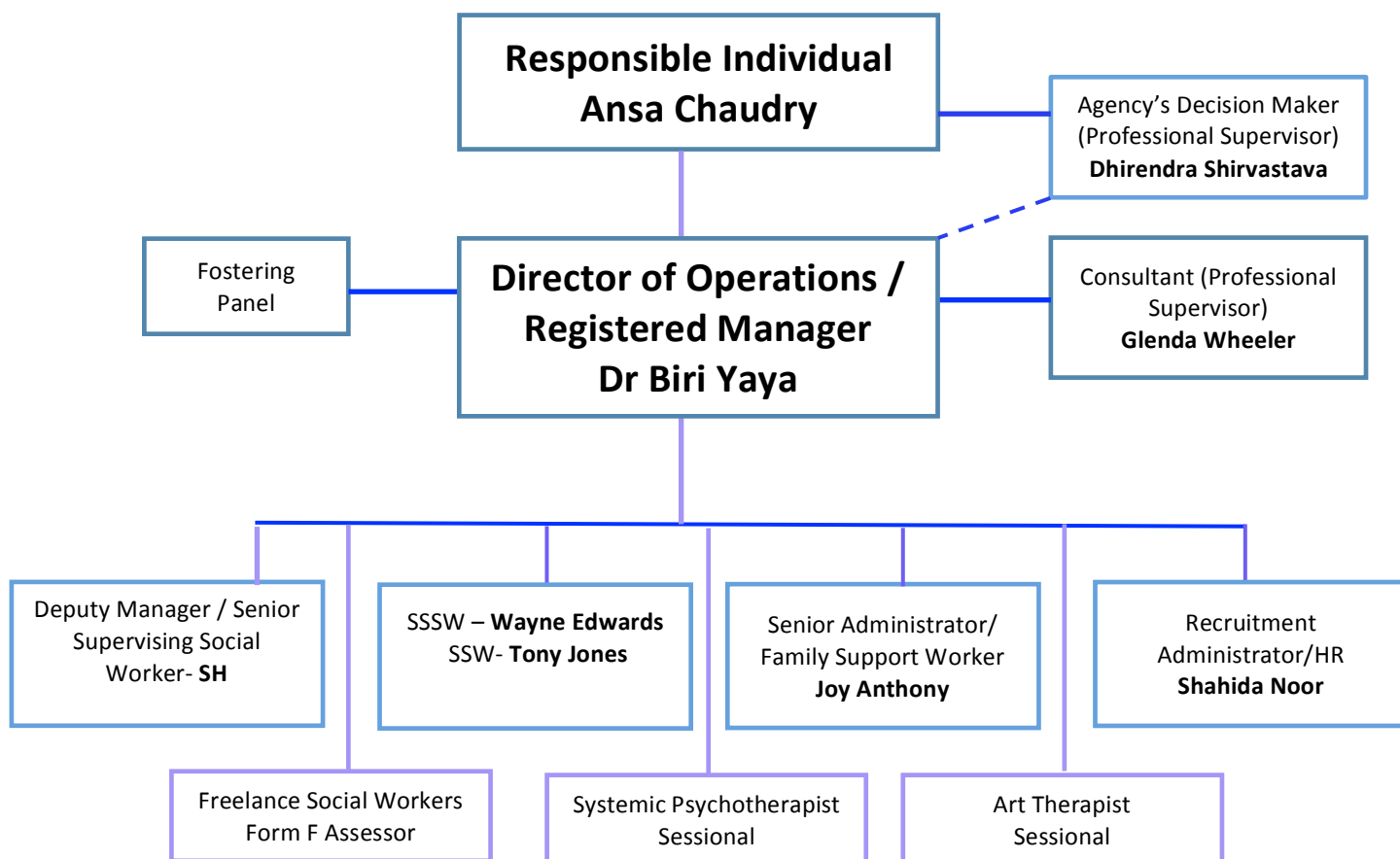
Parent and child

Emergency and planned placements

Remand

It may also be possible to provide additional support services following consultation and fee agreement with the respective local authority.

ORGANISATION'S STRUCTURE



The Registered Manager is responsible for the day to day practice of the agency, whilst ensuring that the best possible outcomes are met for the children by good recruitment, training and matching procedures as advised in the company's guidance, policies and procedures.

Monitoring of Schedule 6 events and Schedule 7 notifications is another responsibility of the RM.

The RM is also **legally** responsible for the children's safety (The Designated Safeguarding Officer) and ensuring that their wishes and feelings are sought.

The Registered Manager is accountable to the Responsible Individual and must provide regular reports. A Deputy Manager/Senior Supervising Social Worker assists the RM with management procedures and is the acting manager when the RM is absent.

Qualified Supervising Social Workers are in place in order to advise, support and supervise the Foster Carers. They participate in the agency's out of hours service, and will attend all necessary meetings as required.

Ansacare's Senior Administrator is equally important in aiding the smooth running of the company. She is an excellent support to all staff and is often the first point of contact for the Carers. Tasks can be varied in order to suit the business needs of the agency.

Ansacare's Fostering Panel runs as independently as possible from the agency. The Chair and Vice-Chair are very experienced individuals who lead a knowledgeable and varied pool of members who are held on a central list. The role of the Panel is to consider Form F assessments for new carers, and Annual Reviews of existing Carers. The Panel may also consider reports and extraordinary reviews where there have been concerns or allegations involving the Foster Carers.

Panel can only make recommendations to the Agency Decision Maker as to whether they feel applicants are able to be approved as foster Carers, and also whether it is right to recommend re-approval of existing carers. They may also make recommendations for certain actions to be carried out, or considered, before approval takes place, or any changes in the agency's practice.

Freelance and support staff are available to carry out specific tasks on an ad hoc basis.

Ansacare's Process for Supporting Foster Carers

An 'on call' duty social worker available out of office hours

Regular supervision from a Qualified Social Worker

Support from a Supervising Social Worker at meetings when necessary

Telephone calls if required

Open access to all staff

Regular training and support groups, including mandatory Skills to Foster

Opportunity for carers to give feedback on the agency's practice

Occasional organised events for carers and/or children

Company managed savings for all children, thus relieving carers of this task

Recruitment of Staff

Ansacare follow national guidance around safe recruitment and undertake all necessary DBS checks and take up and confirm at least two references, including a current or recent employer.

Recruitment of Foster Carers

Ansacare undertakes careful scrutiny of applicants and those stating an interest in becoming Foster Carers. DBS and local authority checks are carried out as is a full Form F assessment for presentation to the Independent Panel.

Complaints/Compliments

This agency has a thorough process for making and investigating any complaint or concern.

It is to be hoped that, initially, any complaint or concern can be dealt with by the Supervising Social Worker. If the issue is not satisfactorily resolved at this informal stage, then the matter can be referred up to the Manager, and, if necessary, the Responsible Individual.

In an instance of the complainant not feeling that the matter has been resolved to their satisfaction, then they can contact the Chief Inspector at:

Ofsted

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills

Piccadilly Gate

Store Street

Manchester

M1 2WD

Tel: 0300 123 1231

Email: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk

Ansacare positively welcome any compliments that individuals or agencies may make about our service and/or staff. A compliment raises a smile from all members of the team here and helps to make our day brighter.