

BIRTH PROTECTION PLAN –

WHEN THE BABY IS GOING TO BE REMOVED

RE UNBORN BABY (*insert mothers surname*) E.D.D *(insert date)*

The following are the arrangements, which must be adhered to relating to the birth of Baby *(insert mother’s surname*).

The Birth Protection Plan forms a working agreement between Children’s Services, parent (s), family members and other agencies involved in the birth of Baby *mother’s surname)*.

This plan was agreed at a Birth Protection Planning Meeting on *Insert date*

Agencies present:

(Example)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Role | Name *(insert names below)* |
| Team Manager, Children’s Service |  |
| Social Worker, Children’s Services |  |
| Named Midwife for Safeguarding |  |
| Community Midwife |  |
| Health Visitor |  |
| Adult / specialist services  |  |
| Add further as required |  |

Parents Present:

*(Insert parent(s) – name)* were invited to the meeting and were also in attendance.

Or

*The (parent(s) – insert name)* stated on *(insert DATE)* that they would / would not be attending because *(insert reason)* / or did not attend (Delete as appropriate).

*(Parent (s) insert name)* have been provided with a copy of this Birth Protection Plan and they have been advised to seek their own legal advice. *(Parent (s) insert name)* have been provided with a copy of this Birth Protection Plan and they have been advised to seek their own legal advice.

They have signed/refused to sign *(delete as appropriate)* the Pre Birth Consent to Accommodation Form giving written consent to the separation and accommodation of their baby from them shortly after birth/upon discharge from hospital. *(Delete as appropriate)*

The *parent(s) insert name)* is/are aware that, if they are giving consent to the accommodation of their baby at birth, they will be required to sign further form(s) following the birth to give written consent to the accommodation under section 20 of the Children Act 1989. This is called section 20 paperwork.

The Section 20 paperwork will be given to the parents for signature following birth, at a time considered appropriate to do so and when the mother (parents) are able to understand what is being asked of them.

If the *(parent(s) insert name/s)* has/have refused to give written consent to the accommodation of their baby and do not sign the section 20 paperwork, then in order to safeguard the baby, police protection or a legal order may be applied for to enable the Local Authority to legally remove the baby following birth.

The Birth Protection Plan

The Birth Protection Plan outlines, as far as is possible, the actions that must be taken once *(insert woman’s name)* goes into labour and following the birth of Baby *(insert mother’s surname).*

There are a number of concerns relating to *(parent(s) insert name),* as discussed at the Initial Child Protection Conference. They are as follows:

It is due to these concerns that it was agreed at an Initial Child Protection Conference on (date) that baby *(insert mother’s surname)* will be subject to a Child Protection Plan at birth under the category of: *insert category* The Social Worker’s Report for Initial Child Protection Conference is attached to this Birth Protection Plan for more details.

Due to the above concerns it is the Local Authority’s plan to:

A. Accommodate baby (insert mother’s surname*)* from his/her mother’s care shortly after his/her birth and prior to the woman’s discharge from hospital. The Birth Protection Plan identifies how this separation will take place and confirms that *(parent(s) insert name/s)* do/ do not consent (delete as appropriate) to the separation of the baby shortly after birth.

(Complete Appendix A)

Or

B. Separate Baby (insert mother’s surname*)* from his/her mother upon discharge from hospital, with formal supervision of contact between Baby (insert mother’s surname*)* and his/her parent(s) required prior to this time provided either by Children’s Social Care or the family as agreed, and then place him/her with Local Authority foster carers/with family members (delete as appropriate)

(Complete Appendix B)

Or

C. Separate Baby (insert mother’s surname*)* from his/her mother upon discharge from hospital, with no formal supervision of contact between Baby (insert mother’s surname*)* and his/her parent(s) required prior to this and place him/her with Local Authority foster carers /with family members (delete as appropriate)

(Complete Appendix C)

1. Once *(parent(s) insert name/s)* are aware that (insert woman’s name) is in labour, they are to telephone the labour suite for advice on tel. no (insert). They should then act on that advice. If it is an emergency they should ring 999 for an ambulance and inform the labour suite if possible.
2. As soon as any agency, including paramedic, midwife, hospital staff are aware that (insert woman’s name) is in labour they must inform Children’s Services immediately.

