## Connected Carers Guidance for Child Care Social Workers undertaking Viability Assessments

A friend/family member/s have been identified as alternative carers for a child, the plan for the child is to move in with the individual...

In a planned way:

The child's Social Worker will complete a Viability Assessment on Liquid Logic in respect of the friend/family member/s identified as alternative carers for the child. This should be completed with input from FPSW where



The Viability Assessment should then be QA'd by the Team Manager or the Advanced Practitioner.



If the Viability
Assessment is
negative then this
should be shared
with the individuals
and they should be
advised they can
seek to challenge
the decision within
the Care
Proceedings or via
an alternative route,
i.e. complaints
procedures.



If the Viability
Assessment is
positive it should be
authorised by the
Head of Service.



If a Care Plan is agreed that the child cannot remain in or return to their parents care then the child should be moved in a planned way, in line with Care Proceedings/Care Planning.



If the placement is potentially long-term, then the child's Social Worker will send the ADM authorised Viability Assessment to the Family Placement Managers as a referral for a Connected Persons Assessment. (This arrangement will be replaced by an automatic referral to FPS once pathway is set up on Liquid Logic)

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## In an emergency:

The child's Social Worker will complete initial screening checks on the individuals to include:

- Welfare visit to the property, to view the home and where the child will sleep.
- PNC checks of all adults living in the property.
- Social Care Record checks of all people residing in the property.



The child's Social Worker in agreement with the Team Manager will discuss the concerns and reasons for believing a child should be accommodated with the Agency Decision Maker (Assistant Director or nominated HoS).



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If the Head of Service do not agree to the child becoming LAC then the child should remain in their current placement with on-going Social Work intervention.

If the Head of Service gives consent for the child to become LAC and reside with the identified individuals then the child should be moved in the most appropriate way.



The Social Worker will complete a Viability
Assessment on Liquid Logic within 3 working days
of the placement commencing.



The Viability Assessment should be QA'd by the Team Manager/Advanced Practitioner and sent to the ADM/HoS to authorise.



If the placement is potentially long-term, or shortterm but longer than 16 weeks, then the child's Social Worker will send the ADM authorised Viability Assessment to the Family Placement Managers as a referral for a Connected Persons Assessment. (Until a pathway for referral is set up on Liquid Logic)