Planned External Placement-Gateshead Placements To A Neighbouring Or Distant Authority When Placing With An Independent Fostering Agency Or Independent Children's Home.

- * **Note** that this also includes placement within the provision of a Voluntary Organisation, or a placement with a Local Authority Children's Home or a Local Authority approved Foster Carer from another Local Authority, however, placements within Local Authority provision is less likely due to their own placement demands.
- *NOTE Statutory Guidance 2014 states that approval of the Service Director (Director of Children's Services) or Nominated Officer is not required where the placement is with the Parent/a Connected Person or a Foster Carer approved by Gateshead Council.

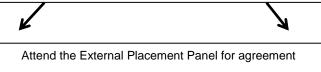
FLOW CHART 2: PRIOR TO PLANNED EXTERNAL (DISTANT OR NEIGHBOURING) PLACEMENT;

Care Plan and analysis of risk undertaken (and where a fostering placement is being sought undertaken jointly with fostering)

Internal resources fully explored/ no in house resource agreed to be appropriate by Senior Management within LAC

Agreement reached to seek external resource:

For approval to place a Child within a neighbouring authority the Nominated Officer must give approval
In the event that a placement with a neighbouring authority unlikely and a distant placement is being sought, permission must be obtained by the Service Director.



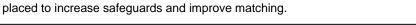
In the event of An external **Fostering placement** being required, the Fostering Placement Team undertake and Co-ordinate the following;

- risk assessment
- family finding in line with Gateshead's contractual arrangements and liaising with the proposed area Local Authority Fostering Service of the IFA, in conjunction with the SW and with fostering management
- furnishing information regarding the Child to the LA or IFA (Care Plan and risk assessment)
- identifying a potential resource and completing matching documentation
- liaising with the SW throughout the process

In the event that a **Children's home** is being sought, the Social Worker undertakes the following:

- finding an appropriate resource/forwarding relevant information concerning the Young Person, liaising with management, consulting with the proposed home.
- accessing the SP and F of a prospective home, including considering the location assessment.

Potentially viable placement/s are identified, SW consults with relevant area authorities where the Child may be



Suitable arrangements are confirmed that they are able to be made in respect of the Child's health and education via consultation with key Health and Education agencies.

Introductory visit made and Young Person and parents (where appropriate) are consulted with about the proposed placement during this process.

IRO is advised of the proposed placement choice and their perspectives taken account of following eliciting the

Young Person's wishes.

Placement is confirmed with area authority.

Service Director or **Nominated Officer** agrees arrangements and notification letters sent to Agencies (Health/Educ, area LA etc) by Administrator upon instruction by Social Worker **PRIOR** to placement. Business Support Fostering Co-ordinator also advised of notifications via e mail.