LPM / Pre Proceedings Meetings and Permanency Planning Meetings

	LPM	Pre Proceedings Meeting	Permanency Planning meeting	
Who to attend	The child's current social worker;		The Permanency Planning Meeting should be organised by the Child's Social Worker	
attena	Any social work assistant who has been involved with the family;	Parents/others with Parental Responsibility		
	The new proposed team manager and/or social worker where the case is due to transfer; and A local authority legal adviser	Parents legal representation social worker Team / service manager A local authority legal adviser	Team / service manager (Chair) The Children in Care Team Social Worker and/or Team Manager must be invited to attend the meeting. Children's Guardian should be invited as an observer.	
			The Independent Reviewing Officer and the social worker from the fostering team and the family finding adoption team (where relevant – all children under 11) It is essential that the views of the child and young person, their parents, and significant others are available to the chair. This might be in writing, drawing, audio or video recording or verbally presented by someone else on their behalf. If the case is in Care Proceedings, the local authority responsible solicitor	
Documents	Relevant assessment(s);	Relevant assessment(s);	C & F assessment	
	An up to date Chronology ; A Plan or a clear indication that options for a plan have been considered; A Genogram ; All relevant reports from other agencies such as health and education; Minutes from previous statutory meetings (e.g. strategy meetings, CP conferences	An up to date Chronology ; A genogram	Available documents which might be: Care Plan statement for court Parenting assessments Expert assessments Child's Permanence Report Any other legal orders	

Agenda

Identify and locate all persons with PR;

Any potential issues/documentation regarding parental capacity

The reasons for the concerns and the evidential basis for establishing significant harm and whether the Threshold Criteria are met:

The action/decisions already taken and where the decisions were made e.g. Strategy Discussion, Child Protection Conference, Core Group

The evidence already available - i.e. **Child** and **Family Assessment**, as well as other medical and other expert involvement, which support the Local Authority's concerns;

What evidence is outstanding/needs to be obtained and what are the timescales for this?

Whether it may be appropriate to instruct any further expert assessment before the commencement of court proceedings

Have there been previous Court proceedings in relation to the family?

What action the Local Authority should take to safeguard the welfare of the child i.e. follow the Pre-Proceedings process or initiate proceedings?

In addition consideration should be given to the following:

The proposed **Care Plan** for the child, , consultation with parents and the wider family, whether any family members are available to care for the child on an interim or permanent basis . Consider other permanency options , giving consideration to a Concurrency/Foster to Adopt placement in suitable cases, and ensure that a Permanency Planning Meeting is called.

Whether an immediate issue letter should be sent, and the timing of this

Agree a revised plan for the child, which should be subsequently confirmed in writing to the parents, setting out what the parents and the local authority must do to safeguard the child. The plan will indicate the steps the local authority will take to support the parents and the timescales within which progress must be made for proceedings to be avoided;

Outline the steps that the local authority will take at the end of this period, depending on whether progress has been demonstrated; and

Review arrangements for identifying potential family carers, and/or for assessments with the parents, particularly where these require letters of instruction to assessment services.

Setting clear expectations and timescales for improvement will reduce the potential for delay. The child's plan should be reviewed within six weeks of the meeting to ensure that sufficient progress is being made

Consideration of the options for permanency

Primary Plan (for deliberation in the meeting)

Parallel or Contingency Plan (for deliberation in the meeting)

Preparation for permanency (to be reported on in the meeting)

Family Finding process (for the meeting)

Decision on Permanence Plan[s] to be recommended to the Statutory Child Care Review on behalf of the Local Authority