

Adopt London RAA project – FAQs – January 2018

- **How will the LRAA ensure we don't lose the benefits of close physical working with children's social work teams?**

This is a very important question and an area that the Project Teams will be working on over the coming months. It is crucial for the success of the RAAs that communication between the RAA and the boroughs remains very close. We will want to build on what works well at the moment and we know that the most successful boroughs in adoption have regular meetings to discuss and track children in their permanency planning. This will not change when the RAA are set up. We will be expecting staff from the RAA to still attend these meetings in order to be aware of the children that are likely to need an adoptive family at the earliest point possible. What will be different is that the RAA will have a bigger pool of adopters for potential matches for the child both within their area but also across the other areas in London. It is true that adoption staff will not be physically based in the same office but an important part of the future work is ensuring that working relationships remain strong between each local authority and the RAAs.

- **How will the LRAA decide which boroughs should be hosts? Is there selection criteria?**

The process has been part of a collaboration between all the London Boroughs. The boroughs in the four areas have agreed between themselves about who the host will be and they have all agreed that they will fully support the hosts in setting up the new RAAs. There was no selection process required as the boroughs have all agreed and supported the authorities that have kindly volunteered to host.