**007585 - NEPO603 – Provision of Independent Fostering Services**

**Invitation to Provider Event**

A Provider Event is to be held on 1 July 2021, for Providers of Independent Fostering Services to develop a new commissioning model for contract arrangements commencing April 2022.

Currently we have two regional procurement solutions in operation and the 12 North East councils would like to work together with the Provider Market to design a new single solution for the region.

The process is being jointly led by Newcastle City Council (lead authority for the North of the region) and Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council (lead authority for the South of the region), to explore options for future contracting arrangements.

Due to the current Covid restrictions, a virtual Provider Event will take place and you will have the opportunity to express your views on potential model/s. On the day, we will also provide feedback from earlier Post Card engagement during April 2021, as to what key feedback we received. You will be able to ask any questions regarding the collaborative arrangement along with timescales and your views and feedback we receive on the day will support the development of our new fostering services.

**The Provider Event will be held via Microsoft Teams on Thursday 1 July 2021 at 1:00 pm through to 4:00 pm. Could we please request that a maximum of two delegates attend the event from each organisation.**

Please confirm your attendance by email to Emma Russell using this email address, emma.russell@redcar-cleveland.gov.uk so that you can be added into the calendar appointment for the Provider Event once confirmed.

Please ensure you provide Emma 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

We welcome your attendance at this event and would encourage all Providers who we currently do business with us, and Providers who don’t who would like to start working with the North East councils, to give their views and feedback to help shape our new service offer from April 2022.