

CONNECTED PERSONS FLOWCHART

For a child in need who may require accommodation (e.g. in pre-proceedings or where care proceedings are in progress)

Family or friends put themselves forward to be assessed to care for the child/ren
Decision is made about the two most appropriate prospective carers to go forward for viability assessment ideally via FGC.

Decision is made for child to be LAC or other plan (e.g. SGO)

Stage 1: Initial viability screening (Referral Form)

Completed by the Child's Social Worker to include police checks.

If this is satisfactory stage 2 must be undertaken
(Reg 24 - assessment must be completed before child is placed)

Stage 2: Referral to Family and Friends Assessment Team,
Viability Assessment Visit

Referral for viability assessment is made to Family and Friends Team manager. A joint home visit & assessment of the potential carers is undertaken by the fostering social worker and the child's social worker. The interview is led by and the assessment form is completed by the fostering social worker with contributions from the child's SW. (If assessment is for Reg 24, it must be sent to ADM for authorisation and only then can it be allocated.)

Planned fostering assessment/SGO

Fostering Team Social Worker completes full Family and Friends Fostering or SGO assessment to meet timescales.

(Family and Friends Fostering and SGO assessments use the same CORAM BAAF form C, Family and friends fostering assessments must meet fostering regulation standards.)

If a family and friends fostering assessments must be presented to the Foster Panel for recommendation to the Agency Decision Maker, before child is placed.

Emergency Placement (Reg 24)

In an emergency a child may become LAC and be placed with the carers under Regulation 24 (arrangements for the temporary approval of a connected person as a foster carer) to allow an immediate placement.

An emergency placement under Regulation 24 can only go ahead following agreement from the Agency Decision Maker (AD Ian Walker) A Regulation 24 placement must not exceed 16 weeks.

