Durham Pre Proceedings Flowchart

Team Manager and Social Worker agree threshold for PLO is met



Team Manager to arrange for LPM to take place during legal clinic

There may be some circumstances where the PLM needs to take place more urgently, this should be arranged outside of panel



In preparation for the LPM, the Social will complete the following

- LPM paperwork
- Updated chronology
- Harm matrix
- Network meeting
- Genogram
- Latest assessment/ CP report/ CiC report
- Draft letter before proceedings letter



Legal planning meeting will consider the following:

- The child's day to day life
- What has changed that now means that the child is more immediate risk of harm?
- The role of the family network
- What needs to happen to increase safety
- Where the child will live and who they will see and who will help
- How will the child's life be different in PLO
- Need for any expert assessments
- Bottom line



PLO agreed

LA solicitor and chair to add comments LPM minutes within 5 days from the LPM taking place



Parent to be given PLO letter and PLO parent information leaflet within 5 working days from the LPM



First PLO meeting will take place within 10 working days from parents receiving the PLO letter.

Communication needs to be clear and avoid jargon. the PLO plan should be done with the family. This should be clear around:

- The expectations of family and what needs to happen to increase safety and reduce risk for the child
- The scope for assessments
- Support and intervention offered to the family
- What we need to see to exit PLO
- Clear bottom line and action taken if worries continue
- Clear timescale agreed for assessments, intervention, and evidence to demonstrate change
- Agree dates for future meetings, these will take place be every 4-6 weeks



Parents and solicitors to be provided with an accurate minutes of the meeting and PLO plan within 5 working days of the PLO meeting.

Plan and minutes are to be uploaded onto child's file



Progress of the plan to be discussed at legal clinic at regular intervals

2 weeks following LPM – (reviewed until PLO meeting as taken place)

6-8 weeks

11-16 weeks



PLO over 16 weeks to be discussed at Strategic Case Management Review Panel to ensure there is a clear exit plan