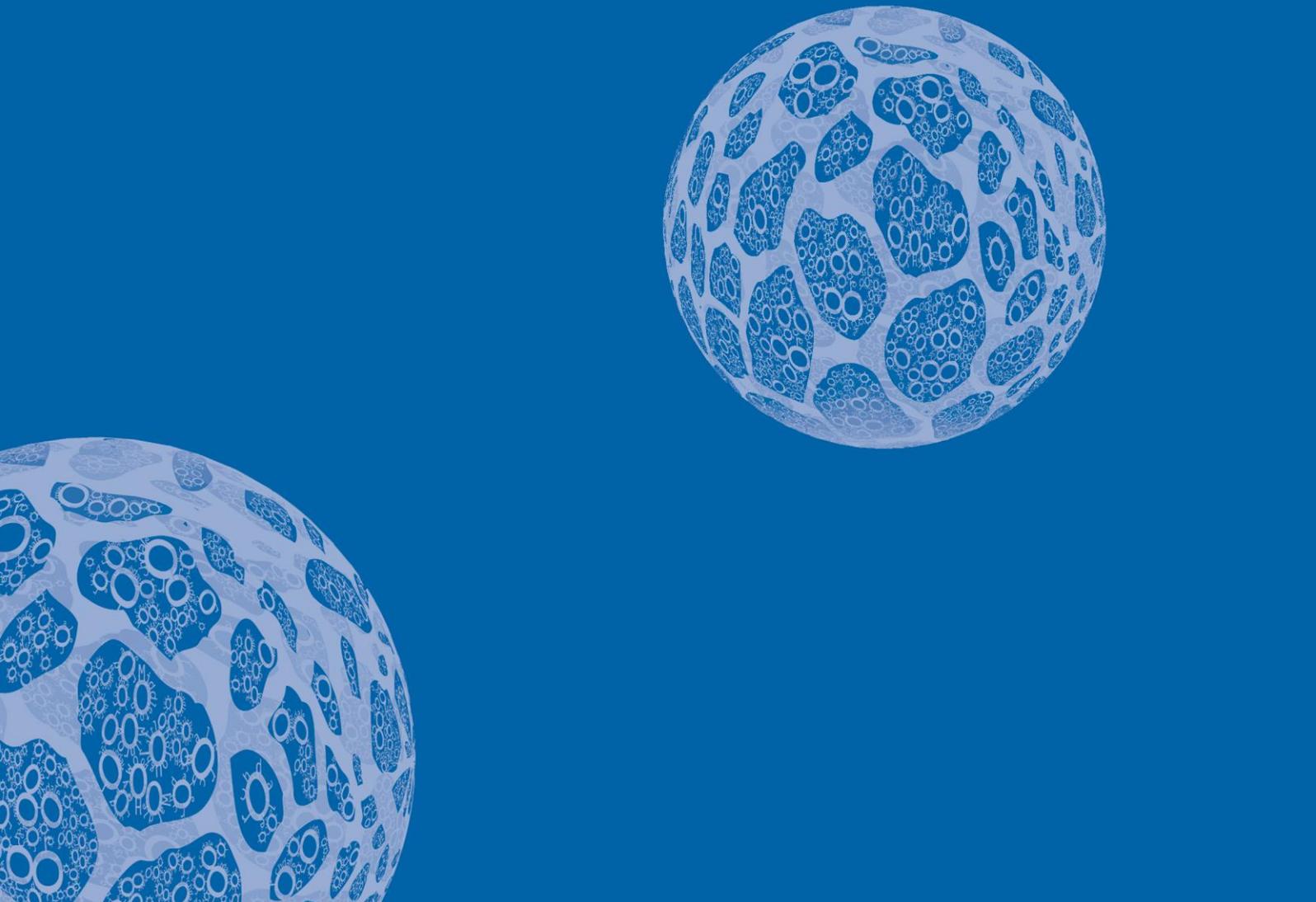




# Guidance Document

## PARALLEL PLANNING FOR PERMANENCE GUIDANCE



# Document Control

Document Title:

## Summary

Publication Date	JUNE 2018
Related Legislation / Applicable Section of Legislation	
Related Policies, Strategies, Guideline Documents	
Replaces	
Joint Guidance Document (Yes/No)	
Name of Partner(s) if joint	
Guidance Document Owner (Name/Position)	CSC SMT
Guidance Document Author (Name/Position)	CSC SMT

## Review of Guidance Document

Last Review Date	
Review undertaken by	
Next Review Date	JUNE 2019

## Document Approvals

This document requires the following approvals.

