



Child Protection Discussion and Planning for Long Listing

The 'child protection discussion and planning meeting' is for children and young people who have been subject to child protection plans for 12 months plus, and where solutions are needed due to uncertainty or significant disagreement around how best to move forward.

It is recognised there will be a small group of families who are stuck in a certain position with continued concerns. These children and young people may not meet the threshold for care proceedings, and they cannot remain open to the Trust indefinitely.

There needs to be consideration around what more can families do for themselves and what further support can partner agencies provide to manage 'safe uncertainty.'

A key consideration within this is what do we as a system consider to be 'good enough' which will depend on different factors for individual families, with a key focus to enable:

- healthy, happy and resilient children living in families.
- families making positive change.
- children and young people are safe from harm.

Key Principles for the Discussion

1. We will hold strength-based and solution focused conversations
2. There will be shared decision making by discussion group
3. We will offer a supportive way to explore the key issues without blame
4. To hear the views, wishes and feelings of children, young people and families
5. We will seek to empower families to take responsibilities for their situation
6. We will explore friends and family who can play a role in support and care
7. We will develop partnership and organisational resilience to respond to the difficulties and challenges

Attendees

The discussion will be chaired by the safeguarding head of service, and will include a senior manager and the named principal officer from the CP reviewing service, the named social worker and team manager, a representative from the Family Support Service and Family Group Conference. Other specialist Trust services or partner agencies could be invited if there is a need to discuss specific issues and as the approach develops.

Preparation for the Attendance

The social worker and team manager need to provide the following information during the discussion and ideally an updated CP report outlining: **1)** overview of child's journey; **2)** partnership contribution; **3)** role of pre-proceedings; **4)** value of FGC and **5)** outcomes.

Arrangements and Recordings

The CP reviewing service will arrange the discussion group. The Head of Service will record a short summary, decision and outcome using the management decision form.