Safe Pathways, Solutions and Access to Resources Forum (SPR)  Bracknell Forest Council, Terms of Reference SPR

**Purpose and Function:**

* To support the work of the department: - being Family Safeguarding. Keeping and supporting children within their families where is it safe to do so and when it isn’t to work in a timely and sensitive way to prevent escalation of risk and need and to ensure permeance at the earliest opportunity for all children.
* As part of our Secure Base offer this is a forum that social/family workers and supervisors can and should (in varying circumstance, as laid out below) collaborate with others to seek solutions, ideas, share risk and decision making to make a difference to children.
* To support a consistent approach to care planning for all children and families within the child’s timescale.
* This Forum should be solution focused on its approach.
* This Forum should recognise good practice and encourage respectful peer challenge, to achieve the best outcome for the child.

**With children front and centre, opportunities to strengthen together**

* Sharing the work and working together with families
* Working with families who are resistant to change.
* Maximizing the use of MI
* Utilise Family Group Conferences/Mediation and family strengths
* The role of fathers and males
* Promoting the use of Permanency Team consultations and Permanency Team Formulations meeting to inform assessments prior to attendance at this forum.
* To promote the use of adult workers.
* To ensure consistency of approach and decision making in relation to children where legal action or accommodation is being considered.
* To ensure compliance with PLO, i.e., that all necessary assessments and support services have been offered to the family prior to issuing care proceedings.

**With children front and centre, opportunities to reduce together**

* The reliance on experts for PLO and Court due to the shortage and therefore the impact on timeliness for children by ensuring best use of Permanency assessment resources to inform assessments and social work expertise
* Circular intervention and repeat work with families, where change is slow

**Matters and child case work to be taken to Forum**

* Prior to seeking legal advice about issuing care proceedings.
* Prior to seeking legal advice about issuing a Letter Before Proceedings (LBP)
* Where the social work team requesting additional resource support from the Permanency Team, Make Safe, Adult workers, Ealey Help etc
* Children who have been on a CP plan for more than 18 months (escalated from the 9mths+ panel)
* Review children where there are children with mental health needs (once a month) and review menu of options
* For reflective solutions focused discussion with senior leaders (to compliment group supervision)
* Where you are worried and would like some senior oversight for any reason
* Collaboration for children with complex Mental Health needs (\*once a month)
* Concerns about school attendance, EHCP and or attainment

Note - Accommodating children, including parent and baby placements. Will still be via E2C (Entry to Care panel) ?

**Chairing and Membership:**

* Assistant Director (Chair), Head of Life Chances (vice chair)
* There will be a minimum of two Heads of Service
* Manager of Permanency Team (Isha/Hannah)
* Early help Head of Service (Elaine)
* Youth justice Manager (Jo)
* Make safe Manager (Nick),
* CAMHS rep (Once a month Sandeep Rai)
* Adult worker rep MH worker (Catherine)
* Adult sub rep misuse (DAAT - Gillian)
* FGC coordinator (Rick)
* Safeguarding Education Rep (Debbie)
* and a minute taker will attend this forum.

**Administration and Paperwork:**

* Forum will meet weekly on Wednesday’s between 12pm and 2pm.
* The Social Worker should book a time slot with the Administrator and state what the purpose of attendance is and provide the following documents by the paperwork deadline:
1. Chronology and genogram
2. The single referral form
3. Forum Panel Members – should look at Mosaic in advance and bring any relevant data from their own service area such as school attendance, Early Help history

**Attendance:**

· The Social Worker and Assistant Team Manager or Team Manager should attend the meeting and are welcome to invite other professionals one they feel would enhance the discussions for children

**Record of decisions:**

* The Chair will provide the Social Worker, Team Manager, and IROs with a record of the decisions within 2 days of the meeting.
* The Administrator will upload the Forum discussion and actions case noted against all children discussed within 3 days of the meeting.

**Legal Advice Meeting**

* Where a decision has been made to issue a Letter Before Proceedings and/or undertake specialist assessment, the Social Worker will need to schedule a Legal Advice Meeting

March 2022

1. **APPENDIX**

Single Referral form