



Standards and Criteria

Strategy meetings and discussions

Strategy meetings are multi-agency meetings called by Children's Social Care to plan an effective course of action for a child where there are child protection concerns. More information on strategy meetings and strategy discussions can be found in chapter 1.2.3 of the Gateshead LSCB Inter-Agency Child Protection Procedures at www.gateshead.gov.uk/lscb

Standard	Achieved?	Yes	No	N/A
1. Strategy meetings will be convened whenever there is reasonable cause to suspect that a child is suffering, or is likely to suffer significant harm.		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2. Membership of the strategy meeting will be appropriate to the needs of the child and is in line with Gateshead LSCB Inter-Agency Child Protection Procedures		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3. Strategy meetings will be held in line with timescales set out in Gateshead LSCB Inter-Agency Child Protection Procedures		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4. The outcome of the s47 enquiry will be shared with the relevant multi-agency professionals, including members of the strategy group		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Child protection conferences

Child protection conferences bring together family members (and the child where appropriate), supporters/advocates and those professionals most involved with the child and family to plan and review how best to reduce risk to an individual child. More information on Initial Child Protection Conferences (ICPCs) can be found in chapter 1.3.1 of the Gateshead LSCB Inter-Agency Child Protection Procedures at www.gateshead.gov.uk/lscb. More information on Review Child Protection Conferences (RCPCs) can be found in chapter 1.3.5 of the same document

Standard	Achieved?	Yes	No	N/A
1. An ICPC will be held whenever a child is judged to suffer, or be at risk of suffering, significant harm, as set out in Gateshead LSCB Inter-Agency Child Protection Procedures		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2. ICPCs will be convened within timescales as set out in Gateshead LSCB Inter-Agency Child Protection Procedures		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3. RCPCs will be convened within timescales as set out in Gateshead LSCB Inter-Agency Child Protection Procedures		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4. Conference membership will be appropriate to the child's case		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
5. Conferences will be quorate		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
6. Parents will be involved in the conference process		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Standard	Achieved?	Yes	No	N/A
7. Children will be involved in the conferences process where appropriate		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
8. All agencies will provide written reports to the conference within timescales set out in Gateshead LSCB Inter-Agency Child Protection Procedures		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
9. Reports to the conference will be, wherever possible, written in accordance with the multi-agency report template (provided as an appendix to this document)		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
10. Reports will be shared with parents in advance of the conference where appropriate		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
11. The conference minutes will be distributed in line with the timescales set out in Gateshead LSCB Inter-Agency Child Protection Procedures		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Child protection plans

Child protection plans outline how agencies, professionals and families should work together to ensure that an individual child will be safeguarded from harm in the future. More information on child protection plans can be found in sections 1.3.2 and 1.3.3 of Gateshead LSCB Inter-Agency Child Protection Procedures at www.gateshead.gov.uk/lscb

Standard	Achieved?	Yes	No	N/A
1. Child protection plans will be distributed within the timescales set out in Gateshead LSCB Inter-Agency Child Protection Procedures		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2. The child protection plan will outline the concerns for the child, including which category of abuse or neglect is appropriate		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3. The child protection plan will state who will be involved in the plan and how, It will identify the lead social worker and core group members and establish how the child, their parents/carers and other family members will be involved		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4. The child protection plan will outline visits that should be made to see the child in line with Gateshead LSCB Inter-Agency Child Protection Procedures		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
5. The child protection plan will outline the assessments required		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
6. The child protection plan will clearly outline the outcomes for the child		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
7. The child protection plan will state what actions are achieved to achieve the outcomes and clarify who will have responsibility for the actions and timescales for them to be achieved. The child protection plan will also outline ways of monitoring and evaluating progress against planned outcomes		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
8. The child protection plan will include a contingency plan if agreed objectives and actions are not completed and/or circumstances change		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
9. The child protection plan will include review dates		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Core groups

The core group is the group of individuals responsible for developing the child protection plan as a detailed working tool and implementing it as agreed at the ICPC and in line with Gateshead LSCB Inter-Agency Child Protection Procedures. More information on core groups can be found in chapter 1.3.4 of Gateshead LSCB Inter-Agency Child Protection Procedures at www.gateshead.gov.uk/lscb

Standard	Achieved?	Yes	No	N/A
1. Membership of the core group will be appropriate to the needs of the child and their case		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2. Membership of the core group will be identified at the ICPC and reviewed at each RCPC		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3. Core group meetings are held within agreed timescales as set out in Gateshead LSCB Inter-Agency Child Protection Procedures		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4. Core groups will address the areas of significant concern identified within the child protection plan and produce specific objectives to achieve lasting change. The core group will monitor the progress of the plan against the specified objectives		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
5. Core groups should review any new referral that is received for the child or a member of their family. In some cases a new referral may require the core group to reconvene the information or for the child's RCPC to be brought forward		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
6. A record of the core group meeting (including decisions taken, actions agreed and views of those unable to attend) should be recorded by the lead social worker on Carefirst and distributed to members within a fortnight of the meeting		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
7. A record of the core group meeting will also be shared with the relevant IRO at the Safeguarding Children Unit		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
8. If a professional is unable to send a core group they will inform the lead social worker and send a representative of provide a written report		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Produced by LSCB, January 2014

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