

Management Action Note 006

Expectation regarding face-to-face contact and direct work with children and young people.

Most children are currently seen regularly and face-to-face. Whilst the council is committed to continuing hybrid working where that is appropriate, it is very important for children and for building good professional relationships, with children and families, and with colleagues that a number of key activities are conducted in person (face-to-face).

Effective 5 September 2022:

The following activities should take place in person:

- All visits to children and young people (whether to children who are in need; the subject of a child protection plan; children in our care, or care experienced young people).
- Visits to Foster Carers by the Supporting Social Worker
- All Initial Child Protection Conferences
- All Review Child Protection Conferences (*unless otherwise agreed by the Service Director for Performance and Quality Assurance*)*
- All Child Care Reviews (*unless otherwise agreed by the Service Director for Safeguarding and Family Support and is the preference of the young person*)*
- Monthly supervision for case holders
- At least one team meeting each month
- Service Meetings

* *The relevant Service Director will record their decision on the case file.*

We will continue where appropriate with hybrid strategy meetings, core group meetings, Child in Need meetings and health assessments.

Panels, such as the Legal Gateway Panel, Access to Resources Panel, and Fostering panels will continue as virtual or hybrid panels (but will be kept under review).

In the short-term, room bookings at Plough Lane may be limited but the new booking system will shortly be online, as will be the new meeting pods etc. Other venues may also be suitable and available for some of the activities listed above and we are currently discussing the use of space at Plough Lane with the Flexible Futures team.

Darryl Freeman

Corporate Director for Children and Young People