**Interim arrangements Contextual Safeguarding Conferences**

We have previously developed a contextual safeguarding response, making arrangements to hold meetings to plan with YP at a CIN level of need. This has not impacted and developed the outcomes we are seeking for YP, particularly where YP are at risk of significant harm and a coordinated multi- agency response is needed along with the YP being actively engaged in their own planning. In a result we are developing a 2 tiers response

* Contextual Support Meetings (CIN)
* Contextual CP conferences (CP)

Whilst developing and implementing the changes to practice, recording and Mosaic the following interim arrangements will be in place with immediate effect.

Young people at risk of contextual /extra familial harm will be referred for a Contextual CP conference. The decision making for CP or CIN will be made within a strategy discussion and/or at the conclusion of a s47 investigation. As for all CP conferences QA will offer a consultation to support operational colleagues. This is advisory and collaborative; it is an opportunity to think creatively together about how to hold risk outside of CP or how to ensure YP can join with and participate in a Contexual Safeguarding CP conference. The decision to hold a Contextual Safeguarding CP conference remains with the operational TM.

Requests should be sent to ChildrensPlanning@richmondandwandsworth.gov.uk in box

**How should Contextual CP conferences be held?**

* The YP is at the centre of the conference and conversations between the YP, and their family need to take place by the CPC before the conference to identity key people they want at the conference and what are the issues.
* A warm invitational letter will be sent to the YP supporting their attendance. (Template in development)
* The language used needs to reflect relational practice and motivational interviewing as all conferences do, but it should be adapted to reflect the needs of YP and our ambition to collaborate with them and co – produce a protection plan. Conversation should be strengths based but also address how we together with YP to help keep them safer and increase protection and promote their agency in directly participating in the own safety planning
* The venue and time for the conference needs to be flexible and again focus on working alongside the YP and their family. The YP should be given to option for face to face, hybrid or online.
* At the conclusion of the Contextual CP conference a short letter from the CPC facilitating should be written detailing the plan in a style that makes sense to the YP. An example is attached.
* Workflow steps remain the same.

Statutory timescales for RCPC, core groups and visits are as set out in WTSC and LSGP but again these need to be creatively arranged and supported to ensure the YP feels they can participate.

* Outcomes in the plan should reflect adolescent context and development looking holistically at YP needs not just exploitation aspects. After the conference the CPC will write a short letter to the YP setting out the plan in appropriate language. We have a template for this.
* Same partners should be invited but these need to be adapted to ensure that the practitioners and organisations working with the YP and who have helpful relationships must always be included. Voluntary or community led organisations will be central to this. Evolve must be invited to all contextual conferences.

**Other children in the household**

The current regulatory requirement is that when we hold an ICPC all children in the household have to be considered. This works well when considering intrafamilial harm and abuse where the concerns focus is upon how the children needs are being met by parents/carers and how they are protected from further harm. Where the risk of harm is extrafamilial and posed through the contexts in which YP is influenced and has a relationship to, there may not be a need to include other younger children at ICPC. Each YP and their family needs to be carefully considered and supported to working alongside and with CSC to complete the assessment.

Where the younger/other children in the family do not need to be discussed because they are not at risk of significant harm the decision will be taken at the conclusion of the section 47. The final decision will be taken by the Operational Head of Service and Head of Service for Safeguarding/QA, and they will record management decision of the children file/s. It is recognised that in undertaking safeguarding in this way requires us to understand the difference response needed in contextual safeguarding; to confidentially hold risk and collaborate in decision making. We will always seek to reach a consensus, where there is a divergence the final decision with rest with the Deputy Director CSC.

Where younger children also made subject to a CPP they will be allocated and supported from within Family Safeguarding with close collaboration and group supervision across both teams to ensure the purpose of the work is aligned.