

Confidential Report for the Court.



Case No:

SECTION 7 CHILDREN ACT 1989 REPORT CONCERNING:

Enter name of child/ children & date of births

Prepared by:

Dated:

This report has been prepared for the Court and should be treated as confidential. It must not be shown not its contents revealed to anyone other than a party or legal adviser to such party. Such legal advisor may make use of the report in connection with an application for public funding.

Declaration

This Section 37 report has been prepared for the Court and should be treated as confidential. It must not be shown nor its contents revealed to any person other than a party or Legal Advisor to such a party.

My name is *(insert name)*. I am employed as a Social Worker for Durham County Council, since *(insert date)*. I qualified as a Social Worker in *(insert date)* and hold a *(insert qualification)*.

I declare that this report is true and that I am make it knowing it may be placed before the Court in these proceedings.

Singed.....

Dated.....

FAMILY COMPOSITION

Name of child/children	Date of birth	Ethnic Origin

Name of parties <i>(and other important adults)</i>	Relationship to child	Date of birth	Ethnic Origin

Key agencies involved:	<i>(Give brief details of their involvement).</i>

MATTERS BEFORE THE COURT

I, **(entre name)** of Durham County Council write this report further to the Court's order of Judge **(enter name)** dated **(enter date)** for a Section 7 report (Children Act 1989). Durham County Council received notification of the court order on **(enter date)**

1.0 Enquiries

For the purpose of preparing this report I have made the following enquiries:

Who have you spoken to?

What checks have you undertaken

I have read the following court documents:

2.0 Background Information

Include information from Children Services records

Brief history of the party's relationship

Context of the conflict as it affects the child

3.0 Current Arrangements for the Children

Where and with who is the children living

4.0 Applicant –

4.1 Understanding of the childrens needs/wishes regarding the application

4.2 Proposals

4.3 Specific Concerns

4.4 Response to other partys allegations

5.0 Respondent –

Enter name of respondent – this t=should be completed for each respondent

5.1 Understanding of the children's needs/wishes regarding the application

5.2 Proposals

5.3 Specific Concerns

5.4 Response to other party's allegations

5.5 Attitudes/understanding of the children's needs/wishes regarding this application

5.6 Attitude to application

5.7 Proposals

6.0 The Welfare Checklist

i The wishes and feelings of the children concerned:

Include what the child says/ expressed. Also include your observations.

ii Their physical, emotional and educational needs:

Include information from health visitor, GP, Psychologist, school, and other professionals involved with the child

iii The likely effect of any change of circumstances

Include changes to family time (contact) arrangements

iv Their age, sex, background and any characteristics which the Court considers relevant

Professionals assessment of the needs of the child in relation to these criteria considers relevant

v Any harm which they have suffered or are at risk of suffering

Any additional information from Social Care Services/NSPCC/any other agency (including school) which relates to harm.

Include:

- details of action taken to minimise risk
- consequences of domestic violence

Assessment of any emotional abuse the child may suffer as a result of parental conflict / behaviour

vi How capable are each parents, and any other person to court considers the question to be relevant, is of meeting the child's needs

Your assessment of capability of each parent and any other persons in the light of allegations and counter allegations

Take into account own observations and those of other professionals

7.0 The range of powers available to the court under this Act in the proceedings in question

8.0 Conclusion

Analysis of pertinent points from Welfare Checklist

Outline options, including pros and cons

State if any agreement reached is in the child's best interests.

Is significant risk to a child has been identified, include comment or either action taken if proposed.

Specific, details plan where appropriate.

9.0 Recommendations

Social Worker Name

Social Worker Signature:

Date:

Team Manager/ Social Work Consultant Name

Team Manager/ Social Work Consultant Name Signature:

Date:

Any concerns the parties may have about this report, the extent of the enquiries, the factual accuracy or opinions expressed in it must be raised during the hearing of the case. If any of the parties require the Social Worker to be questioned in Court they must immediately ask the Court to order Social Worker's attendance.