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| **IN THE BARNSLEY COURT** | **Case No.** | |
| **IN THE MATTER OF THE CHILDREN ACT 1989** |  | |
| **AND IN THE MATTER OF:**  *Children’s name/s and DOB* |  | |
|  |  | |
| **BETWEEN** |  | |
|  | | Applicant |
| And  And | | First Respondent  Second Respondent *(Wont always be a second respondent)* |

This report has been prepared for the Courts and should be treated as confidential. It must not be shown, nor its contents revealed to any person other than the relevant party or a Legal Advisor to such a Party. Such a Legal Advisor may make use of the report in connection with any application for legal aid.

1. *Social workers name*, and *Role* at Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council, (BMBC). I hold a *degree?* in Social Work from University. I joined BMBC on *date* and I was asked to complete the s37 report in relation to *Children’s Name on Date*.
2. This report is prepared pursuant to an Order of the Court dated court date. The matters referred to in this report have been derived from Social Work records, other agency records or from my observations and assessments arising from contacts with the family. I write this report believing the contents to be true and knowing that it may be placed before the Court. *Or anything else relevant such as police records*
3. I believe the contents of this report to be true.

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1. **FAMILY COMPOSITION**

**Child(ren) subject of the application and non-subject children where vulnerable**

***Guidance-***

***Maintain confidentiality around non-subject children, focus within the report should remain on the subject child despite them being in a subject group. Use initials/first names of non-subject children.***

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Name of Child | Gender | Date of Birth | Age | Ethnicity | Address |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
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1. **PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

*Guidance-*

Any previous court orders made- Check with legal in terms of previous reports filed by Cafcass.

Any previous court reports/statements

What has the current court asked us to do

1. **RECENT CIRCUMSTANCES**

*Guidance-*

What the LA has being directed to completed and why, we need to look at the court order made and the specifics of what the LA are being directed to complete.

Within this section you need to be documenting **all** the above information which has been gathered from the child, family, professionals/agencies in **your preparation work** ,expand on these discussions and keep them relevant to the issues raised within the court order. Ensure that you are cross referencing with the case management order and what is being asked of you.

Start with visiting the child, introducing yourself and building the relationship with the child.

Pictures of the direct work undertaken with children/young people should be added to the report/case file where relevant. This is based on feedback from Judge Pemberton (in the voice of the child training) where she shared it is beneficial for the Judges to see/hear the voice of the child within court reports. This may also be added as an appendix.

If you have used assessment tools with parents/carers then add in the purpose of this and how this explored further discussions with them.

Ensure the discussions with other agencies and professionals are also captured within this section, considering their views in relation to the concerns raised and the impact upon the child/ren.

Ensure all discussions are captured from all the above people/agencies and written in your own words, as a summary, with direct quotes given where relevant, direct quotes will be key when sharing the discussions which have taken place with the child/ren.

1. **CONCLUSION**

Guidance- Consider what you have been directed to address within the section 7 report, this will be detailed within the court order. Make sure recommendations cover each of these points.

Consider if there are any ongoing support needs and how the child will be supported, will this be via early help, universal services, has the lead professional being informed.

Consider the question, what now? Either we are closing the child’s case to the LA, it’s is to be opened to early help, CP , Strategy meeting, ICPC, PLO. Provide dates of any future meetings.

1. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

*Guidance-* These arrangements need to be evidence based; you need to provide understanding as to how you have reached your decision, in doing this consider the best interest of the child.

What is the child’s view, do they agree, if not how do you propose this will happen.

What are the parents saying about this, do they agree, if not how do you plan to manage their disagreement

Consider family time during the school holidays, birthdays, Christmas etc. Can parents manage this between themselves or do we need to offered recommendations.

If recommending any third party to supervision or facilitate the handover during family time, you need to ensure that discussions are had with this person to ensure their understanding in the role and the level of supervision required. Police checks would also need to be undertaken.

The family time might need to be adjusted to support the child’s developing needs, but also in line with their wishes and feelings and both parents should be aware of this need.

The recommendations should stipulate who the child should “live with” as part of the final Child Arrangements Order and who they should “spend time” with, or that a shared care arrangements is proposed.