

DECISION MAKING PATHWAY

Principles for Decision-making with Children, Young People and their Families:

1. Decisions are made with the child's welfare and safety at the heart
2. Decisions are made with children, young people and their families and their views are taken into account
3. Decisions are made within the statutory and legal framework
4. Decisions are timely, reasoned, transparent, clear, equitable and recorded

Functions of the Decision-Making Pathway:

1. The right decision is made for the right child in the right time with the right outcome
2. Social workers and Personal Advisers and their managers are empowered and encouraged to make decisions *with* children, young people and their families within a clear framework
3. There is the opportunity for peer challenge and support
4. Accountability and tiers of delegated authority are clear

Functions of Forums and Panels:

1. Oversight of key decision making to ensure principles are maintained
2. Decisions are timely
3. Decisions make best use of resources
4. Decision making is 'joined up' across services and with partners

The Four Forums for Children's Services Senior Management Oversight:

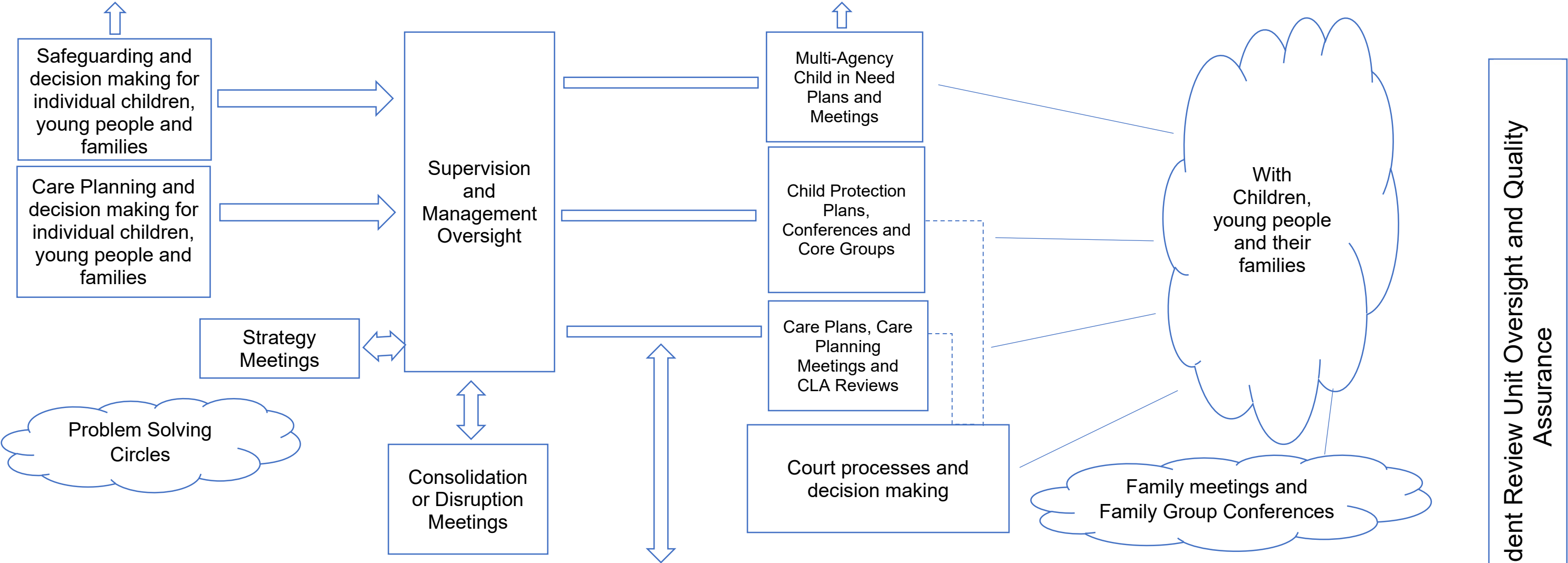
1. Permanence Forum –Multi-professional advice and guidance for permanence planning before 2nd CLA Review/change of plan *Tuesday mornings*
2. Legal Planning Meeting (LPM) Panel /Public Law Outline Letter Before Proceedings (LBP) Review – Decision-making re threshold for PLO-*Wednesday afternoons*
3. Providing Access To Help & Support (PATHS)–Requests for resources/funding to prevent child being CLA/support move on or step down/ensure placement stability-*Thursday/Friday mornings (fortnightly)*
4. Placements Forum-'High Cost' Placements & those in transition to adulthood funded by ChS only- *Thursday mornings (Monthly)*

There is also a specialist Children with Disabilities Resources Panel.

Multi-Agency Oversight

Complex Cases Panel- (Placements funded by Social Care/Health/Education) – *dates vary notified by e-mail (monthly)*

Statutory & Local Safeguarding & Care Planning Map



SENIOR MANAGEMENT OVERSIGHT

