

Child Protection and Children in Care Dual Status

Practice Guidance

Sometimes due to circumstances some children will be subject to a Child Protection Plan (CP) as well as be a Child in Care. It is important that clear decisions are made about how the plan and arrangements for the child are managed to ensure the best outcome for the child.

This guide provides clarity regarding the roles and responsibility for decision-making and when Dual Status should end and decision making regarding managing risk.

Child Protection and Children in Care Dual Status Process

IRO, Child Protection Co-Ordinator (CPC) and Children's Team Manager discuss dual status on receipt of notification for any child who is to become looked after to ensure that there is no duplication of meetings. IRO Team Manager sets out, in the email about IRO allocation / dual status, which of the workflow processes below needs to be followed, which can then be subsequently discussed dependent on which option below is relevant.



Where a Child is the subject to an Interim Care Order or ICO 38[6] the CP Plan ends & Admin writes to all agencies who attended the last CP conference advising of the decision and notifying them of the details of the IRO; allowing 10 working days to challenge the decision.

If a Child is subject to Section 20, then consideration should be given to the risk posed by a parent withdrawing their consent which may mean that dual status continues.

If a child is subject to Section 20 and the plan is to initiate PLO; then ahead of the Initial CIC Review the allocated CP Chair has a discussion with the IRO and the SW / SW TM regarding care planning, date for presentation at LGP and CSC's proposed recommendations to CiC review regarding the CP Plan.
If PLO has commenced, CSC to advise where that process fits into care and CP planning.

Child Protection Co-Ordinator to case-note the outcome of this discussion.

continues to oversee dual status through the CIC review process. No CP conference is needed in light of the reviewing arrangements and planning for the child.

Prior to each review the **IRO, Child Protection Co-Ordinator and Children's Team Manager** discuss whether dual status is necessary and case notes the discussion.

Following the Child in Care review (Dual Process) the **IRO** emails the **Child Protection Co-Ordinator** and SSVCPAdmin@bradford.gov.uk as well as adding a case-note on the Child/Young Person's file to confirm the outcome regarding the CP status. Depending on the outcome, admin will process accordingly as highlighted above.

Resolving disagreements

Should there be any disagreement between the IRO and CPC the matter is to be referred to IRO Team Manager and CP Team Manager for resolution.