

Appendix A: National Adoption Standards /Care Planning, Placement and Case Review Regulations 2010: Timescales

National Adoption Standards: Timescales	
Stage in process	Timescales set
<p>Children</p> <p>A permanence plan for all children looked after must be presented</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children’s wishes and feelings must be listened to, recorded and taken into account where not acted upon the reasons will be explained to the child and will be properly recorded • Children will be well prepared before joining a new family and life journey information will be kept safe • Children are entitled to support services to meet their assessed needs • Adoption plans will set out clearly arrangements for maintaining links (including contact) with birth families and significant others, and how and when arrangements will be reviewed 	<p>At 2nd statutory review</p> <p>Throughout the adoption process</p>
<p>Birth Parents</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To have access to a separate support worker⁵ • To give their accounts of events and comment on what is said about them in the report to the Adoption panel • To be shown a copy of the completed Child Permanence Report 	<p>From the time the adoption is proposed</p>
<p>Agency Best Interests recommendation</p>	<p>Within 2 months of CLA review at which adoption is identified as the plan</p>
<p>Agency decision on linking or matching child with prospective adoptive parents</p>	<p>Within 6 months of best interest decision, or</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Within 6 months of court decision in care proceedings, • Or 3 months of best interest decision re relinquished infant under 6 months of age

⁵ Refer to Thames Valley Adoption for this service to be provided

<p>Agency Decision</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Timing of all decisions • Re applicants suitability 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Within 7 working days of panel • Within 6 months of formal application • Within 6 months of formal application • All decisions conveyed in writing within 5 working days
<p>Prospective adopters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matching process • Support Services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be given full information re child's needs and background and have an opportunity to discuss the implications before a match is agreed • To be available before, during and after adoption

