

Child Protection Plans & Dual Status

There are occasions when children subject to Child Protection Plans will become Looked After by the Local Authority because of the degree of concern for their safety and welfare.

The progress of the Child Protection Plan and of the Care Plan will then be monitored through both the Review Child Protection Conference and the Child in Care Review systems and this will be a duplication of process. Family members and Professionals are required to attend both sets of meetings which is unnecessary as both systems are committed to promoting the welfare and safety of the child.

It is therefore agreed that, with such cases, children's Child Protection Plans will only be retained in exceptional circumstances. It will generally be the policy to close the Child Protection Plan within three months of the child becoming Looked After through the next planned Review Child Protection Conference.

In cases where it is felt the Child Protection Plan should be retained whilst the child is also Looked After, the relevant Team Manager will be expected to discuss this with the Conference chairperson prior to the Conference. Other agencies with concerns about retaining dual status should discuss this with the Team Manager and if dissatisfied, with the relevant Business Manager.