|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Local Authority**  **Social Work Evidence (SWET)**  **Template** | In the Family Court sitting at |
| In the matter of the Children Act 1989 |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Local Authority and Social Worker Details** | |
| Court case number |  |
| Filed by | Gateshead Local Authority |
| Social work statement number in the proceedings, eg 1st, 2nd (NB A final statement should be completed on the Final Statement Template) |  |
| Social work statement number of this witness eg 1st, 2nd, 3rd and date of statement |  |
| This author/witness’s name, qualifications and office address |  |
| This author/witness’s Social Work England registration number |  |
| I have been the allocated social worker for {insert name(s)] since [date(s)] |  |

**The facts in this application are true to the best of my knowledge and belief and the opinions set out are my own.**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Signed: |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Date of Completion or most recent update: |  |

**Please ensure that you update the page numbers on the table by clicking on the table followed by the “update” tab, selecting “update page numbers only” once the report is completed.**

**Table of contents**

[1. Overview of which court order or order/s are being sought 4](#_Toc71896753)

[2. Family Network Composition 4](#_Toc71896754)

[**2.1** **The child/ren – use one per template per family** 4](#_Toc71896755)

[**2.2** **Child/ren’s Family Network** 4](#_Toc71896756)

[**2.3** **Has anyone listed above been identified as an alternative carer(s) for the children?** 4](#_Toc71896757)

[3. Child impact analysis (complete for each individual child) 5](#_Toc71896758)

[**3.1** **Description of the child’s day to day experiences during the period under consideration** 5](#_Toc71896759)

[**3.2** **The child’s needs. An analysis of the harm they face. Risk and protective factors** 5](#_Toc71896760)

[**3.3** **The child/ren’s wishes and feelings and how these have been identified (please include the child/ren’s own statement, where age appropriate)** 5](#_Toc71896761)

[**3.4** **The child/ren’s participation in the court case** 5](#_Toc71896762)

[4. Analysis of the evidence of parenting capability 6](#_Toc71896763)

[**4.1** **Summary of work previously undertaken with child/ren and the family that has led to these proceedings eg pre-proceedings or convening a family group conference (or similar)** 6](#_Toc71896764)

[5. Analysis of the evidence of wider family and friends’ capability as alternative carers for the child/ren 6](#_Toc71896765)

[6. The proposed S31A interim care plan – the ‘realistic options’ analysis 7](#_Toc71896766)

[**6.1** **Options considered for the placement. Please have regard to the following:** 7](#_Toc71896767)

[**6.2** **The preferred and proposed placement option for the child or each individual child if part of a sibling group** 7](#_Toc71896768)

[**6.3** **Summary of diversity and cultural considerations** 7](#_Toc71896769)

[**6.4** **Summary of any health, wellbeing and educational considerations** 7](#_Toc71896770)

[7. Family time / the plan for contact 8](#_Toc71896771)

[8. The range of views of parties and significant others 8](#_Toc71896772)

[**8.1** **Mother’s views** 8](#_Toc71896773)

[**8.2** **Father’s views** 8](#_Toc71896774)

[**8.3** **Views of anyone else holding parenting responsibility or wider family members** 8](#_Toc71896775)

[**8.4** **Views of other parties or significant others** 8](#_Toc71896776)

[9. Case management issues and proposals 9](#_Toc71896777)

[**9.1** **Record case management issues here alongside details of any further proposed assessments** 9](#_Toc71896778)

[**9.2** **Significant events happening in the near future which are relevant for the child** 9](#_Toc71896779)

[10. Statement of procedural fairness 9](#_Toc71896780)

[11. The welfare checklist in full for reference 10](#_Toc71896781)

[12. The Social Work Chronology (last two years) 11](#_Toc71896782)

[**12.1** **If there has been involvement with the family over a longer period, please summarise this involvement here** 11](#_Toc71896783)

[**12.2** **Genogram (mandatory) (but format may be adapted)** 12](#_Toc71896784)

[**12.3** **Ecomap (risky and protective contacts (optional)** 12](#_Toc71896785)

# **1. Overview of which court order or order/s are being sought**

|  |
| --- |
|  |

# **2. Family Network Composition**

## **2.1 The child/ren – use one per template per family**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name(s)** | **Gender** | **Date of Birth** | **Child’s current placement status** | **Child’s current  legal status** |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |

## **2.2 Child/ren’s Family Network**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Relationship** | **Parental Responsibility** | **DOB** | **Nationality** | **Ethnicity** | **Address (where safe to disclose)** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

