

## **NATIONAL ADOPTION SERVICE AND FOSTER WALES JOINT COMMITTEE**

**WEDNESDAY, 24TH SEPTEMBER, 2025**

**Present:** Councillor Jane Tremlett (Carmarthenshire Council)  
(Chairperson),

Councillors Edmunds, E. Williams, King, D. Jones,  
Minett-Vokes, Chandler, Harris, Lacey, Davies,  
Gibbard, A. Williams, Walsh, C, Jones, Rees  
(substitute for Cllr Caple), Haines (substitute for  
Cllr Gebbie).

**Also present:** Cllr Healy, Pritchard

**Officers:** Leanne Weston,  
Nikki Kingham,  
Gary Jones

**Apologies:** Cllr Gebbie, Forehead, Lister, Augustine,  
Trenholme, Caple, Clark.

### **20 Apologies for Absence**

Cllr Jane Gebbie - Bridgend  
Cllr Elaine Forehead - Caerphilly  
Cllr Ash Lister – Cardiff  
Cllr Cathy Augustine – Conwy  
Cllr Menna Trenholme – Gwynedd  
Cllr Gareth Caple – RCT  
Cllr Richard Clark – Torfaen

### **21 Declarations of Interest**

There were none.

### **22 Minutes**

The minutes from the meeting on 29th November, 2024, were approved as a true and accurate record by Cllr Ian Chandler and seconded by Cllr Eddie Williams.  
Minutes were agreed.

### **23 National Adoption Service and Foster Wales Joint Committee Quoracy**

The Agenda Item allowed members to consider a report on behalf of the Director of Operations on the process to reduce the quoracy requirements of the Joint Committee, seeking the recommendation to proceed with a Deed of Variation, to the current Joint Committee agreement, to reduce the required quoracy level for committee meetings from 60% to 40%.

**Wednesday, 24th September, 2025**

The Chair welcomed Nikki Kingham (Head of Business and Enabling - National Adoption Service and Foster Wales), and she was invited to present the report, in which the background to the report was explained, as well as the reasons behind the recommendation to reduce the quoracy. It was also explained that should the recommendations be agreed, then the next steps would be for a Deed of Variation to amend the Joint Committee agreement for quoracy from 60% (14 elected members) to 40% (9 elected members) and include 3 of the 5 adoption regions, would be developed and sent to each of the 22 Local Authorities for consideration and approval in conjunction with their own arrangements.

Members commented that this change was needed, but also that the importance of these meetings should be considered and that reducing quoracy should not take away from this. Members commented that something does need to happen to make the committee a functioning one, and that ensuring that the reduced quoracy includes representation from 3 adoption regions was an important element of this. Suggestions were made that better diary marking and planning also needs to happen to ensure better attendance.

The Chair then explained that the Monitoring officer had advised that a formal vote would be needed to confirm the views of each Authority and that each Cllr would be contacted in turn in this meeting, in Council alphabetical order, and the vote noted by officers. If there is a tie, the Chair would have the casting vote. The Chair then handed over to officers to conduct the vote.

16 Cllrs voted and all votes were in favour of the recommendations.

**RESOLVED** – That the necessary amendments to the Joint Committee Agreement are made, via a Deed of Variation, which should be shared with each Local Authority for consideration and approval.

Date of next meeting is to be confirmed.

Meeting ended at 11.19am.

**Duration of the meeting:** 11.00 - 11.19 am

Chairman at the meeting on  
Wednesday, 24 September 2025