

1. Following a Permanency Planning Meeting with Area Manager, the Permanence Panel ratifies initial Permanence Plan. The Permanency Planning Meeting is recorded on the Permanence Meeting minute template on Eclipse.

2. Where legal planning is required, within 10 days of the Permanence Panel and prior to the Pre-Proceedings Meetings, the Written Agreement of Expectations and Pre-Proceedings Plan is drafted which should consider how all the realistic options for permanence can be progressed in parallel to avoid delay.

3. During the Pre-Proceedings period, permanence planning should be discussed and clearly recorded within minutes of Core Group Meetings and Pre-Proceedings Midway Review. Where there are significant changes to permanence planning, such as one option is discounted, this should be reflected in a Permanency Planning Meeting template.

4. A subsequent Permanency Planning Meeting should take place prior to the Final Pre-Proceedings Review to inform Final Care Plan for Care Proceedings, or to ensure support is in place for permanence at home with parents.

5. Where a child is accommodated into our care, a Permanency Planning Meeting should take place within 20 days of a child being accommodated. This will allow for an up to date Permanence Plan to be presented as part of the child's overall care plan at their first Children in Care Review. This might reflect a continuation of a parallel plan or a single-track plan.

6. Between the first and second Child in Care Review, a further Permanency Planning Meeting takes place to, where possible, agree a single-track plan of permanence for the child to be endorsed by the Independent Reviewing Officer at the second Child in Care Review.

Where a single-track plan of Permanence is not yet agreed, a further Permanency Planning meeting will take place at a frequency of 6 weekly, until the Permanence Plan has been decided.

#### Permanence Plan Review Meeting

7. Once a single-track permanence plan has been agreed, ratified and endorsed and agreed by Court (as applicable), Permanency Planning Meetings should take place at 6 weekly intervals until the Permanence Plan has been achieved. For example, to review the Family Finding progress for fostering and adoption Permanence Plans.

8. Upon a child achieving Permanence and they remain open to Children Service's; a Permanency Planning Meeting should be held before each Child in Care Review to consider:

- A) If the permanence plan needs to change e.g. can reunification be considered or a special guardianship with a carer (kinship or other) or
- B) If changes to the care plan can be made to support the Permanence Plan e.g. reducing frequency of visits to the child in long term fostering arrangements or
- For a Care Leaver to consider the post 18 living arrangement options, e.g. staying put, independent living