

## **ESCALATION PROCESS:**

### **Concerns related to the effectiveness of the CIN Plan**

Consideration should be given to the need for further action to be taken where:

- The CIN Plan has been ineffective in improving outcomes or there is an increased risk of harm to the child.
- There is a failure to obtain or retain the cooperation of the parents, carers or child in working on the plan.
- Changed or unforeseen circumstances.

**Action to be taken:** Any of the above must be brought immediately to the attention of the Lead Social Worker, who must inform his or her manager. A decision will be made regarding the need for a child protection strategy meeting which will agree any immediate protective action.

### **Concerns related to the effectiveness of multi-agency working:**

- Difficulties implementing the CIN Plan due to disagreement among professionals
- Practitioner (s) not carrying out his or her responsibilities outlined in CIN Plan
- Continual absence from CIN review meetings by members
- Failure to provide information for review meeting
- Delay and drift with CIN Plan

### **Action to be taken:**

- Discussion with the Lead Social Worker and Manager
- Discussion between practitioners
- Involvement of relevant managers and/or Designated Professionals within agencies where issues remain unresolved.

**ALL PRACTITIONERS (PROFESSIONALS) SHARE RESPONSIBILITY AND OWNERSHIP OF THE CHILD IN NEED PLAN AND MUST CO-OPERATE FULLY TO ACHIEVE ITS AIMS AND IMPROVE OUTCOMES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE.**



## **Worcestershire Safeguarding Children Board**



**CHILD IN NEED PLANNING  
Information for Practitioners  
March 2014**

# Child in Needs Plans

**You have been given this leaflet because you have a role in developing and progressing a child in need plan (CIN).**

**You will share responsibility for ensuring that the child's identified needs are met and the child is safe. Please read this leaflet so that you have an understanding of your role and responsibilities. Practitioners that work well together and with the family is the most effective means of improving outcomes for children and young people.**

## **Responsibilities of practitioners (professionals):**

Practitioners are responsible with parents for developing and implementing the Child in Need Plan by:

- Agreeing the detailed CIN Plan which identifies the actions and timescales required to achieve the agreed outcomes.
- Progressing and monitoring the CIN Plan against the agreed timescales to achieve the outcomes.
- Ensuring the child's needs remain paramount and maintaining a child-centred focus.
- Ensuring the views of parents, carers and children are heard and taken into account.
- Contributing to the multi-agency assessments.
- Sharing information routinely, and immediately, if there are increased concerns about the safety of the child and taking appropriate steps in response to changing circumstances to ensure the child is adequately safeguarded.
- Considering whether a Family Group Conference would encourage engagement of the wider family to improve outcomes.
- Contributing to the review of the effectiveness of the CIN

## **Who should be involved:**

- The Lead Social Worker
- The child/young person
- Family members/carers
- Professionals who have direct contact with the child and family

## **Responsibilities of individual practitioners (professionals):**

- Attend and participate in CIN review meetings
- Carry out agreed tasks within timescales and in accordance with their agency functions. If this is not possible, the Lead Social Worker must be alerted.
- Provide specialist advice.
- Provide the Lead Social Worker with written reports as requested
- Communicate regularly with the Lead Social Worker about the progress of their part of the agreed CIN Plan
- Inform the Lead Social Worker of any change in circumstances relevant to the CIN Plan
- Inform the lead social worker if copies of the CIN is not received.
- Escalate within their agencies any concerns about the effectiveness of the CIN Planning and inform Children's Social Care.

## **Process for CIN Planning:**

- Following a Child and Young Person Assessment, when a decision has been made that intervention is required, a CIN Plan should be developed
- A CIN Plan should be developed at the point when a CPP has ceased or a child or young person is no longer LAC.
- A meeting of the family and all participants to the Plan should be convened within 10 working days of the decision. This will be chaired by the Lead Social Worker or Manager.
- The detailed CIN Plan should include how often the child/young person should be seen by each practitioner and the timescales for the completion of agreed actions.
- The CIN Plan should include a contingency plan should the outcomes for the child not improve or there is an escalation in risks to the child/young person.
- The detailed CIN Plan should be written up on the available pro forma and circulated by the Lead Social Worker to the family and practitioners.
- Arrangements for the review of the CIN Plan should reflect the level of concern and be agreed by all participants at each meeting. This should be a maximum of three monthly, to facilitate effective working together and make any necessary alterations to the CIN Plan as circumstances change.
- Subsequent CIN review meetings will be chaired by the Lead Social Worker unless the level of concern increases when consideration should be given to the Team Manager chairing this.