**006050 – NEPO Provision of Independent Fostering Services**

**Tender Ready Session**

A Tender Ready Session is to be held on Thursday 4 July 2019 for Providers of Independent Fostering Services.

Over the past 18 months, significant engagement and consultation has taken place between Providers and the North East Local Authorities to develop a new service and Financial Model that would be viable for both the Provider Market and the Participating Authorities.

A Final Commissioning Model is in the process of being signed off by the Regional Governance Structure, and subject to approval at the beginning of July, a final feedback document and Commissioning Model will be published to Providers.

Although we are still in the Commissioning Phase, the Lead Authority is preparing to go out to Tender, provided Elected Members agree the Final Commissioning Model so that the Commissioning phase will close, and we move into the Procurement Phase. We would therefore like to invite Providers of these services to a free Tender Ready Session where, in advance of the tender being published, you can get advice and support on how to complete tender documentation.

This session will take place on Thursday 4 July at The Durham Centre Ltd, Belmont Industrial Estate, Durham, DH1 1TN, from 10.00am to 12.30pm.

Please confirm your attendance by email to:

Linzi McMeekin

Commissioning and Procurement Officer

IFA Single Point of Contact

Newcastle City Council

linzi.mcmeekin@newcastle.gov.uk

0191 211 5870

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

If you are unable to attend this event, any presentation shared at this event will be published on the NEPO electronic tendering portal [www.nepo.org](http://www.nepo.org) on 5 July 2019.