Social Worker: (insert NAME / TEL NO)

If *(social worker / insert Name)* is not available they must advise that they need to speak to the Team Manager

Team Manager: (insert NAME / TEL NO)

If the Team Manager is not available ask to speak to the Duty social Worker as a matter of urgency.

Duty Social Worker: *(insert contact details for Duty social worker)*

If it is outside of office hours then the Emergency Duty Team need to be informed. EDT: *(insert contact details for EDT)*

1. Should Children’s Services become aware that (insert woman’s name) is in labour then they will inform the ambulance service and the labour suite.

(Complete and attach the relevant Appendix. Deleting and inserting relevant information)

**APPENDIX A**

**Plan is to accommodate baby** (insert mother’s surname) **from his/her mother’s care shortly after his/her birth on labour suite and prior to the mother’s discharge from hospital.**

Should baby (Insert mother’s surname) be born at hospital then following plan needs to be implemented.

Notify Children’s Social Care as stated in the Birth Protection Plan.

* + 1. Once baby is born a midwife will remain with (parent’s name) and baby until a social worker arrives. A Social Worker must arrive within 2 hours of birth. It is agreed that (Father/Partner’s name) can be present during the birth, if this is requested.
		2. (Name (s) of identified person /people) who should not have contact with the baby and should not attend the hospital. Include the reasons why and the action that should be carried out should the identified person attend.
		3. The plan is to separate shortly after birth, Baby (insert mother’s surname) should not be taken from his/her mother immediately after birth. Include additional comments / plans. For example how the woman would like to manage separation from her baby and who she would like to be there to support her.

Insert details:

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* + 1. Should (parent’s name) try to remove the baby at any point whilst in hospital, then midwife / professional present must dial 999 immediately and ask for police assistance, if the police are not already present, quoting incident number (insert). The midwife should then contact Social Care immediately. **A Social Worker or Police Officer will remove Baby** (insert mother’s surname).
		2. Baby (insert mother’s surname) will remain in hospital until medically fit for discharge (include minimum length of stay e.g. if born to substance misusing mother). Baby (insert mother’s surname) will then be placed with local authority foster carers under section 20 of the Children Act 1989, /Police Protection/EPO/ICO. Post Order- During the hospital stay (full name of baby’s mother) and Baby (mother’s surname) will be placed on separate wards and any contact between mother and baby will be arranged and supervised by Children’s Services, as detailed within this Birth Protection Plan.

**Baby’s mother and baby cannot be separated unless there is a legal order i.e. Interim Care Order (ICO), Emergency Protection Order (EPO) or a signed written agreement under Section 20 of the Children Act 1989 in place or with Police Protection.**

**Should the baby be born at home then the following plan needs to be implemented:**

**Contact Social Care as already stated.**

* + 1. Children’s Services, namely (SOCIAL WORKER), or the Duty Social Worker or the EDT Social Worker will inform the police immediately to attend the address.
		2. The purpose of this will be for the baby to be removed from his/her parents’ care shortly following birth. Baby (insert mother’s surname) will be removed under Section 20, Police Protection or an Emergency Protection Order. The baby will be removed by a police officer or social worker.
		3. Following the birth a midwife must remain with the woman and baby until a social worker arrives. Should (parent’s names) try to remove the baby then midwife / professional present must dial 999 immediately and ask for police assistance, if the police are not already present quoting police incident number (INSERT). This may also need to be done if parents are violent or aggressive or a professional feels the baby is at risk.
		4. After (baby’s mother’s name) and (father/partners name) if present, have had time with the baby then social worker or police officer will remove the baby from (parent’s names) care under Section 20 or another legal option, as detailed above.
		5. Baby (insert mother’s surname) will be taken by ambulance to the hospital. (Woman’s full name) will go in a separate ambulance if she requires hospital admission.

