**Appendix 2**

 **Reg.24 (Kinship Care) Referral Form/Viability Assessment**

**Temporary Approval of a Relative, Friend, or Other Person**

**Connected with a Child (C)**

**The Care Planning Regulations 2010 state:**

Where the responsible Authority is satisfied that –

* The most appropriate placement for C is with a connected person, notwithstanding that the connected person is not approved as a Local Authority foster parent, and
* it is necessary for C to be placed with the connected person before the connected person’s suitability to be a Local Authority foster parent has been assessed in accordance with the 2002 Regulations;

They may approve that person as a Local Authority foster parent for a temporary period not exceeding 16 weeks (‘temporary approval’) provided that they first comply with the requirements of paragraph (2).

Before making a placement under paragraph (1), the responsible authority must –

* Assess the suitability of the connected person to care for C, including the suitability of –
	+ the proposed accommodation, and
	+ all other persons aged 18 and over who are members of the household in which it is proposed that C will live,

taking into account all the matters set out in Schedule 4,

* consider whether, in all the circumstances and taking into account the services to be provided by the responsible authority, the proposed arrangements will safeguard and promote C’s welfare and meet C’s needs set out in the care plan, and
* make immediate arrangements for the suitability of the connected person to be a Local Authority foster parent to be assessed in accordance with the 2002 Regulations (‘the full assessment process’) before the temporary approval expires.

In this regulation ‘connected person’ means a relative, friend, or other person connected to C.

**Guidance Note**

In emergency situations this viability assessment must be completed by a fostering social worker on Liquid Logic and submitted to the ‘Strategic Manager for Resources’ request temporary approval.

The child’s Social Worker will contact the Fostering Placement & Kinship Team and a Fostering Social Worker will undertake a joint visit to the prospective placement **or** provide advice and guidance via the telephone. In non-emergency situations where the child does not need to be placed immediately, the same process will apply, however a pre-arranged joint visit with a Fostering Social Worker will take place.

It is anticipated that the assessment will be completed on Liquid Logic prior to seeking permission from the Strategic Manager for temporary approval. If the full report is not completed prior to temporary approval, it must be completed by the Fostering Social Worker within 48 hours. In non-emergencies, the viability assessment must be completed by the Fostering Social Worker prior to requesting temporary approval.

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