

Children and Families Directorate

Care and Justice Division
Looked After Children Unit

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To: All fostering agencies, foster carers
social workers and support services

Our ref:

30 October 2015

Dear All,

CONSULTATION ON DRAFT DECISION MAKING GUIDANCE FOR FOSTER CARERS

I am pleased to be able to enclose draft "Decision Making Guidance for Foster Carers" which has been prepared to help foster carers with the many day to day decisions they are required to make in relation issues affecting the children they care for.

The Scottish Government commissioned the Scottish Child Law Centre to develop this guidance in response to representations from the Fostering Network on behalf of foster carers. This draft guidance has been subject to informal consultation with a focus group of foster carers, Social Work Scotland's Adoption and Fostering sub group and Action for Sick Children. All provided helpful input and I would like to take this opportunity to thank them for their contributions.

We are now consulting with the wider foster care community to request any further input prior to final publication. We have prepared some questions in Annex A to help you with this but please do offer comment on any issues you feel are important. Given that this resource is primarily aimed at foster carers, can I please ask all fostering agencies to ensure that a copy of this letter and the draft guidance is passed on to their foster carers.

Please send your responses by email to looked_after_children@gov.scot by **30 November 2015**.

Yours sincerely

HEATHER BROWN

ANNEX A

1. Are there any areas within the guidance where greater clarification would be helpful?

2. Are there any other areas which should be covered by this guidance?

3. Are there other means of support which it would be helpful to signpost foster carers to?

4. Are there other groups (e.g. parents of looked after children) that should be made aware of this guidance?