OTHER ACTIONS OR OUTSTANDING TASKS (delete /insert as appropriate. Always insert name of person responsible for the task).

1. (**SOCIAL WORKER**) will ensure EDT receive the Birth Protection Plan, section 20 consent paperwork and signed letter of consent and are aware of the actions needed should baby be born outside of office hours.
2. (**SOCIAL WORKER**) will inform the police of the Birth Protection Plan and include the police incident number if applicable.
3. (**SOCIAL WORKER**) to identify Foster placement for baby (mother surname), if required.
4. Children’s Services will initiate Care Proceedings at birth, if identified at the Initial Child Protection Conference and agreed at LPM.
5. (**PARENTS**) are to urgently seek legal advice / representation.
6. (**COMMUNITY MIDWIFE**) will alert (mother’s surname) GP (GP name), health visitor, mother’s electronic records and community midwives~~,~~
7. **(NAMED MIDWIFE FOR SAFEGUARDING**) will put out regional alert if necessary.
8. The Birth Protection Plan has been sent to:

Include as appropriate

[ ]  Team Manager Children’s Services

[ ]  Social Worker, Children Services

[ ]  Named Midwife Safeguarding

[ ]  Community Midwife

[ ]  Service Manager Children’s Services

[ ]  CGL

[ ]  Recovery Network

[ ]  Relevant Police team

[ ]  Emergency Duty Team

[ ]  CPC/IRO

[ ]  Safeguarding Children Information Management Team (SCIMT)

[ ]  Parent(s)

[ ]  Children and Adults Legal Team, Legal Services

SIGNED:

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(Parent)

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(Parent)

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(NAMED MIDWIFE FOR SAFEGUARDING)

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(COMMUNITY MIDWIFE)

…………………………………………………………………………………………………………

(SOCIAL WORKER)

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(TEAM MANAGER)

**Appendix B**

**Separate Baby (mother’s surname) from his / her mother upon discharge from hospital, with formal supervision of contact required prior to this time provided either by Children’s Social Care or family members (delete as appropriate).**

**(Mother’s ~~surname~~ full name) can care for the baby in hospital, but due to the risks already identified this will be supervised by (insert name of identified person) as follows:**

**Should baby (Mother’s surname) be born at hospital then following plan needs to be implemented.**

Notify Children’s Social Care as stated in the Birth Protection Plan.

1. (Name (s) of identified person / people) should not have contact with the baby and / or should not attend the hospital. Include the reasons why and the action that should be carried out should the identified person attend.
2. The plan is to separate when the baby is fit for discharge, Baby (mother’s surname) should not be taken from his / her mother immediately after the birth. Include additional comments / plans.

For example how the woman would like to manage separation from her baby and who she would like to be there to support her.

Insert details:

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1. Baby (mother’s surname) will be separated from (parent’s names) under Section 20 consent or in the absence of this, under an Emergency Protection Order or Interim Care Order or Police Protection.
2. Should (parents name) try to remove the baby at any point whilst on hospital, then midwife / professional present must dial 999 immediately and ask for police assistance, if police are not already present, quoting the incident number (INSERT) The midwife should then contact social care immediately. **A Social Worker or Police Officer will remove Baby (Mother’s surname).**

**Should the baby be born at home then the following plan needs to be implemented.**

1. The first agency aware of the home birth should inform social care as previously stated.
2. Ideally the ~~mother~~ woman and baby should be transferred in the hospital where the ~~mother~~ woman has booked to give birth. Then follow the plan for the hospital.
3. Should (baby’smother’s name) choose not to be transferred ~~in~~ to hospital, the midwife should remain with the ~~mother~~ woman and baby until the social worker arrives. The social worker should attend the home immediately with the police in order to protect the baby.
4. Should (parent’s names) try to remove the baby then midwife / professional person present must dial 999 immediately and ask for police assistance, if the police are not already present quoting police incident number (INSERT). This may also need to be done if parents are violent or aggressive or a professional feels that the baby is at risk.
5. The baby once police protected should be transferred into the hospital for a full examination by a paediatrician and arrangements made to transfer the baby into Foster Care when medically fit.
6. Contact arrangements should be discussed and decided on admission to hospital, including whether this should be supervised and by whom.

