

Care Planning Pathways Flowchart

Child supported within SAT/SAF/CWDT:

Required for:

- *Child who is subject to pre-proceedings or proceedings.
- *Child who requires a decision to be made in respect of permanency planning i.e. sixteen/seventeen years old subject to section 20.
- *Child who is transitioning to adults services (sixteen and above).
- *Child whose placement stability is at risk.
- *Child whose family placement is at risk.
- * Child concerns where consideration needs to be given to escalation to LGM, ie, Child Protection Plan not progressing in line with needs of the child.

Child supported within CLA/After Care/CWDT:

Required for:

- *Child who is subject to pre-proceedings or proceedings.
- *Child who requires a decision to be made in respect of permanency planning i.e. sixteen/seventeen years old subject to section 20.
- *Child whose plan may be one of reunification.
- *Child who has been in a foster placement for a period of eleven months or more.
- *Child whose plan is one of adoption.
- *Child who is transitioning to adults services (sixteen and above).
- *Child whose placement stability is at risk.

CARE PLANNING MEETINGS TO BE HELD

The aim of all care planning meetings is to ensure that planning for permanence is timely and effective for all of our children and to safeguard against drift and delay wherever possible.

Frequency: Care planning meetings should take place where a child's situation is considered to require timely decision making and forward planning. This can include where a child's situation may require escalation to LGM, Child subject to Court proceedings, Child with significant change of circumstance. Care Planning meetings should take place between Children Looked After reviews and Court hearings to inform planning. ***A care planning meeting will always be required at a minimum of three weeks prior to final court hearings and earlier if the hearing is likely to be contested.***

Membership: The meetings will be chaired by a Service Manager within the relevant area of service. Relevant involved professionals should be invited who have a role in achieving permanence, including child's social worker; Team Manager; Adopt South West; Placements Team; Fostering team; Edge of Care; IYSS; YOT; Family Time Supervisor and if appropriate the IRO. Towards the end of Court proceedings, it may be appropriate for legal representative to be invited.

Arranging a meeting: For SATS / CLA / CWDT / After Care – book individual appointment with the S/M responsible for the service. For SAFS, S/W should book an appointment with Mark Richards (Children's) for an allocated slot for Tuesday or Friday afternoon.

Agenda points to consider: What is the proposed plan, is this the right plan for this child, review of Court or PLO timetable, directions and assessments? Are there gaps in evidence. Consider barriers to achieving timely and appropriate permanency plans for children / what action is required to address such barriers? Is there ongoing dispute in respect of the plans. Has FGC taken place – safety nets, exit / permanence plans for the children i.e. DRP / conflicting views of Children's Guardian. How is this being addressed? Are there any funding issues? Is the permanency planning progressing within the child's timeframe? Agreed actions.