

# Decision Making Matrix

## Designated Managers and Forums with key decision-making responsibilities

Designated Managers with Specified Area of Responsibility	Post Title/ Forum
<p><b>Agency Decision Maker (Adoption)</b></p> <p>The Agency Decision Maker who makes decisions on all adoption matters (some of which will be made on the basis of a recommendation of the Adoption Panel).</p>	Assistant Director Children's Social Care
<p><b>Agency Decision Maker (Fostering)</b></p> <p>The Agency Decision Maker who makes decisions on fostering matters (on the basis of recommendations of the Fostering Panel).</p>	Corporate Parenting Manager



<p><b>Designated Manager (Adoption Panel Appointments)</b></p> <p>The manager who can authorise appointments to the Central List of Adoption Panel members.</p>	<p>Adopt North East</p>
<p><b>Designated Manager (Adoption Support)</b></p> <p>The manager who can authorise the level of adoption support to be provided to children, adopters (including financial support) and their family or birth family members.</p>	<p>Corporate Parenting Manager</p>
<p><b>Designated Manager (Care Plans)</b></p> <p>The manager who can authorise the final Care Plan to be taken before the Court within Care Proceedings.</p>	<p>Service Managers</p>
<p><b>Designated Manager (Care Proceedings)</b></p> <p>The manager who can authorise the initiating of Care Proceedings.</p>	<p>Service Managers/ Legal Panel (legal clinics from 1 July 2020)</p>



<p><b>Designated Manager (Change of Name)</b></p> <p>The manager who can authorise the change of name of a Looked After Child.</p>	<p>Assistant Director Children's Social Care</p>
<p><b>Designated Manager (Contact with Parents)</b></p> <p>The manager who can authorise the suspension or termination of contact between a Looked After child and his or her parents (subject to the Court's approval after 7 days for children on Emergency Protection Orders, Interim Care Orders or Care Orders).</p>	<p>Service Managers</p>
<p><b>Designated Manager (Death or Serious Injury to a Child)</b></p> <p>The senior manager who should be notified in the event of death or serious injury to a child.</p>	<p>Assistant Director Children's Social Care</p>



<p><b>Designated Manager (Decision to Look After)</b></p> <p>The manager who can authorise a child becoming Looked After.</p>	<p>Assistant Director Children's Social Care / Resource and Care Panel</p>
<p><b>Designated Manager (Emigration)</b></p> <p>The manager who can authorise the placement of a Looked after child outside England and Wales.</p>	<p>Assistant Director Children's Social Care/ Resource and Care Panel</p>
<p><b>Designated Manager (Exemptions and Extensions from Fostering Limit)</b></p> <p>The manager who can authorise any exemptions from the usual fostering limit for foster carers living in the local authority area.</p>	<p>Corporate Parenting Manager</p>
<p><b>Designated Manager (External Placements)</b></p>	<p>Assistant Director Children's Social Care/ Resource and Care Panel</p>



<p>The manager who can authorise placements of Looked After children with external providers of residential care or foster carers from an independent fostering agency.</p>	
<p><b>Designated Manager (Fostering Panel Appointments)</b></p> <p>The manager who can authorise appointments to the Central List of Fostering Panel members</p>	<p>Corporate Parenting Manager</p>
<p><b>Designated Manager (Leaving Care)</b></p> <p>The manager who can approve a Pathway Plan.</p>	<p>Team Manager</p>
<p><b>Designated Manager (Marriage)</b></p> <p>The manager who can authorise the marriage of a Looked After child.</p>	<p>Assistant Director Children's Social Care</p>
<p><b>Designated Manager (Notifications)</b></p>	<p>Director of Children, Education and Skills</p>



<p>Where a Looked After Child from another local authority has been placed in the area, the manager to whom the notification should be sent.</p>	
<p><b>Designated Manager (Passports)</b></p> <p>The manager who can authorise a passport application for a Looked After child.</p>	<p>Assistant Director Children's Social Care</p>
<p><b>Designated Manager (Placement Orders)</b></p> <p>The manager who can authorise an application for a Placement Order.</p>	<p>Assistant Director Children's Social Care</p>
<p><b>Designated Manager (Private Fostering)</b></p> <p>The manager who can approve assessments of private foster carers, impose requirements on private foster carers or decide to prohibit someone from acting as a private foster carer.</p>	<p>Service Manager</p>



## Designated Manager (Secure Accommodation)

The manager who can authorise:

A placement of a Looked After child in secure accommodation for up to 72 hours without a Secure Accommodation Order; and/or

An application for a Secure Accommodation Order; and/or

A child's continued secure placement on the recommendation of the Secure Accommodation Review Panel; and/or

Applications to renewal Secure Accommodation Orders on the recommendation of the Secure Accommodation Review Panel.

Director of Children, Education and Skills / Assistant Director Children's Social Care

## Designated Manager (Special Guardianship)

The manager who can authorise Special Guardianship as the permanence plan for a Looked After child.

Service Manager

**Newcastle  
Children's  
Social Care**

Child Centred

Working Together

Family Solutions

Safely at Home

Balanced Response

Challenge and Support



<p><b>Designated Manager (Special Guardianship Support)</b></p> <p>The manager who can authorise the level of special guardianship support to be provided, including financial support to special guardians.</p>	<p>Service Manager/ Community Arrangements Panel</p>
<p><b>Nominated Officer (Disruption of Education)</b></p> <p>The manager who can authorise the change of placement affecting a Looked After Child in Key Stage 4.</p>	<p>Assistant Director Children's Social Care/ Resource and Care Panel</p>
<p><b>Nominated Officer (Fostering for Adoption)</b></p> <p>The person who can authorise Fostering for Adoption.</p>	<p>Corporate Parenting Manager</p>





<p><b>Nominated Officer (Out of Area Placements)</b></p> <p>The manager who can authorise the placement of a Looked After child outside the area of the local authority.</p>	<p>Assistant Director Children's Social Care</p>
<p><b>Nominated Officer (Immediate Placement of a Looked After Child with Connected Person)</b></p> <p>The manager who can authorise the placement of a Looked After child with a family or friend ('Connected Person') who is not already approved as a foster carer.</p>	<p>Service Manager</p>



## Nominated Officer (Placement of a Looked After Child subject to Care Order or Interim Care Order with Parents)

The manager who can authorise the placement of a Looked After child with a parent, person with Parental Responsibility or person who held a Residence Order/Child Arrangements Order specifying with whom the child was to reside immediately before the Care Order.

Assistant Director Children's Social Care

