



To: **Adoption Matters Northwest**, 14 Liverpool Road, Chester, Cheshire, CH2 1AE

Name of parish:

Name:

Address:

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Tel no:

I am willing for you to regard me as your Parish Advocate. Please send me a Parish Advocate's Pack.

OR

I am unable to commit myself, but would suggest you contact:

Name:

Address:

.....

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Tel no:

Adoption Matters Northwest, a company limited by guarantee incorporating Blackburn Diocesan Adoption Agency and Chester Diocesan Adoption Services • Registered in England (No 1617324) • Registered Charity No 512892
14 Liverpool Road, Chester, CH2 1AE • Tel: 01244 390938 • Fax: 01244 390067
E-mail: info@adoptionmattersnw.org • Website: www.adoptionmattersnw.org

Approved as an adoption agency by Ofsted



The Parish Advocate's Role

Who are we?

Adoption Matters Northwest is a specialist voluntary adoption agency which operates in the north west of England and north east Wales. The Agency incorporates Blackburn Diocesan Adoption Agency and Adoption Matters (formerly Chester Diocesan Adoption Services).

The new agency has a combined history of over 110 years. Over the years, well over 3,500 children have been placed with adoptive families, and both agencies have been at the forefront of innovation in adoption service development.

Adoption Matters Northwest provides a comprehensive service to all those whose lives are touched by adoption, including birth parents and other family members, adopted people and adoptive parents. Each of these groups has equal importance before, during and after the adoption process.

Adoption Matters Northwest helps children from this area to **BUILD A BRIGHTER FUTURE.**

YOU can help us achieve more!

The Parish Advocate's Role

Adoption Matters Northwest sees the Parish Advocates' role as vital. They help raise our profile within the parishes, encourage interest in our work and motivate financial support.

Adoption Matters Northwest, through Shirley Leslie, our Parish Advocate Co-ordinator, will give you support and answer any queries you might have about your role.

We will provide you with regular supplies of stationery, our newsletter, annual reviews, leaflets etc. If you would like someone to visit your parish, she can arrange this too.

Shirley can be contacted by email at shirley.leslie@btinternet.com

What you can do to help us

Listed below are just some of the ways in which you as a Parish Advocate can help our agency:

- Display our leaflets, posters, newsletters, publicity etc in your church;
- Pass on information to the PCC and the congregation. This may help them to consider Adoption Matters Northwest as part of their planned regular giving programme;
- To include the work of Adoption Matters Northwest regularly in your intercessions;
- Pass on material, including articles, to your parish newsletter/magazine editor;
- Make your clergy aware of our Family Services Pack and our willingness to speak at services or group meetings;
- Perhaps an offering could be taken for Adoption Matters Northwest at a special service;
- Hold a fundraising event, coffee morning etc. We can provide more ideas. Perhaps you could join with a neighbouring parish;
- Be a collecting point for our collection boxes;
- Promote when appropriate our merchandise.

What to do next

If you are interested in becoming a Parish Advocate or know of someone who may be interested, please complete the form on the back of this leaflet and return it to Adoption Matters Northwest. Thank you for taking time to read this leaflet.