

# Turning Questions into Conversations

## EARS Process for Signs of Safety Mapping



	Worries	Strengths	Goals
<b>Elicit</b> First question	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What are we worried about?</li> <li>• What harm has happened to any child in the care of these adults?</li> <li>• What is the danger to this child if left in the care of this mother?</li> <li>• What makes this situation more complicated?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What's working well here?</li> <li>• What are the best attributes of this mum's/dad's parenting?</li> <li>• What would the child say are the best times she has with her dad?</li> <li>• When has the mum fought off the depression and be able to focus on the child?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What needs to happen?</li> <li>• What do you need to see to be satisfied the child is safe enough that we can close the case?</li> <li>• What would the mum say that would show everyone the child can come home?</li> <li>• Where would the teenager say he wants his life to be at 18?</li> <li>• What do we need to do to create a relationship where we can talk about difficult issues?</li> </ul>
<b>Amplify</b> Behavioural detail: What would you see?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• When has that harm happened?</li> <li>• How often; how bad?</li> <li>• How did that incident affect the child?</li> <li>• What language can we use to say that so the mum and child can easily understand?</li> <li>• How long has this harm been happening?</li> <li>• Give me the first, worst and most recent examples of harm.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• When has that good thing happened? How often?</li> <li>• How did the mum fight off the depression? How else?</li> <li>• How does the neighbour help?</li> <li>• How did you get her to open up?</li> <li>• How is the parenting programme making things better for the child?</li> <li>• What did the dad do to make those contact visits really enjoyable for his kids?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Describe the details of the behaviour you would want to see that would tell you this child is safe?</li> <li>• How many people do you think should be involved in this safety plan?</li> <li>• What is the father's willingness/capacity to do this?</li> <li>• Is this plan written in a way the child understands it?</li> <li>• How will the mental health services involvement help make this plan work?</li> </ul>
<b>Reflect</b> Meaning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Which of the danger statements do you think is the most important (or easiest) to deal with first?</li> <li>• Which danger would worry the parents most?</li> <li>• Of all the complicating factors which do you think is the most important to deal with?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Which of the strengths are most useful in terms of getting this problem dealt with?</li> <li>• Which aspects of their parenting/family life would mum and dad be most proud of?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Where do you rate the child's safety with this mother on a scale of 0-10?</li> <li>• Is this a plan that the parents believe in? On a scale of 0-10, what confidence would they say that they have in it keeping the child safe?</li> </ul>
<b>Start over</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are there any worries that we have missed?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are there any other good things happening in this family that we have missed?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are there any other important things that we have missed in the plan?</li> </ul>

