

# Children's Services Health History Policy for Looked after Children and Care Leavers

**Version Final v1**

**Approved by: Siobhan Walsh**

**Approved Date: 17.10.24**

**Implementation:**

# About this document

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<b>Title</b>	<b>Health History Policy for Looked After Children</b>
<b>Purpose</b>	<b>To set out the procedure for Health Histories for all Looked After Children in all teams</b>
<b>Updated by</b>	<b>Elaine Andrews</b>
<b>Approved by</b>	<b>17.10.2024</b>
<b>Date</b>	
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<b>Next review date</b>	<b>October 2025</b>

# Version Control

**Document Location:** Surrey County Council Tri-X procedures

This document is only valid on the day it is printed

<b>Date Issued:</b>	<b>Version</b>	<b>Summary of Changes</b>	<b>Created by</b>
Oct 2024	1	Final version	E Andrews

## **Intended Audience**

This document has been issued to the following people for Review (R) Information (I) and Review and Sign off (S). The Transfer protocol is mandatory and must be shared with all managers, personal advisors, and social work staff and with those holding cases in Early Help and Surrey Family Services.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>S/R/I</b>
Matt Ansell / Tina Benjamin / Patricia Denney	Directors	S / R
Catherine Watkins / Siobhan Walsh / Fiona Wraith / Nicole Miller/Jo Rabbitte/ Anwen Foy	Assistant Directors	S
All Children's Services Teams		I

# 1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this protocol is to outline the agreed process for ensuring looked after children have a Health History.
- 1.2 It is essential that staff and team managers (TM) ensure they are clear and informed about this protocol to ensure children have access to their Health History as they transition into adulthood, with the support of the Care Leavers Service.
- 1.3 Health Histories previously were shared alongside a “Health Passport”, which provided advice and guidance to children and young people on accessing local health services. Since April 2024, Health Passports will no longer be issued, and all children and young people will be signposted to the NHS App for advice and guidance.

# 2. Principles

- 2.4 A Health History contains information about past and present health, which is taken from the child’s past health assessments and Community Health Records. This does not necessarily include all health information, a complete record of which would be held by the child’s GP, which can be accessed via the child/young person’s NHS App? The child/young person will need to request full access to the app through their GP – they can be supported with this task by their Social Worker or Personal Advisor.

[NHS App and your NHS account - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk)

[NHS England » How proxy access works](#)

- 2.5 Health Histories are compiled by the Looked After Children’s nurse and given to the child/young person at their final Review Health Assessment (RHA) at the age of 17 years.
- 2.6 For children/young people placed out of county, the RHA will be completed by another Local Authority Nurse and a Surrey Nurse will complete the Health History after the RHA has been completed.
- 2.7 For children/young people who came into care in their older years and have not been in care long enough to have a RHA, the Initial Health Assessment (IHA) will act as the Health History.

# 3. Agreed Practice and process between Health and Social Care

- 3.14 Looked After Children’s Nurses will complete the Health History for all children/young people in care, whether they are placed within or outside Surrey.

- 3.15** For children/young people placed within Surrey, the Looked After Children's Nurses would give the Health History to the child/young person at their final RHA.
- 3.16** For children/young people placed outside Surrey, the Looked After Children's Nurses would send the Health History to the Social Worker/Personal Advisor. The Social Worker and/or Personal Advisor will explain the Health History document to the child/young person and share a copy with the child/young person. If the child/young person requires additional support, with their agreement, it may be more appropriate to send to their carer.
- 3.17** If the final RHA is declined, the Nurses would liaise with the Social Worker, complete the Health History and share it with the young person.
- 3.18** Young People who come into our care after the age of 17 years would not have a RHA so Part C of their IHA is used as their History.
- 3.19** On receipt of the Health History, Children's Services business support will send a copy of the Health History to the allocated Social Worker and Personal Advisor. They will then take responsibility for incorporating any actions or recommendations within the Child's/young person's Pathway Plan and any direct work going forward.