

Guidance for Section 47 Enquiry Exemplar

Last updated 11th October 2018

This document will take you through some of the key areas of the Exemplar

Panel 3:

Summary of reason why this Section 47 Enquiry is being undertaken nb this will be shared with parents

Outline why this Section 47 Enquiry is being undertaken at this time. Please note that the whole exemplar will be shared with the parents so ensure that the wording in this section has been considered and is suitable for sharing.

Panel 4:

Agreed at Strategy Discussion. Who will be seen, when, by whom and for what purpose (consider any connected children and parents with PR but not the main care giver)

This will populate through from the Strategy Discussion exemplar. It tells us who we thought should have been involved in the S47 Enquiry

Was anybody else spoken to as part of the S47 Enquiry (include name and role)

Include details of anyone else who was spoken to as part of this enquiry that is not included in the field above.

Panel 5 – Chronology

Brief chronology of Social Care and other professional involvement

Give a brief chronology of any Social Care Involvement the family have had and any other professional involvement. This may already be present in the MASH Enquiry exemplar.

Panel 6 – Details of the S47 Enquiry

Who was seen by whom and when; what the child said; what the parents said; views of professionals; outcome of police investigation thus far (where applicable)

When was the child seen? By whom and what did the child say? Did they make a disclosure?

When were the parents seen? By whom and what did they say?

Views of all Professionals? School view, health view, Police view?

Any other professionals that contributed – relevant concerns, view on threshold for ongoing risk of harm if given.

Outcome of Police Investigation thus far

Panel 9 – Analysis

What are we worried about? What is the lived experience of the child? What are the risks? How can the risks be best managed? What are the family's strengths/safety factors? If CIN previously why CP Now? Outline Plan

We know all of the above – but what does all of this mean for the child?

Do the protective factors make the risks manageable?

What are the risks to the child(ren) ?

(Parents mental health / drug use etc is not enough – what does this mean in terms of risk of physical harm / emotional harm / neglect etc) – be explicit...

Is the risk contained? Link the decision to the threshold document.

How can the risks best be managed? ie safety plan? Immediate actions to safeguard? What are we recommending? ICPC? Further assessment under Section 17? What intervention are we going to offer and provide and to whom?

Protective factors / strengths

Are parents willing to engage? Are wider family protective? Does the child feel safe? Consider and bullet point all protective factors

If CIN then why CP now?

What is the outline plan at this stage?

Panel 11 – Managers Comments

Managers Comments

This section is for the Team Manager to add their oversight and comments

- Acknowledgement that the manager has read the enquiry in full and any other current/past knowledge they might have about the Family from other documents or past oversight they might have had of the case
- Identification of the information sources the enquiry drew upon and whether sources were appropriate
- Statement re whether the Manager agrees or disagrees with the recommendations made and what threshold further work - if any - needs to be completed
- Rationale as to why the Manager agrees or disagrees with the SW
- Additional recommendations – for example, SW might have recommended ICPC and the Manager agrees but might want other things to happen too, such as LPM or FNM
- Additional comments if necessary – for example if enquiry was not completed in a timely manner or the SW did not see one child alone, these issues need to be noted by the Manager alongside the reasons why best practice processes were not followed and what the Team/SW is going to do about it (if anything) moving forward

Exemplar Sign off

First sign off to be the Social Worker undertaking the S47 Enquiry.

Counter sign off to be the Manager overseeing this S47 Enquiry.