



Section 85 / 86 (Children Act, 1989) Welfare Check Workflow

PLEASE NOTE: This workflow makes reference to the Section 85/86 Welfare Checks for Children Accommodated in Educational, Residential or Health Provision procedure.

1. Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) Referral Form Completed by the Provider and submitted to MASH for consideration. The Provider must notify the Responsible Local Authority – see Section 2, Duty to Inform the Responsible Local Authority. (If known the child's social worker should be informed.)

2. MASH opens a record on CareFirst for the child/young person, and complete an 'Initial Contact' with the outcome of NFA (no further action) notification only, unless threshold is met at that point for MASH checks.

3. MASH forwards the referral to the Safeguarding and Quality Assurance Service (SQAS), via e-mail, to the Independent Reviewing Officer (IRO) Admin inbox

4. Referral is forwarded via e-mail to the IRO Manager (or, in their absence, the covering manager)

5. Referral is allocated, by the IRO Manager, to an IRO for a Welfare Check to be completed

6. Welfare Check completed within 10 working days and the corresponding report written

7. Welfare Check Report forwarded to the IRO Manager for signoff

8. After the Report has been considered by the IRO Manager, the following outcomes are possible;

- No further action – another visit scheduled in 6 months
- Concerns raised and one or more of the following actions need to be undertaken (see Section 4, Confidentiality);
 - Notify the provider of concerns and instruct that they take remedial action
 - Make a referral to the Designated Officer (DO)
 - Inform the child/young person's social worker
 - Make a referral to MASH

9. Sign off report returned to IRO for upload onto CareStore. The IRO must follow up any actions within 28 days or sooner, depending on the seriousness of any concerns.