

Children First Practice Improvement Plan

Glossary of Terms

The Improvement Plan necessarily deploys some technical terms relating to Social Work practice. These are explained in the list below, with key references in the document identified by section number.

CE (12)	Child Exploitation – a risk assessment tool supports its identification
Children in Care Council (11)	A forum for young people aged 10-16 who are in care and being looked after by West Sussex County Council, giving them the chance to have their voice heard about the services that affect them
Chronologies (2.3)	Records of significant life events to help professionals from a range of disciplines understand what is happening in the life of a child or young person; created as part of an initial assessment of needs and risks
Court Tracking (6)	Maintaining control of the often complex process of undertaking legal care proceedings on a child’s behalf, including unborn children, allowing for flexibility between possible alternative outcomes
CPA (9.7)	Child Protection Adviser – a senior social worker with a supervisory function
CP(P)	Child Protection (Plan) – for children thought to be at risk of harm - from physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional abuse or neglect
CIN (4)	Child in Need (Children Act 1989) - a child who is unlikely to achieve or maintain a reasonable level of health or development, or this is likely to be significantly or further impaired, without the provision of services; or a child who is disabled
CLA	Child/ren Looked After (by local authority, under Children Act, 1989)

Community of practice (1.3.5)	A group of professionals engaged in collaborative learning to identify best practice and raise standards
Dip sample (5.1)	A representative sample from casework, used as the basis of an audit to maintain and improve quality
Disruption Meeting (6.1.5)	A meeting to address the unplanned breakdown of a child's fostering or adoption placement
Foster to Adopt (6)	A form of adoption in which a child is placed into a home as a foster child, with the expectation that the child will become legally free to be adopted by the foster parents, when birth-parental rights are extinguished
Graded Care Profile (2.1)	A practice tool which gives an objective measure of the quality of care in terms of a parent/carer's commitment; often used in cases where child neglect is suspected
IHA/HA (11-12)	(Initial) Health Assessment
Improvement Board (Foreword & 12)	Partnership Board, with independent chairman, set up by WSCC in advance of the Ofsted judgement, to oversee the service improvement journey
IRO (9.7)	Independent Reviewing Officer - social worker who is also an experienced social work manager, whose duty is to ensure that care plans for children in care are legally compliant and in the child's best interest
KPI	Key Performance Indicator
LADO (12)	Local Authority Designated Officer - has overall responsibility for the management of allegations of abuse against adults who work with or volunteer with children
Life Story Work (7)	Social work intervention, aimed at helping children in care begin to understand and accept their personal history, to support their progress to adulthood
Locality model (1.1)	Broad County Council policy for appropriate location of service organisation and outlets, to best respond to local community need
LSCP (12)	Local Safeguarding Children Partnership

MOMO (4.2)	<i>Mind of My Own</i> – an App for young people, especially looked-after children, to communicate safely with practitioners
Neglect (2)	A form of significant harm which involves the persistent failure to meet a child's basic physical and/or psychological needs; likely to result in the serious impairment of the child's health or development
NQSW (10)	Newly Qualified Social Worker
NIMT (2.1)	Neglect Identification Monitoring Tool
PA (9)	Personal Adviser: a key role in preparing a Looked After young person for independence, and providing support as they approach adulthood
Pathway Plan (4)	The Pathway Plan sets out the route to the future for young people (16-21) leaving the Looked After service, and will state how their needs will be met in their path to independence
PEP (11)	Personal Education Plan (for Looked After children)
Permanence (6)	Permanence for a Looked After child means achieving, within a timescale which meets the child's needs, a permanent outcome which provides security and stability to the child throughout his or her childhood. It is, therefore, the best preparation for adulthood
Practice Leadership Programme (1.3)	Development programme to build excellence in senior roles, to support social workers to work more effectively with children
Practice standards (Foreword, 1 & 5)	Formal written protocol setting out correct practice in social care work, and promoted to staff
Private Fostering Arrangement (3)	Private fostering is an arrangement whereby a child under the age of 16 (or 18 if the child has a disability) is placed for 28 days or more in the care of someone who is not the child's parent(s) or a 'connected person'
Programme Board (Foreword)	Officer level operational board to oversee and enact service improvement

Public Law Outline (PLO) (9)	A set of rules which tells social workers how to deal with cases where they may wish to consider taking the case to Court so that they can make Court Orders to protect a child
Return Home Interview (5)	Local authorities must offer an independent return interview to all children who run away or go missing from their family home, or from care
RI (1.1)	'Requires Improvement' – Ofsted rating between 'Inadequate' and 'Good'
SCR (12.4)	Serious Case Review
SMART (4.1.2)	(In relation to plans): Specific, Measureable, Agreed, Realistic and with Timescales
Supervision (8)	The process whereby a social care practitioner and their work are regularly overseen by a more senior colleague, to maintain performance, quality and personal development
S20 (3 & 6)	Under Section 20 of the Children Act 1989, children may be accommodated by the local authority if they have no parent or are lost or abandoned, or where their parents are not able to provide them with suitable accommodation and agree to the child being accommodated. A child who is accommodated under Section 20 becomes a Looked After Child
ToR (11.1)	Terms of Reference
Twin-tracking (6)	Maintaining flexibility between alternative legal options for a child's future, to ensure the best outcome