**Mother and baby cannot be separated unless there is a legal order i.e. Interim Care Order (ICO), Emergency Protection Order (EPO) or a signed written agreement under Section 20 of the Children Act 1989 in place or with Police Protection.**

**OTHER ACTIONS OR OUTSTANDING TASKS**

1. **(SOCIAL WORKER)** will ensure EDT receive the Birth Protection Plan, section 20 consent paperwork and signed letter of consent and are aware of the actions needed should baby be born outside of office hours.
2. **(SOCIAL WORKER)** will inform the police of the Birth Protection Plan.
3. **(SOCIALWORKER)** to identify Foster placement for baby (mother’s name), if required.
4. Children’s Services will initiate Care Proceedings at birth, if identified at the Initial Child Protection Conference and agreed LPM.
5. **(PARENTS)** are to urgently seek legal advice / representation.
6. (~~Community Midwife~~ **COMMUNITY MIDWIFE**) will alert (mother’s surname) GP (GP name), health visitor, mother’s electronic records and community midwives,
7. (~~Named Midwife for Safeguarding~~ **NAMED MIDWIFE FOR SAFEGUARDING**) will put out regional alert if necessary.
8. This Birth Plan has been sent to;

Include as appropriate:

☐ Team Manager Children’s Services

☐ Social Worker, Children Services

☐ Named Midwife Safeguarding

☐ Community Midwife

☐ Service Manager Children’s Services

☐ CGL

☐ Recovery Network

☐ Relevant Police team (Dangerous Persons Management Unit, (DPMU))

☐ Emergency Duty Team

☐ CPC/IRO

☐ Safeguarding Children Information Management Team (SCIMT)

☐ Parent(s)

☐ Children and Adults Legal Team, Legal Services

**~~Team Manager Children’s Services~~**

**~~Social Worker, Children Services~~**

**~~Named Midwife Safeguarding~~**

**~~Community Midwife~~**

**~~Service Manager Children’s Services~~**

**~~CGL~~**

**~~Recovery Network~~**

**~~DPMU~~**

**~~Emergency Duty Team~~**

**~~IRO~~**

**~~Nottingham Safeguarding Children Information Management Team (SCIMT)~~**

**~~Parent(s)~~**

**~~Children and Adults Legal Team, Legal Services.~~**

SIGNED:

……………………………………………………………………………………………………….

(MOTHER)

………………………………………………………………………………………………………

(FATHER)

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(NAMED MIDWIFE FOR SAFEGUARDING

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(COMMUNITY MIDWIFE

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(SOCIAL WORKER)

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(TEAM MANAGER)

**APPENDIX C**

**Plan is to separate Baby (mother’s surname) from his / her mother upon discharge from hospital, with no formal supervision of contact required prior to this and place him / her with Local Authority foster carers / with family members (delete as appropriate.**

**Should baby (Mother’s surname) be born at hospital then following plan needs to be implemented.**

 Notify Children’s Social Care as stated in the Birth Protection Plan.

1. (name of the baby’s mother and other parent/partner/identified support person) can care for baby (mother’s surname) on the ward with no formal supervision.) Care for them in a place on the ward that allows for opportunistic observation from staff, in order that help and support can be offered as required.
2. (Name(s) of identified person / people should not have contact with the baby and / or should not attend the hospital. Include the reasons why and the action that should be carried out should the identified person attend.
3. The plan is to separate when the baby is fit for discharge, Baby (mother’s surname) should not be taken from his / her mother immediately after the birth. Include additional comments / plans:

For example how the ~~mother~~ woman would like to manage separation from her baby and who she would like to be there to support her.

