**Strengthening families grid**

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| **HISTORIC RISKS** | **CURRENT RISKS** | **GREY AREAS** | **STRENGTHS** | **ACTION PLAN**  **‘NEXT STEPS’** |
| What have been past concerns and what harm did this cause? | What are the current dangers, how these are impacting on the needs of the children and what are the immediate risks? (neglect/ abuse/ injury etc) | What do we need to know more about? This is often the parents’ background and own vulnerabilities, it can also include third parties involved with children. | What are the strengths and support networks available to the family which can be used to help improve the child’s situation? | What needs to happen next to build safety and reduce our concerns? |
| *Clear and specific statements of harm that have occurred to any child in the care of the parent / carers. When there has been an extensive history of abuse, focus on mapping the first, worst and last incidents alongside a description of frequency e.g. how many times a week / month would the harm typically happen?* | *Specific evidence about the significant harm of abuse and/ or neglect that the child is suffering, or is at risk of suffering, due to the care that they have received, through omission or commission, from their parents/carers. Also include details about risks for children beyond parental control, those that have self-harming behaviour, are missing and/or being exploited.* | *What are the factors, issues or things that make this situation more complicated for the child, the family and professionals? For example, domestic abuse, substance misuse, mental and physical ill health, disability, poverty, social isolation, disputes between family members and with professionals, etc.* | *Who is doing what for the child, where and when, that reduces the worries and how do we know? When things feel better for the child and the family – what is this like, what is happening that is different and how can this be encouraged and developed?* | *Who is going to be following up which action and when do we expect to see a change?*  *When are we going to review the situation again with the family?* |

**Rate the situation from one to ten. One being the worst scenario and ten being the most supportive and safe scenario**