Child Protection Conferences

# COVID19 Response to CPCs – SW Guidance

In line with government guidance in order to prevent the spread of COVID19, all Child Protection Conferences will take place by consultation. I have outlined the following guidance in order to support social workers, team managers and conference chairs.

**Threshold Discussions**

* If TMs/SWs require a threshold discussion to explore progression to ICPC, they should contact 790933.
* A telephone duty CP chair will make contact with you for the discussion to take place.

**ICPCs/RCPCs**

* Once you have decided to progress to ICPC, please contact the IRS immediately to arrange an ICPC. You will be given a date timeslot for this to take place. NB - ICPCs must be held within a maximum of 15 days of the [Strategy Discussion](http://trixresources.proceduresonline.com/nat_key/keywords/strategy_discussion.html) or where more than one has taken place, of the Strategy Discussion at which the Section 47 Enquiry was initiated.
* Please ensure that SW reports are completed 3 days prior to ICPC. I know this may become more challenging as time progresses and in the event we have increased sickness across the department. However, reports are vitally important to ensure we are making the right decisions for children and that our intervention is in line with their assessed needs and level of risk.
* The IRS will support SWs by ensuring that partner agencies involved with individual children are sent SW reports prior to conference taking place and this will be sent through secure email.

**Consultation Process**

* CP chairs will contact SWs and TMs as part of the consultation process. At this present time, we do not have the facilities to hold conference calls from home working; however this is something we are hoping to have in place very soon.
* CP chairs will stick to the 2 hour timeslot given for CPCs, however some flexibility will need to be given as some consultations are taking longer than expected.
* Following the CPC, IRS will send an email to partner agencies informing them of the decision regarding CP status. Families, professionals and SWs will receive the outline child protection plan within 24 hours.
* A date for review will be agreed between the CP chair, SW and family. All professionals will be notified of the review date when the outline CP plan is distributed.
* If you have any queries or there are some issues areas you feel we need to consider as a service, please let me know. We are all trying our hardest during this difficult period and many of the changes we have made are ‘*trial and error’*, therefore, please let us know if the measures we have put in place are not quite working. We really want to get this right for children, families, SWs and partner agencies.

Thanks

Rachael Barker

IRS Manager – CP Lead