and Families Act 2014, which gives children in care the choice to stay with their foster families until they turn 21, to children in homes, so they too have the same opportunity.

FATHERS AND FAMILIES

UKIP wants fathers to be more involved in their children's lives.

To help prevent thousands of fathers losing contact with their children each year when couples break up, UKIP will legislate for an initial presumption of 50-50 shared parenting in child residency matters.

Grandparents will also be given visiting rights, unless it can be shown to the satisfaction of the Family Court that there is a good reason to withhold such rights.

We will also review the Family Court system, with the intention of implementing independent lay oversight of Family Courts, to ensure that necessary confidentiality does not prevent proper scrutiny in this and all areas of Family Law.

A FAR-REACHING CHILD CARE REVIEW

A misplaced sensitivity to issues of race and religion, combined with fear, has been shown to have stopped many investigations into the abuse of children. There is also concern among the public at rising levels of 'forced' adoptions. Some of those charged with protecting children in care are letting serious cases of abuse and maltreatment slip through the net. Our children's wellbeing lags behind many of our European neighbours and we are seeing alarming rates of self-harm and poor mental health.

UKIP is committed to bringing forward a full, open review of all childcare and child protection services in Britain, with a view to initiating wholesale reform of a system that is clearly failing.

Our children deserve better and UKIP will investigate failings without fear or favour to deliver a safer, brighter, fairer future for our children.