## **2.3 Has anyone listed above been identified as an alternative carer(s) for the children?**

|  |
| --- |
|  |

# **3. Child impact analysis (complete for each individual child)**

## **3.1 Description of the child’s day to day experiences during the period under consideration**

|  |
| --- |
|  |

## **3.2 The child’s needs. An analysis of the harm they face. Risk and protective factors**

|  |
| --- |
|  |

## **3.3 The child/ren’s wishes and feelings and how these have been identified (please include the child/ren’s own statement, where age appropriate)**

|  |
| --- |
|  |

## **3.4 The child/ren’s participation in the court case**

|  |
| --- |
|  |

# **4. Analysis of the evidence of parenting capability**

## **4.1 Summary of work previously undertaken with child/ren and the family that has led to these proceedings eg pre-proceedings or convening a family group conference (or similar)**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Organisation** | **Description of assessment/intervention** | **Outcome and effectiveness** |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |

|  |
| --- |
| **Mother** |
|  |
| **Father** |
|  |
| **Other members of the household and/or person(s) with parental responsibility** |
|  |

# **5. Analysis of the evidence of wider family and friends’ capability** **as alternative carers for the child/ren**

|  |
| --- |
|  |

# **6. The proposed S31A interim care plan – the ‘realistic options’ analysis**

## **6.1 Options considered for the placement**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Long-term placement options explored** | **Is this option realistic and viable or has it been discounted?** | **Reason(s) why it is viable or why it has been discounted?** |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

## **6.2 The preferred and proposed placement option for the child or each individual child if part of a sibling group**

|  |
| --- |
|  |

## **6.3 Summary of diversity and cultural considerations**

|  |
| --- |
|  |

## **6.4 Summary of any health, wellbeing and educational considerations**

|  |
| --- |
|  |

# **7. Family time / the plan for contact**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Child** | **Who contact is with and relationship to the child** | **Frequency and duration** | **Level of support/ supervision required** | **Brief rationale for the level of contact proposed** |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |

# **8. The range of views of parties and significant others**

## **8.1 Mother’s views**

|  |
| --- |
|  |

## **8.2 Father’s views**

|  |
| --- |
|  |

## **8.3 Views of anyone else holding parenting responsibility or wider family members**

|  |
| --- |
|  |

## **8.4 Views of other parties or significant others**

|  |
| --- |
|  |

# **9. Case management issues and proposals**

## **9.1 Record case management issues here alongside details of any further proposed assessments**

|  |
| --- |
|  |

## **9.2 Significant events happening in the near future which are relevant for the child**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Event eg transitioning from primary to secondary school** | **Source of evidence/document reference** | **Significance** |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |

# **10. Statement of procedural fairness**

|  |
| --- |
|  |

**Please update the table of contents.]**

# **11. The welfare checklist in full for reference**

The full Children Act checklist, to be used in care and supervision proceedings is found at section 1 (3) (a) – (g) and requires the court to have regard to the following matters:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (a) | The ascertainable wishes and feelings of the child/children concerned (considered in the light of their age and understanding); |
| (b) | Their physical, emotional and educational needs; |
| (c) | The likely effect on them of any change in his/her/their circumstances; |
| (d) | Their age, sex, background and any characteristics of his/hers/theirs which the court considers relevant; |
| (e) | Any harm which they have suffered or are at risk of suffering; |
| (f) | How capable each of their parents, and any other person in relation to whom the court considers the question to be relevant, is of meeting his/her/their needs; |
| (g) | The range of powers available to the court under this Act (Children Act 1989) in the proceedings in question. |

The full Adoption and Children Act welfare checklist, to be used in care proceedings where the plan is for adoption and in placement proceedings, is found in section 1 (4) (a) – (f) and requires the court and the adoption agency to have regard to the following matters (among others):

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (a) | the child’s ascertainable wishes and feelings regarding the decision (considered in the light of the child’s age and understanding); |
| (b) | the child’s particular needs; |
| (c) | the likely effect on the child (throughout theirlife) of having ceased to be a member of the original family and become an adopted person; |
| (d) | the child’s age, sex, background and any of the child’s characteristics which the court or agency considers relevant; |
| (e) | any harm (within the meaning of the Children Act 1989 (c. 41)) which the child has suffered or is at risk of suffering; |
| (f) | the relationship which the child has with relatives, and with any other person in relation to whom the court or agency considers the relationship to be relevant, including:   1. the likelihood of any such relationship continuing and the value of the child of its doing so, 2. the ability and willingness of any of the child’s relatives, or of any such person, to provide the child with a secure environment in which the child can develop, and otherwise to meet the child’s needs, 3. the wishes and feelings of any of the child’s relatives, or of any such person, regarding the child. |

**Appendix**

# **12. The Social Work Chronology (last two years)**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Incident or sequence of incidents relevant to the child’s welfare** | **Significance** |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

## **12.1 If there has been involvement with the family over a longer period, please summarise this involvement here**

|  |
| --- |
|  |

## **12.2 Genogram (mandatory) (but format may be adapted)**

Include family members and their relationship to each child, identify anyone who has been identified as a potential carer by adding ‘PC’ next to their name(s)

Include all other relatives

**Key:**

Female

Male

Male

## **12.3 Ecomap (risky and protective contacts (optional)**