**006050 – Provision of Independent Fostering Services - Provider Event 3**

A Provider Event is to be held on 5 July 2018 for Providers of Independent Fostering Services. We are embarking on a joint Commissioning exercise to review current arrangements across the North East region. The process will be led by Newcastle City Council, as the Lead Spoke Authority to explore options for future contracting arrangements.

Since the creation of existing arrangements in the North of the region, the Public Contract Regulations (PCR’s) have been amended which gives us greater flexibility to create bespoke solutions for these types of services. The North East Collaborative will be taking full advantage of this flexibility in the PCR’s to identify the most appropriate and ‘fit for purpose’ solution to put in place from 2019 onwards when the existing arrangements in the North of our region ends.

At the same time we will be combining our two current regional solutions (North and South) into one regional collaborative arrangement as a part of a longer-term approach.

Group discussions will take place with Providers to explore:

1. A proposed Financial Model for the new solution
2. Specifications for Levels within the Lotting Structure

The Provider Event will be held on 5 July 2018 2:00pm to 4:00pm at The Work Place, Aycliffe Business Park, Heighington Lane, Newton Aycliffe, DL5 6AH.

Please confirm your attendance by email to:

Linzi McMeekin

Commissioning and Procurement Officer

IFA Single Point of Contact

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Please ensure you provide Linzi with **all** of the following information:

1. Name of attendees
2. Role of attendees
3. Email and phone number for attendees
4. Organisation attendees will be representing
5. Setting attendees will be representing