

coramBAAF
adoption • fostering • kinship



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Permanence and kinship care

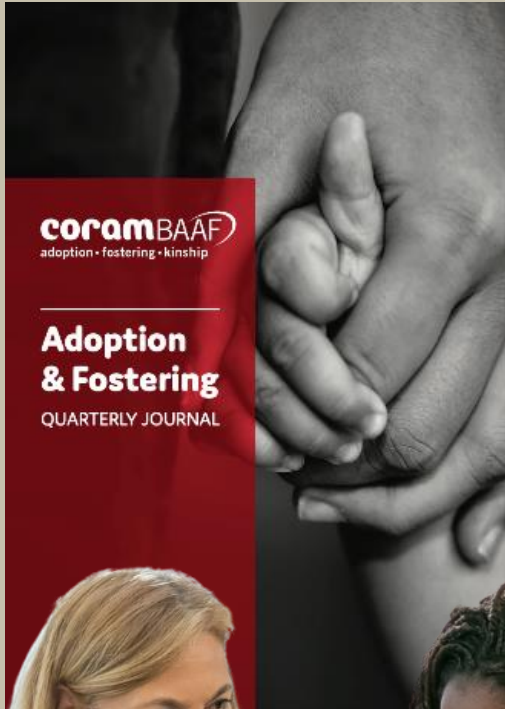
30.4.24

Ann Horne and Clare Seth

Who are we?



Available as an eBook



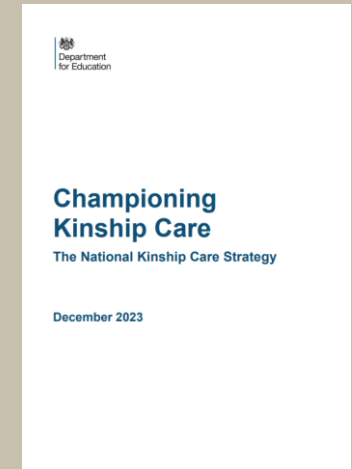
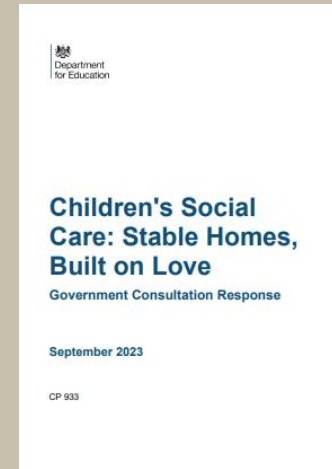
94%
of all local authorities
in England, Wales,
Scotland and Northern
Ireland are members.

Exercise

- 3 mins – Don't over think it and be honest with yourself
- Identify a child in your network whom you love and care about eg grandchild, niece/nephew, family friend, sibling
- Imagine they came to live with you and your partner/family tomorrow
- List down in what ways this would impact on your life
- Thinking about the child you love, why would you want them to come and live with you



Kinship care - context



- [Championing kinship care: the national kinship care strategy \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk)

[Understanding Formal Kinship Care Arrangements in England](#) [Analysis of Administrative Data \(foundations.org.uk\) 2022](#)

- Regional variation is significant and reasons as yet not fully understood
- Kinship Foster Care as a % of CiC – varies 4% - 39%
- SGO as a % of children exiting care – varies 2% - 27%
- Children from minoritised ethnic groups under-represented in formal kinship care compared to numbers of these children in care
- Stability generally good, and those children who do move on often move to other family members or reunify with a parent
- Outcomes as good as and sometimes better than children in other types of care

Kinship care – context

[New research shows a third of local authorities are failing on kinship care obligations \(frg.org.uk\)](https://www.frg.org.uk)

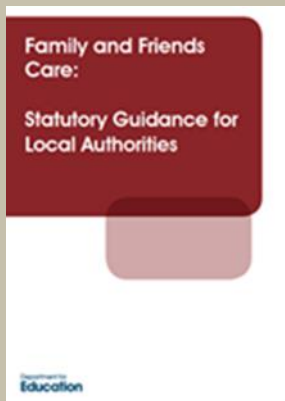


Kinship care – statutory guidance

- 33% - no up to date policy accessible to kinship families
- 50% - no identified manager
- 75% - no signposting to other support services
- 75% - no information re FGCs

[Family and Friends Care Statutory Guidance 2011](#)

- Updated Kinship Care Statutory Guidance – 2024



Kinship care – assessment

- “reasonable, proportionate and treat family members with trust, whilst prioritising the safety of the child” (NKS 23 pp16)
- Impact of court timescales and PLO
- Form K – strengths-based and trauma-informed, prioritises voice of child and meaning of pre-existing relationship

[Key findings from the last two decades of UK research on kinship care - Family Rights Group \(frg.org.uk\) 2020](#)

**Kinship care
- support**

- Needs change over time
- Support should be based on need not past or current legal status
- Postcode lottery

**Kinship care
– over to
you**

www.menti.com

Kinship care – the journey

- Family first culture
- Kinship care social work practice
- Permanency planning
- Accessibility of support

Discussion

- How does your LA demonstrate a family first culture?
- Think of a kinship family you know, and discuss their journey in your LAs from identification as a prospective carer to post-order support.
- Do your kinship processes enable effective permanency planning?



CoramBAAF Events

- [Kinship Care Practice Forum | CoramBAAF](#)
- 19th June 2024
- 23rd October 2024
- 26th February 2025

- [Getting started in... | CoramBAAF](#)

- [SAVE THE DATE: Kinship Conference | CoramBAAF](#)

- [Training & events programme | CoramBAAF](#)