



Criteria for Discontinuing the Child Protection Plan

This decision can only be made at a Child Protection Review Conference and a child should no longer be the subject of a Child Protection Plan if:

1. It is judged that the child(ren) is/are no longer at risk of significant harm requiring safeguarding by means of a child protection plan.
2. Evidence that the original factors which led to the child being made subject to a child protection plan, no longer apply would include:
 - (a) The risk of harm has been reduced by action taken through the child protection plan.
 - (b) The child and family's circumstances have changed, or reassessment of the child and family indicates that a Child Protection Plan is not necessary.
 - (c) The child has been placed away from the home and there is no longer contact with the abusing individual, or any contact is not considered to present a risk to the child.
 - (d) The child and family have moved permanently to another Local Authority and this area has accepted responsibility and has held an Initial Child Protection Case Conference.
 - (e) The child has reached 18 years of age.
 - (f) The child marries at age 16 years.
 - (g) The child has died, and the circumstances are fully understood.
 - (h) The child has permanently left the UK (See Section C).
 - (i) The child is subject to a Care Order.
 - (j) **Discontinuation of the Child Protection Plan on the granting of an Interim Care Order**

Where, at the initial conference/review, the Local Authority plan is to initiate care proceedings and to place the child under an Interim Care Order, the conference/review should agree that the child's name should be removed from the list of children subject to a child protection plan upon the granting of an Interim Care Order. A planned review date should still be set in the event the order is not granted.



(k) Discontinuing the child protection plan in other circumstances - Interim care order granted and not previously discussed in Conference/review.

Where, at the initial conference/review, there is no plan for the Local Authority to initiate care proceedings and to place the child under an Interim Care Order, and this happens during the review period, discontinuation of the child protection plan in view of the change in the child's circumstances must be considered. The Children's Standards Unit must be contacted on the granting of the ICO to arrange a Looked After Review.

In the event of a child protection plan changing and an ICO being granted during the review period, the social worker must convene a child protection review/first CLA review in order to agree that the child protection plan can be discontinued and that the looked after arrangements and care plan can be agreed.

(l) Other Legal Orders

It may also be possible to consider this process when children are subject to other planned legal orders, e.g., Interim Residence Orders or Interim Supervision Orders. However, it is proposed these options are discussed formally in a conference/review and multi-agency agreement is sought as to the child protection plan discontinuing on the granting of these legal orders. It may be possible to consider this process when children are subject to Section 20 Accommodation, however, each case should be considered individually as Section 20 Accommodation does not give the Local Authority parental responsibility and there is also a risk if parents withdraw their agreement.

3. In circumstances (a)–(d) a child protection review conference is always required and (e)–(i) can be agreed without a child protection review conference providing the keyworker notifies the Children's Standards Unit Safeguarding Children Co-ordinator in writing of the change in circumstances that warrant the discontinuation of the child protection plan.