



Title/Status-	CRITERIA- Adoption & Special Guardianship Support Fund (ASGSF) regarding Match Funding
New Document or Revised	New
Date Approved SMT	April 2024
Responsible Head of Service	Children In Care
Review Due Date	April 2025

Leicestershire Procedure for CRITERIA: Adoption & Special Guardianship Support Fun (ASGSF) regarding Match Funding

Applies to- Looked after Children

Criteria for Adoption and Special Guardianship Support Fund (ASGSF) regarding Match Funding

The application must be unusual, not typical, and there must be a need that requires immediate action or attention. All requests will be allocated to a Social Worker who will undertake a holistic assessment of need and determine whether match funding is required alongside other interventions.

The assessment of need and rationale for match funding will have to be endorsed by the Team Manager before being presented by the allocated Social Worker to the Service Manager and Head of Service over Adoption. They will consider and decide on each application for match funding on its individual circumstance and requirement.

The following criteria aligns with that of the ASGSF who would consider each application once Local Authority agreement had been secured.

- a high risk of adoption breakdown without high-cost support

This means the adoption is at risk of breaking down without the further funding – it doesn't necessarily relate to the high cost per hour. Please note, if the hourly rate of the provider is higher than ASGSF expect, this will be queried.

If this is selected, ASGSF would expect to see further information on the family situation that suggests the risk of adoption breakdown.

- Local Authorities and RAAs dealing with an unusually high number of complex cases that they cannot afford to fund without additional support from the ASGSF.

This is for the LA/RAA to determine what the unusually high number could be. Not all cases require the same support. More complex cases usually require a higher level of intervention therefore, more funding.

- additional funding would help to progress hard-to-place adoptions.

Recipients can only access ASGSF after they have been placed. Hard-to-place adoptions/complex family situation usually requires a higher level of intervention, therefore, requires more funding.

- a lack of available, affordable therapeutic support means higher cost provision is required.

Some areas in England have more available therapeutic support than others. Those with less available support tend to have higher prices.

Date Agreed by SMT-29/04/2024.

Date to be Reviewed-29/04/2025.