

Child Open to Social Care Return Home Interview process:

1. Notification received from Police COMPACT system via REACH team.
2. Social worker will coordinate Return Home Interview (RHI)
 - a. Stat guidance states the interview should be independent and whilst this should not be the case holding social worker another social worker from the same team could complete it. The recommendation from the strategic group is that it should be completed by the person in the child's network who has the best relationship* with them as they are more likely to identify underlying issues.
 - b. The social worker is responsible for ensuring the M8 RHI form is completed.

Para 37: Statutory guidance on children who run away or go missing from home or care, states;
*Safe and well checks and independent return interviews provide an opportunity to inform case planning, for wider strategic planning and for professionals to take into account children's views. The outcomes of the checks and interviews should therefore be **recorded on case files so that they can shared with professionals.*** – this provision allows for consistent recording and a clear audit process open to scrutiny.
 - c. For children who are looked after on a Child In Need plan or CP Plan the Chair for the respective processes should be notified to allow them the opportunity of instigating contingency plans/reconvening a review early and amending the plan to promote wellbeing.
3. Plan should be reviewed and amended as appropriate.

*if the child has no trusting relationships in their network a referral to the REACH team can be made and the TEAM manager will consider the appropriateness of allocating a youth worker to complete the RHI on behalf of the social worker.