**Transfer to CiC Service – early permanence planning for very young or unborn children where permanence is expected to be outside of the family.**

Permanence planning arrangements are set out in our practice guidance:

<https://newhamchildcare.proceduresonline.com/local_resources.html>

Permanence, Policy and Procedure

Transfer of children into our looked after children service is arranged at the following key points:

* Newly arrived unaccompanied asylum seeking children
* Infants who have been relinquished for adoption
* Children looked after through Section 20 where their second review has confirmed their permanency plan for remaining looked after and where no legal proceedings are required
* Children subject to care orders at the end of public law proceedings.

For some of our other children it would be more helpful to expedite a move directly into looked after children service from assessment service, which will support a more seamless progression of their care plan into permanence. This guidance is drafted with particular reference to:

* Pre-birth assessment which determines permanence outside of the family is likely
* Assessment of very young children (2 and under) which indicates permanence outside of the family is likely
* and where legal advice is sought

Examples of these circumstance may include previous care proceedings where children were cared for outside of the family; long standing substance misuse history for the parents; no family identified in previous care proceedings

The flow chart below identifies the key decisions and arrangements for identifying children where this would be appropriate. In principle, it would be the Chair of the legal planning meeting who would authorise direct transfer to the children in care service.

**Process flow chart for direct transfer to Children in care team** (permanency pre-birth and very young children)