**How Leicester City make decisions about children who are subject of Child Protection processes and are Looked After**

**If a Child is ‘becoming’ Looked After as a result of Risk of Significant Harm**.

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| If there is a plan for a child to ‘become’ Looked After either via sec 20 or initiation of care proceedings then the case will progress towards an ICPC as per working together timescales.  All unborn children ( including concealed pregnancy’s ) will be progressed as per LSCB procedures for pre-birth conferences.  These unborn children will be subject to ICPC’s pre-birth.  If leading up to the ICPC the child’s LAC status is confirmed then the LAC review and IRO will lead the safeguarding arrangements and the ICPC will be cancelled with (Service Manager approval).  What to do:   1. Social Worker will inform the Safeguarding Unit diary 2. Service Managers for Safeguarding Unit and CIN will consult on the need for an ICPC and agree if the ICPC can be cancelled 3. Social worker will book a Looked After Children review meeting with the Safeguarding Unit diary. This should be completed within 48 hours.   The LAC review will require the following information from the social work team to be available for the IRO to enable the Safeguarding elements of the plan to be robustly considered.   * An up to date chronology and genogram. * Care Plan and placement * An assessment and proposal as the how to ensure the Child’s continuing safety * Recommendations and actions in relation to assessments and services to the child and family to understand how their ongoing needs will be met * Up to date police information (ongoing investigations will need to be subject of continued strategy or follow up strategy discussions/meeting) to enable full consideration to be given to police information.   The LAC review will recommend a clear contingency about what should happen if there is a likelihood that the child will return home in an unplanned or unsafe way. |

**When deciding whether a Child Protection Conference is required when a Child is already Looked After as a result of Significant Harm.**

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| When a child is already Looked After then an ICPC will not usually be required. A LAC review will be convened within 20 working days of the Child being Looked After and at this meeting the Child’s Safeguarding needs will be considered alongside their holistic needs as per LAC guidance.  The LAC review will require the information as above.  The LAC review will recommend a clear contingency about what should happen if there is a likelihood that the child will return home in an unplanned or unsafe way. |

**Decisions about Children Subject of Child Protection Plans who become LAC.**

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| When a Child who is subject of a Child Protection Plan becomes Looked After the :   1. Social Worker will inform the Independent Chair of the conference 2. Social Worker will book a Looked After Children review meeting with the Safeguarding Unit diary. This should be completed within 48 hours. 3. The Safeguarding Unit diary clerk will alert the IRO manager within 24 hours and book a LAC review meeting. |

**If the child is LAC subject of an Interim Care Order**

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| When a Child has become Looked After under an Interim Care Order   1. The social worker will book the LAC review ( as above) 2. Once the LAC review is booked and an IRO appointed the Child Protection Plan will cease without a further Child Protection Conference. 3. The Safeguarding Unit will write to all agencies and family to end the Child Protection plan by post within 48 hours. This will confirm the date of the order, the IRO’s name and contact details. 4. The Independent Chair will hand over to the IRO the safeguarding elements of the Child Protection Plan that need to be part of the Care plan.   **(Note: Unless a Child is Placement with Parents then see below**) |

**Placement with Parents**

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| If a child on a child protection plan becomes subject of an ICO and remains in the care of their parents   * The child will remain subject of a child protection plan until the 1st LAC review. This is to ensure a full multi agency handover from the child protection process to the Looked after Children’s process. * The child will then cease to be subject of a Child Protection Plan following the LAC review. * The Safeguarding Unit will write to all agencies and family to end the Child Protection plan by post. This will confirm the date of the order, the IRO’s name and contact details. * The Independent Chair will hand over to the IRO the safeguarding elements of the Child Protection Plan that need to be part of the Care plan. |

**If a child subject of a Child Protection Plan becomes Looked After under Sec 20 of the Children Act**

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| When a child subject of a Child Protection Plan becomes Looked After Sec 20 .   1. The social worker will book the LAC review ( as above) 2. At the LAC review the IRO will gain the views of all agencies and the Independent Chair in relation to the need for a continuation of the Child Protection Plan. If all agreed then the IC will arrange for the Child to cease to be subject of a Child Protection Plan and formally write to all agencies and end the child protection plan by post. |

**Children who are subject of other court directed orders**

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| Children subject of a Child Protection Plan who become subject of another order  e.g. Interim Supervision Order, Supervision Order; Special Guardianship Orders.  In circumstances where children are subject of the above orders it maybe that they continue to be at risk of significant harm .However the legal order and /or involvement of the care proceedings is viewed as sufficient to meet the needs of the child.   1. When the above orders are gained in court the social worker will inform the Independent Chair of the Child Protection Conference. 2. The Child Protection Conference will be brought forward to consider the continued need for a child protection plan. 3. If a child is subject of an interim of full supervision order they will not usually also need a Child Protection Plan and their safeguarding needs can be managed and reviewed via a Child In Need Plan and any current care proceedings. 4. The review conference will consider the interim/full supervision plan that has been agreed in court and ensure these elements are an part of the ongoing Child In Need Plan. The review conference will set the date for the first CIN meeting within 6 weeks. 5. The Chair of the review conference will always consider a clear contingency that is specific to the needs of the child. The contingency will include that if safeguarding concerns escalate then safety planning needs to address these concerns and further legal advice gained to safeguard the child. |

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| **Disagreements**  If there are disagreements between the Independent Chair ,IRO and Team Manager then Service Mangers ( CP, CIN and LAC) will consider further how to work together well for the child’s safety. |

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| **Contingency Planning**  Within all Child Protection Conference outcomes and LAC review plans there will be a clear contingency plan that if a child’s plan is not keeping them safe, if they return home in an unplanned or unsafe way then appropriate safeguarding actions will be taken by the operationally child care teams, Child Protection processes will be followed i.e. Strategy discussion, sec 47 and consideration for a Child Protection Conference. |

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| **Handover arrangements**  The IC will hand over the safeguarding elements required in the care plan to the IRO. This will compromise of ensuring the following are available for the IRO : the outcome of all conferences including the child protection plan, Alerts/concerns raised and the child’s views.  The handover will take place in time for the first LAC review |