**S20 UNPLANNED RETURN HOME FLOWCHART**

Parent or child aged 16 or 17 expresses wish for the child to return home and/or withdraws agreement to S20 accommodation/ child returns home without LA agreement in an unplanned way.

Seek child’s views where it is the parent’s decision for them to return home prior to them returning home. For children aged 16 or 17 be mindful of their rights without undermining parents.

Consider any immediate risk to the child of their return home, seek views of team manager/HoS for consideration of whether LPM or ICPC is necessary. IRO to be informed for decision on review being brought forward.

Consult with parents, including where a child is old enough to make the decision for themselves, to agree a planned return home. Where this is not possible and child returns home, the child must be visited at home within 3 days and then weekly for the first 4 weeks.

.

Not Viable option – Risks identified.

Notify Child/ YP, Parents/Carers, IRO. ICPC to be booked where appropriate and book into LPM if considered necessary. (Follow LPM guidance)

Viable option – Proceed with Reunification.

If progressing with plan for child to return or remain at home, the form must be sent together with the IRO views and stepdown/support plan to the HoS for their written agreement. This will then be sent to the Director for authorisation before the care episode can be formally ended on Mosaic and end of IRO role.

HoS agreement to be written into case notes and Director’s approval to be uploaded into documents

STEPDOWN PLAN

Consider the following options when completing your stepdown plan and what you want/feel it will achieve to keep the child safe and/or avoid a return to care.

Arrange CIN /TAC meeting and consider  any other available support (e.g. Exploitation Team, Early Help) as well as community-based support services .

Refer for a Family Group Conference (FGC)

Consider Edge of Care referral to support reunification plan.

Identify a trusted Adult for the Child / YP.

Direct work with Child/ YP/ Parents/Carers

Reunification review meeting.

Decision on whether to continue with CIN / CP process/TAC/TAF