Name	Title	Date of Issue	Version Number

# Components of Your Guidance Document

## Contents Page (Optional)

Consisting of:

- Table including list of section/sub-section headings and page numbers

## Executive Summary (Optional)

Consisting of:

- Synopsis including the documents aims
- Whom the document is applicable to
- If new document, reason for development
- Documents to be read in conjunction with

## 1. Introduction (Mandatory)

Consisting of:

- Rationale stating why the document is necessary. It will include reference to any relevant guidelines, statutory requirements or other recommendations.
- Scope; this defines for whom and where the document will apply.
- The major underlying principles on which the document is based.

## 2. Guidance (Mandatory)

Consisting of:

- Actual guidance. A guidance document may include several sub-headings under this topic.

## 3. Process for Monitoring Compliance and Effectiveness of the Guidance Document (Mandatory)

Consisting of:

- An outline of the proposed methodology and approach for the review of effectiveness and/or compliance with required standards

## 4. Guidance Document Review Date (Mandatory)

Consisting of:

- Date guidance document will be reviewed

## 5. Glossary of Terms (Optional)

Consisting of:

- Definition of technical or specialised terminology used within the document

Term	Meaning

## 6. Supporting Documents (Optional)

Consisting of:

- Details of any supporting/linked documents that should be considered to enable effective application and utilisation of the guidance document.

## 7. References (Optional)

Consisting of:

- A list of documents referred to in the main body of text

## 8. Appendices (Mandatory, if mentioned in other sections)

Consisting of:

- Additional material necessary to the delivery of the guidance document requirements
- Implementation plan
- Equality Impact Assessment

## INTRODUCTION

Statutory Guidance requires all Cared 4 Children to have a permanence plan which is presented at the second review, which usually takes place within 4 months of the child becoming Cared 4.

There are occasions when the plan for the child is dependent on a number of factors and a definitive plan cannot be presented to the C4C Review. The Social Worker would then develop a parallel plan of permanence to outline what is being done to achieve the options available. The Permanence Plan may be reliant on specialist assessments or Court decisions and therefore the Social Worker should be evidencing how they are progressing each plan, being presented as a possible permanence option.

The following guidance relates to parallel planning for permanence and how this should be presented to the C4C Review in order to be deemed a permanence plan.

## GUIDANCE

1. Where possible the Social Worker should identify a clear permanence plan for the child or young person at the second review.
2. It is acknowledged that there are circumstances where the Court is considering two or three permanence options, for example rehabilitation to parents, SGO to family or adoption. The Court Timetable requires assessments in respect of possible options for the child or young person to be undertaken simultaneously in order to meet the Court timetable. Therefore it is likely that the assessments would be ongoing at the time of the second C4C review.
3. It would be exceptional for there to be more than 2 or 3 possible permanence options being considered for the child at the second C4C review.
4. Where there is more than one permanence plan option for a child, this should be clearly outlined within the Review report, and each permanence option outlined and the reason for this, e.g. finding of fact, specialist assessment, Court direction.
5. The report should identify the work being undertaken for each permanence option, timescales for completion and progress being made. The Social Worker should clearly evidence tasks to be undertaken and expected completion dates.
6. Where tasks have been identified in respect of the parallel or permanence plan in the first review, these will need to have been completed and evidenced by the second C4C Review, that is evidence of the progress of the plan
7. The Social Worker should also evidence work completed and how this has contributed to the permanence planning for the child.
8. The Social Worker should evidence their work against the Court timetable.
9. Practice Manager will ensure that the pre meeting report contains the appropriate information and detail to evidence permanence plan at 2nd Review.

## IRO QUALITY ASSURANCE

10. The IRO will consider Social Work reports for the 2nd Review against the above Guidance
11. Where the IRO feels that the information provided does not satisfactorily outline the parallel plan for the child or young person or the work is not being progressed in a timely manner, they will not deem the parallel plan as an accepted permanence plan presented at the 2nd C4C review.
12. Where the IRO is not satisfied that a Permanence Plan has been presented at the 2nd C4C Review, they will raise a dispute and will explain their concerns as part of the dispute. Children's Social Care will respond to any disputes raised in respect of permanence or parallel permanence plans within the appropriate timescale and pathway



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