

Media Statement – 20th July 2017

The Irish Foster Care Association welcomes the HIQA inspection report on Foster Care in the Cork Region

The Irish Foster Care Association (IFCA) welcomes the HIQA inspection report on foster care services in the Cork Area and the subsequent action plan response to address the non-compliances identified on inspection.

IFCA is a strong advocate for ongoing monitoring and inspection of all foster care services in Ireland. It is only with ongoing inspections and reports by HIQA that we can ensure that the most vulnerable children are receiving the best care possible and that foster carers are being supported in the important service they provide.

IFCA is disappointed to see so many standards were found to be non-compliant such as Garda vetting, complaints management, safe guarding and ongoing assessment and many others. Many of the findings of the inspection reflect issues that have continually been identified in IFCA's National Support Service annual and mid-year reviews and at meetings with Tusla. IFCA has a commitment from the local Tusla area to engage in a process to further highlight and address many of the issues raised.

IFCA acknowledges Tusla's undertaking that it is putting an action plan in place to address those areas of concern noted in the report.

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