



Guidance on managing Supervision Orders

What is a Supervision Order? (Children Act, 1989, C41 IV)

A **Supervision Order** gives the local authority the legal power to monitor the child's needs and progress while the child lives at home or somewhere else. A social worker will advise, assist and befriend the child. In practice, this will mean they give help and support to the family as a whole. A supervision order can last for 6 months or one year, and may be extended yearly to a total of three years. It will last until the child reaches the age of 18, unless discharged at an earlier date.

What is an Interim Supervision Order?

The court needs to be satisfied that threshold is met to order an **Interim Supervision Order** which places the child temporarily under the supervision of the local authority until the court can make a final decision about what is best for the child. An Interim Supervision Order will be made where the court has reasonable grounds for believing the threshold criteria of harm has been met.

Case Status:

Once a child is made subject to Interim/Supervision Order they become subject to a Child In Need Plan.

Review of Child In Need Plans with Supervision Orders:

Reviews will be conducted at intervals of three months following the initial planning meeting and every six months thereafter. Care team meetings should be held at an

agreed frequency between reviews, every 4-6 weeks, unless there are exceptional circumstances.

If there are significant changes in the family circumstances, an early review should take place.

The purpose of the child in need review is to ensure that the services provided are contributing to the achievement of the objectives within the time-scales set. Reviews for Supervision Order cases should be chaired by Team Manager.

The allocated social worker's frequency of visits to the child is minimum monthly (20 working days) visits.

A Child In Need Review should be set at 3 months prior to the Supervision Order ending. The purpose of the review is to assess if there is threshold to extend the Supervision Order. Care team members should be asked their views on Supervision Order and clearly recorded within the minutes. The minutes/outcome of this review should be approved and authorised on ICS by Service Manager.

If the Care team, allocated Social Worker and Team Manager feel there is threshold to extend Supervision Order is met then a legal planning meeting should be held, and the case progressed to legal gateway for final decision. You should **NOT** wait to have legal planning meeting till the end of the Supervision Order if there are growing safeguarding concerns on the case this can be held at any time.

Should the Supervision Order not require to be extended then the order will cease upon its end date. A Child In Need Review should be held at the point the Supervision Order ends to assess whether the Child In Need Plan continues to meet threshold for Children's Services involvement.



Guidance on Supervision Support Plans

What is Supervision Order Support Plan?

The plan is formulated within the Local Authority's Decision Make Meeting (DMM) and will provide the young person, parents/carers, court and the care team members an overview of how the child will be supported over the period of the Supervision Order.

Any specialist provision whereby there are financial commitments can only be agreed by Service Managers (CSM) or Head of Service.

The support plan should be filed alongside the Local Authority's final care plan and evidence.

How will the Supervision Order Support Plan be reviewed?

The support plan should be reviewed alongside the Local Authority care plan and timeline at each Care Team Meeting. Within each CIN Review the Team Manager will updated and sign off the support plan to reflect that it has been reviewed.

When will the Supervision Order Support Plan be required?

The support plan is only required when the Local Authority are requesting a Supervision Order **ONLY**.