

Going Home-initial restorative conversation

Parents will be supported to engage in a conversation to explore their families' experiences and aspirations on a broad range of relevant areas when considering the possibility of their child returning home. This conversation uses Motivational Interviewing skills and restorative questions to look at what is working well, with the aim to empower parents and carers, explore their strengths and needs and begin to develop a joint plan of action. This below framework should support and guide this conversation.

Name of Young Person:	DOB:	Date the child started to be cared for:		
Name of person completing:	Date complete:	Legal Status:		
Child's address at time of referral:				
Address child would return to:				
Name of parent being considered for going home plan:				
What were the concerns/worries that led to the child coming into care:				

Please note that before completing this checklist you should be aware of the significant events / reasons why the child was accommodated and the risks/needs/strengths at the time. This will enable you to determine whether there is evidence of positive change and will help you (with the parents and young person) develop a joint plan of action.



Going Home Checklist	Yes/No	Further Details/Actions Taken
Are the parents able to give a view of children's social care involvement and their concerns, both past and present? Are they able to identify who has been affected and how?		
If recommendations were made as part of the Court Judgement by either the court or the Local Authority, have these been adhered to? Is there further professional input needed to achieve the recommendations?		
Have parents undertaken any form of parenting work since their children came into care?		
Have parents engaged in any therapeutic work in regard to their children needing to come into care?		
Has domestic abuse affected the family previously? If so, has any work been undertaken regarding this and what does the parent feel was the impact of this work?		
Are the parents still residing or in a relationship with anyone using abusive or unhealthy behaviours i.e., domestic abuse, sexual abuse, physical abuse, unhealthy relationships? Please give details including how this is impacting and being addressed.		
Has alcohol/substance use been an issue previously?		



If so, how has this been addressed / what services have been accessed and what does the parent feel was the impact of this work?	
What is the current alcohol/substance use? Are the parents receiving ongoing support and how do the parents feel that this is working for them?	
Have mental health and well-being issues affected the family previously? If so, how has this been addressed and what does the parent feel was the impact of this work?	
Are the parents receiving on-going support for mental health / well-being issues and how do parents feel that this is working for them?	
What level of family time are the parents currently having?	
Have the parents attended family time consistently? If family time has not been consistent what have been the barriers for them in terms of attending regularly?	
Has family time been a positive experience for the children and parents? What have been the strengths and what have been the challenges?	
Do the parents have a safe and secure home environment for the child? What support would need to be put in place to achieve this?	
Is there anyone living in the home and what is their relationship to the child?	



Is the family currently involved in any anti-social behaviour that may impact on the child if they were to return home?	
Is there any support from extended family / friends?	
Would parent/s be willing to engage in a Family Group Conference/restorative circle to explore wider family networks?	
Have the views and wishes of the young person around the proposed going home plan been sought? If yes, what are they?	
Are the parents open to the idea of receiving specific support for identified or emerging needs?	
Are there any emerging strengths that have been identified that have not been covered already in the checklist?	



Analysis of information gathered:

Low Need	Medium Need	High Need
Unlikely that abuse or neglect will re-occur	Likely possibility or impairment due to the abuse or neglect reoccurring.	Likelihood of harm as a result of abuse or neglect re-occurring.
Previous need factors fully addressed	Not all need factors have been addressed	Previous need factors have not been adequately addressed
Evidence of parental capacity to sustain change	Parents have been able to make some positive change	Parents have been unable to make sustained change at this time
Child / children and parents both want to return home.	Child / children and parents are requesting to return home.	Child / children or parents are not requesting to return home
Return home should be actively considered via capacity to change assessment.	Return home should be considered via capacity to change assessment but with plans to reduce need factors and sustain change	Significant evidence of change needed before a return home can be considered.