Please ask for:

Tel:

Email:

Date:

Email:

**Letter of intent to issue care proceedings**

**PLEASE DO NOT IGNORE THIS LETTER - TAKE IT TO A SOLICITOR NOW**

Dear

**RE: Northamptonshire Children’s Trust on behalf of North/ West (delete as appropriate) Northamptonshire are concerned about ……**

I am writing to let you know how concerned Northamptonshire Childrens Trust is about NAME. We are so worried about your child's safety, and your ability to protect NAME, that we are intending to start Care proceedings. This means that we will apply to the Court for an Interim Care Order to consider NAME interim and long term care arrangements.

Here are the main things we are worried about:

What Children’s Services will do to try to help:

Your wider family

If we become so worried and we do not think that NAME can remain in your care we would always seek to find a person within your family or friend network that could offer care to them. Moving forward we will meet with you and your family to see if there are other people you know that could be assessed as a possible alternative carer if we were to find ourselves in that position in the future.

If you have family or friends that you feel could care for your child, if you are not able to, please tell your social worker.

What you must do now

**You will need to get a solicitor:** It is really important that you get advice from a solicitor who specialises in family law as soon as possible. They will help you understand the situation and advise you about your rights and your options. If you give them this letter you will not have to pay.

In case you do not have a solicitor, we have sent with this letter a list of local solicitors who work with children and families. They are all independent from Children’s Services.

Information your Solicitor will need is:

|  |
| --- |
| Local Authority Legal Contact:  Email: |
| Name: Pathfinder Legal Services LTD  Address & Telephone: Floor 2, One Angel Square, Angel Street, Northampton, NN1 1ED, 01604 367873. |

**You will need to attend all of your appointments with professionals and other services**

Yours Sincerely

Team Manager

Northamptonshire Childrens Trust

Enc: List of solicitors firms who have members of the Law Society’s Children Law Accreditation Scheme