



Keeping children safe is everyone's responsibility

Brent LSCB

Supervision Order

Policy

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1 Context

- 1.1. This policy has been developed in response to concern about the understanding among partners about the significance of a Supervision Order and planning and review mechanisms for children subject to these orders. A Serious Case Review Child D and E in 2010 further highlighted the need for strengthened arrangements for this group of children.
- 1.2. This policy outlines the expectations of all partners with specific reference to the process for children who are subjects of Supervision Orders who do not have child protection plans. This process of planning and review is set out and all agencies will take up membership of a Team Around a Child (TAC) when required.

2 Legal Context

- 2.1. When a child is the subject of a Supervision Order this means that the court has made a finding that the child has suffered significant harm or is likely to have suffered significant harm and this is attributable to the care they have received.
- 2.2. A Supervision Order is usually made for one year; this may be extended upon application for up to three years.
- 2.3. A child who is subject of a Supervision Order requires the same level of planning, monitoring and review as a child who is the subject of a Child Protection Plan or a Care Order.
- 2.4. A Supervision Order gives the local authority three specific duties:
 - To advise, assist and befriend the child
 - To take all reasonable steps to see that the order is given effect
 - To consider whether to apply for a variation or discharge of the order where it is not being wholly complied with or the authority considers that the order may no longer be necessary (section 35(1)).

3 Applying for a Supervision Order

- 3.1. An application for a Supervision Order will usually be made as part of a Child Protection Plan for a child or as a result of application for Care Orders.

4 Directions, Requirements and Conditions

- 4.1. **The local authority must ensure that adequate measures/conditions are attached to the Supervision Order that will enable to local authority to adequately safeguard the child.**
- 4.2. **You must consider whether it is appropriate to:**
 - **Include any directions to the supervised child (see below); or**
 - **Attach requirements to the interim/Final Supervision order in relation to an adult; or**
 - **Attach requirements regarding psychiatric or medical examination of the child**
- 4.3. **Directions to the supervised child may entail:**
 - **Direction to live in a specified place and/or for a specified period such as being placed at home.**
 - **Direction for the child to present himself to a named person and specific place and time (CAMHS, social work meetings etc)**
 - **To participate in activities on particular days.**

5 Notification

- 5.1. **The named social worker must inform all relevant professionals that the child has been made subject of a Supervision Order or Interim Supervision Order.**
- 5.2. **The named social worker must ensure that all relevant professionals are aware of the requirements of the Supervision Order and that a finding of significant harm has been made.**

6 Planning and Review without a Child Protection Plan

- 6.1. **If the child is not subject of a child protection plan the social worker must establish a team around the child (TAC) and this group will be responsible for the planning and review of plans for this child. The TAC is constituted and operates in the same way as a Core Group.**
- 6.2. **The first TAC meeting must be chaired by a social work manager and must be convened within 10 days of making an Interim/Supervision Order.**
- 6.3. **The first TAC meeting must make a Supervision Order plan that addresses any risks and allocates tasks to members of the TAC as appropriate.**
- 6.4. **The TAC must consider whether to update the Core Assessment.**
- 6.5. **The Supervision Order Plan must be formally reviewed by the team around the child 3, 9 and 12 months after the Order was made.**

7 Planning and Review for Subjects of Child Protection Plans

- 7.1. **If the child is subject of a child protection plan and the conference decides to maintain this status then this will be the planning and review mechanism for this child.**
- 7.2. **A core group meeting must be convened within 10 days of making an Interim or Supervision Order.**

8 Seeing the Child

- 8.1. **The TAC or child protection conference will decide on the frequency of visits if these are not specified in the Supervision Order.**
- 8.2. **The child must be seen at a minimum of 6 weekly intervals.**
- 8.3. **The child's caregivers and home environment must be seen as part of the ongoing supervision.**

9 Extending the Supervision Order

- 9.1. **The TAC, core group or child protection conference must review the progress of the Supervision Order at least 12 weeks before it expires.**
- 9.2. **If sufficient progress has not been achieved and it is unlikely that it will be achieved without an Order, an extension must be applied for.**

10 Returning to Court

- 10.1. **If there are concerns that the child continues to be at risk of significant harm, or is at risk of new and significant harm at any point during the progress of a Supervision Order, consideration must be given to convening:**
 - **a strategy meeting with a view to conducting a s.47 investigation; and/or**
 - **a legal planning meeting to decide whether it is appropriate to return to court in order to either vary the order or apply for an Emergency Protection Order/Care Order.**