

1. General

- Introductions & Apologies.
- Names and dates of birth (where available) and address for all significant adults involved with the child(ren), identifying nature of relationship.
- Clarification regarding who has parental responsibility - names, DOB and addresses.
- Name and date of birth and address of perpetrator if different from those already identified.

2. Information Sharing

- Reason for / purpose of the Strategy Discussion, including details of the incident / nature of concerns.
- Agency information concerning child, family members and identified significant others.
- What further information is required about the child/ren, family and significant others and how it will be obtained and recorded?
- Agencies **must** confirm which records / systems have yet to be researched. The timescale for undertaking this and sharing additional information with the chair / other agencies is **one working day**.
- Agencies to **share any specific RISK GRADING / CATEGORY** assigned to the child(ren), **explain the action taken / to be taken** as a result of this grading / category and **share the date this will be reviewed** (note: *risk gradings / categories should always be updated when new and relevant intelligence is received*)

3. Initial Decisions

- Are there grounds to initiate an assessment under section 47 of the Children Act 1989 (or continued one if already begun)? *If the criteria for a section 47 enquiry is not met, consider what further action is needed – i.e. CIN assessment / early help or family support services.*
- Are there grounds for a criminal investigation? *If yes, confirm the proposed conduct and timing of any investigation.*
- Are any actions required immediately to safeguard and promote the welfare of the child, and / or provide interim services and support?
- Is legal action required?

- Are there other children who may be affected and in need of protection?** *(e.g. siblings and other children living in the same home / in contact with alleged abusers).*
- Nominate a named professional or adult** who has (or who can develop) a trusted relationship with young people at risk of serious youth violence.

4. How will the section 47 enquiry be undertaken?

- Who will carry out what actions, by when and for what purpose and should a social media search be conducted?**
- Interviews: Who should be interviewed, by whom, for what purpose and when?** *The way in which interviews are conducted can play a significant part in minimising any distress caused to children, and increasing the likelihood of maintaining constructive working relationships with families. When a criminal offence may have been committed against a child, the timing and handling of interviews with victims, their families and witnesses, can have important implications for the collection and preservation of evidence.*
- Seeing & Hearing the Child: When will the child be seen alone (unless to do so would be inappropriate for the child) by the social worker.)** *Taking into account their age and developmental needs, what methods should be used to establish the child's wishes and feelings will be ascertained? If a child is disabled, preferred communication method for understanding and expressing themselves need to be given the utmost priority. Where a child has speech, language and communication needs, adequate arrangements must be made to ensure that their views and feelings can be obtained. More Guidance is available [HERE](#).*
- Medical treatment / further medical examinations or assessments?** Who will carry out what actions, by when and for what purpose.
- Discharge from Hospital:** If the child is in hospital, confirm how the safe discharge of the child will be secured (i.e. *via a discharge planning meeting*).
- Anti-Discriminatory Practice:** In light of the ethnicity and religion of the child and family and potential discrimination or racism they may have experienced, how should these issues be taken into account? i.e. *Is an interpreter or specialist advice required; are we having an open conversation about power dynamics in the context of s47?*
- Feedback to the family:** What information from the strategy meeting / discussion will be shared with the family? *If such information sharing may place a child at increased risk of significant harm or jeopardise police investigations into any alleged offence/s, information should not be shared.*

5. Next Steps

- Is a Review Strategy Discussion required?** If so, set provisional date and confirm attendees.