Insert details:

|  |
| --- |
|  |

1. Baby (mother’s surname) will be separated from (parent’s names) under Section 20 consent or, in the absence of this, under Emergency Protection Order or Interim Care Order or Police Protection where the baby is deemed to be at immediate risk of harm.
2. Should (parent’s names) try to remove the baby at any point whilst in hospital, then midwife / professional present must dial 999 immediately and ask for police assistance, if the police are not already present, quoting police incident number (insert). The midwife should then contact Social Care immediately. **A Social Worker or Police Officer will remove Baby (mother’s surname).**

**Should the baby be born at home then the following plan needs to be implemented.**

1. The first agency aware of the home birth should inform social care as previously stated.
2. Ideally the baby’s mother and baby should be transferred in to the hospital where the ~~mother~~ woman has booked to give birth. Then following the plan for hospital birth.
3. Should (baby’s mother’s name) choose not to be transferred in, the midwife should remain with the mother and baby. The social worker should attend the home immediately with the police in order to protect the baby.
4. Following the birth a Midwife must remain with the mother and baby until a Social Worker arrives. Should (parent’s names) try to remove the baby then midwife / professional present must dial 999 immediately and ask for police assistance, if the police are not already present, quoting police incident number (~~insert~~ INSERT). This may also need to be done if parents are violent or aggressive or a professional feels that the baby is at risk.
5. The baby once police protected should be transferred into the hospital for a full examination by a paediatrician and arrangements made to transfer the baby into foster care when medically fit.
6. Contact arrangements should be discussed and decided on admission to hospital, including whether this should be supervised and by whom.

**Mother and baby cannot be separated unless there is a legal order i.e. Interim Care Order (ICO), Emergency Protection Order (EPO) or a signed written agreement under Section 20 of the Children Act 1989 in place or with Police Protection.**

OTHER ACTIONS OR OUTSTANDING TASKS (delete / insert as appropriate, always insert name of person responsible for task).

1. **(SOCIAL WORKER)** will ensure EDT receive the Birth Protection Plan, section 20 consent paper work and signed letter of consent and are aware of the actions needed should baby be born outside of office hours.
2. **(SOCIAL WORKER**) will inform the police of the Birth Protection plan.
3. **(SOCIAL WORKER)** to identify Foster placement for baby (mother’s surname), if required.
4. Children’s Services will initiate Care Proceedings at birth, if identified at the Initial Child Protection Conference and agreed at the LPM.
5. **(Parents)** are to urgently seek legal advice / representation.
6. (~~Community Midwife~~ **COMMUNITY MIDWIFE** ) will alert (mother’s surname) GP (GP name), health visitor, mother’s electronic records and community midwives,
7. **(~~Named Midwife for Safeguarding~~ NAMED MIDWIFE FOR SAFEGUARDING)** will put out regional alert of necessary.
8. This Birth Plan has been sent to:

Include as appropriate

[ ]  Team Manager Children’s Services

[ ]  Social Worker, Children Services

[ ]  Named Midwife Safeguarding

[ ]  Community Midwife

[ ]  Service Manager Children’s Services

[ ]  CGL

[ ]  Recovery Network

[ ]  Relevant Police team (Dangerous Persons Management Unit, (DPMU))

[ ]  Emergency Duty Team

[ ]  CPC/IRO

[ ]  Safeguarding Children Information Management Team (SCIMT)

[ ]  Parent(s)

[ ]  Children and Adults Legal Team, Legal Services

SIGNED:

……………………………………………………………………………………………………….

(MOTHER)

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(FATHER)

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(NAMED MIDWIFE FOR SAFEGUARDING)

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(COMMUNITY MIDWIFE)

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(SOCIAL WORKER)

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(TEAM MANAGER)

Dated: