

FOSTERPLUS SCOTLAND

DUTY OF CANDOUR ANNUAL REPORT ( JANUARY 2020 – JANUARY 2021)

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**1. Number of incidents to which the Duty of Candour has applied**

There have been 0 Duty of Candour incidents during the reporting period. This Annual Report period covers the period up to 31/01/21.

**2. Assessment of the extent to which the Responsible Person has carried out the Duty of Candour**

As indicated above. There have been 0 Duty of Candour incidents during the reporting period.

**3. Fosterplus Scotland policy and procedures in relation to Duty of Candour.**

- Fosterplus Scotland have implemented a Duty of Candour Procedure and this has been shared with Fosterplus Scotland staff and foster parents. Fosterplus Scotland staff and foster parents have also received training in relation to the procedure.
- Fosterplus Scotland Management team have oversight of significant events affecting looked after children and events affecting foster parents and their birth family members. Such events are monitored on a day to day basis and are reported monthly to the board.
- Duty of Candour is included on the Fosterplus Scotland Critical Incident and Notifiable Event reporting schedule and this provides a mechanism for triggering and reporting a Duty of Candour incident.

**4. Support Available to Staff/persons affected by Duty of Candour Incidents**

In the event of a Duty of Candour Incident occurring and impacting upon staff, children, foster parents and/or their birth families the agency would utilise the skills of qualified Therapists to provide skilled support to those affected. In addition, the Responsible Person and management team would provide emotional/practical support to staff via the normal line management processes. Fosterplus Scotland is aware of the requirement to work in partnership with other services such as health and placing authorities in relation to Duty of Candour Incidents, and therefore would consult with relevant professionals and organisations to identify the most appropriate way of supporting children/young people placed with the agency; and/or members of the fostering household.

**5. Changes or Learning as a result of Duty of Candour Implementation**

There have been no further changes made to policy and procedure since implementation as Fosterplus Scotland has not experienced a Duty of Candour Incident.

This Annual Report will be shared with staff and foster parents through the foster parent newsletter.

Ben Furlong

Quality Assurance Manager

Fosterplus Scotland.