

Meeting summary

7 July 2023 | 10.30am–1.00pm | Zoom

1. Ofsted inspections

There had been no Ofsted inspections since the last meeting.

2. Disruptions

Members discussed their practice around disruption and differences in relation to being invited to the whole meeting and receiving redacted minutes/Chair's summary only.

3. Cumbria Review, CPR & RAA project updates

A Task and Finish Group with representatives from CoramBAAF, the RAA Leaders Group, Department for Education and ADCS have been meeting to discuss the recommendations coming out of the Cumbria review. CoramBAAF and National Adoption Strategy colleagues were commissioned to write a briefing paper; publication is expected in summer 2023.

Jane Poore gave an update on the forms revision work that CoramBAAF is currently undertaking. See more details on the work [here](#). Form F, Form C and CPR are being updated. Consultants are leading working groups as part of the revision process. The draft CPR will go out for consultation in the autumn. To be available early 2024.

4. Annual chair's report

Members discussed their practice around this issue – who writes the report and maintaining independence as 'Chair'.

5. Minutes

Members discussed the style and format of minutes and what 'good' minutes should look like. Practice varies. Item to be discussed further at joint Adoption Panel Chairs and Adoption Panel Advisers Practice Forum in October.

6. CoramBAAF policy and practice briefing

Jane Poore highlighted sections from the briefing:

- [The Black Care Experience Charter](#). CoramBAAF have signed up to this. There are eight commitments asking people to sign up to two of these and implement into their practice.
- Chief Archivist, Sarah Wickham – presented at an [Exploring Expertise webinar on Accessing records for care-experienced and adopted people](#). Members can provide feedback up until 31 July. Sarah will be presenting a session at the Adoption Practice Forum on 25 July.



7. Staying in touch plans and other direct contact issues

One of the Chairs had attended a Coram workshop on mothers who had managed to stay in touch with their adopted child. They had talked about their experiences which had been very moving. A discussion followed about how contact was managed in agencies. In conclusion Jane Poore said that there is a gradual shift in modernising adoption and adoption being more open.

8. Any other business

Age and adoption matches were discussed.

Future agenda items

- Minutes (styles, formats)
- Update on Letter Swap Pilot (tbc)

Date of next meetings:

Annual joint meeting of Adoption Panel Chairs and Adoption Panel Advisers – 20 October 2023,
9.30am – 1.00pm, Zoom

Adoption Panel Chairs – 8 March 2024, 9.30am – 12.00pm, Zoom

Sign up [here](#)