

## **Multi-Agency Partnership Responsibilities**

### **For CP conferences**

The following is the professional standards for partnership working with children and young people who are subject to or where a request for CP planning. The following provides you with a step by step guide of what you are expected to contribute as a bare minimum for Looked after Children.

#### **Request for CP conference**

- Request for conference is made after the conclusion of the S47 and where the supporting assessment determines continued risk of or likely risk of significant harm.
- Social worker requests CP Conference with agreement from the multi-agency strategy meeting.
- Where the social worker does not agree to a CP conference the partnership will need to request the conference independently.
- The SCU consider the request and where it is agreed the conference is arranged within 15 days of the initial strategy meeting agreeing the S47.
- If conference is not agreed the rationale for this decision will be shared with the professional requesting the meeting. This should then be shared with the partners involved in the case.

#### **Initial Conference**

- Social worker will contact the family and ensure that they are aware of the CP and the process.
- The SCU will send out invites to those invited to the conference agencies will attend and provide a report 2 days prior to the date of the conference to the Safeguarding Children Unit.
- Agencies will share their report with parents 2 days prior to the conference in order to provide family with the opportunity to seek advice or challenge the report prior to the date of conference.
- Where a professional is unable to attend they will identify a representative to attend on their behalf and ensure that their colleague has all the relevant information.
- The multi-agency partners will listen to the information shared and will make a decision regarding Child Protection planning.
- Agencies will contribute to the child protection plan or in the event a CP plan is not implemented the CIN plan.
- The outline Child protection plan will be shared with agencies within 24 hours of the meeting having taken place.
- The notes from the conference will be circulated within 15 working days of the meeting.

#### **Core Group**

- Core groups will take place every 4 weeks, its role is to ensure appropriate and effective planning to reduce risks to the child.
- Agencies will take a copy of the CP plan with them to the meeting, they will;
  - identify support from their agency,
  - update on progress to the plan,
  - support problem solving,
  - creatively support the child and family to make effective changes,
  - understand the aspirations of the child and support their achievements,
  - challenge partners and family when changes are not made or support is not provided /accepted.

- At every core group, agencies will provide their view on continuing risks for the child and ensure that the core group plan is reflective of those risks.
- Notes from the core group will be circulated within 15 working days of the meeting

### **Review Child Protection Conference**

- The review conference will determine whether the Child Protection plan is still required.
- Agencies will provide a report for the meeting which will have been shared with the family at least 2 days prior to the meeting.
- Agencies will submit their report to the Safeguarding Children's Unit 2 days prior to the meeting.
- Agencies will contribute to the sharing of information in respect of progress to the CP plan, and continuing / reducing risks.
- Agencies will ensure that where the professional cannot attend a nominated person will represent them and they will have had all the information needed to ensure that the organisational views are represented.
- The outline CP plan will be sent out within 24 hours.
- The notes from the meeting will be circulated within 15 days of the meeting.

### **Exceptional circumstances**

- Where a child has become looked after during a period of CP planning the IRO will consider the appropriateness of the CP within the first LAC meeting.
- Where a child moves out of the area, the receiving LA will be contacted to initiate a temporary Child Protection plan.
- Where the move to another LA is permanent, all relevant information and assessments will be forwarded to the receiving authority and a request for a transfer conference made. The conference should convene within 15 working days of the information and application to transfer being made.