

## Appendix 3

### **Glossary of Terms**

#### Accommodation (Children Act 1989 section 20)

Local Authorities are required by legislation to provide accommodation for children who require it under S20 of the Children Act.

#### Assessment Framework

This is a shorthand term for guidance contained within the 'Framework for the Assessment of children in need and their families'. This is national guidance published in 1999 and sets out a detailed framework for achieving consistency and quality in assessments and planning for children in need.

#### CAF

The Common Assessment Framework follows a similar format to Initial and Core Assessments but it is designed to be carried out by any professional. The Purpose of the CAF is to ensure that additional needs are identified and assessed at the earliest opportunity so that when necessary services can be offered and coordinated. The aim is to prevent problems becoming more serious through early intervention and to determine whether the child would benefit from a coordinated plan. If such a plan is necessary a Lead Professional will be agreed to coordinate the services being offered.

#### CANS

This term refers to the Complex and Additional Needs Service for children who require an additional level of support due to their higher level of need whether physical, emotional or developmental.

#### Care Coordinator

The term care coordinator is used to describe the key or lead professional working with a family at CAF or CiN level.

#### Care Leaver

Entitlement to services under Leaving Care Act 2000 extends to all young people who meet the criteria.

#### Care Proceedings

Care proceedings refer to the Local authority making an application for a Legal Order under the 1989 Children Act.

#### Carer

This is a general term for anyone looking after a child or young person. A carer can be a parent, a step parent, a relative, a private foster carer or a foster carer.

#### Child In Need

Under section 17 (10) of the Children Act 1989 a child is a Child in need if:

- He/she is unlikely to achieve or maintain or have the opportunity of achieving or maintaining a reasonable standard of health or development without the provision for him/her of services.
- His/her health or development is likely to be significantly impaired , or further impaired, without the provision for him/her of such services; or
- He/She is disabled

#### Child In Need Meeting

For the purpose of this document a Child in Need meeting is one where Multi-agency support is led by Children's Social Care.

#### Child / Young Person

A child or young person is aged up to 18 years with specific reference to the Children Act 1989. The general duties of the Local Authority towards children and young people come to an end when the child/young person reaches 18 years of age. 'Formerly Relevant' young adults under the Leaving

Care Act 2000 receive support from Young peoples services until the age of 21 (24 if still in Education)

#### Child Subject to a Child Protection Plan

Children who are judged to be at risk of continuing harm and who have been the subject of a child protection case conference will have a child protection plan.

#### CiC

A Child in Care (CiC) refers to a child / young person who is in the care of the Local Authority. Some children on a legal care order living at home or with a relative may also be CiC. There are technical and legal definitions and a CiC can be accommodated voluntarily or under a legal order. The Local Authority has specific and extensive responsibilities for these children.

#### Core Assessment

A detailed and in depth assessment carried out for children who may have complex needs. Children who have specific types of need such as children who are 'Children in Care' or who are the subject of a Child protection Plan should always have a Core assessment. Core assessments use the format of the 'Assessment Framework'. Social workers have the lead responsibility but other appropriate agencies should contribute to the assessment to ensure positive outcomes. A core assessment should be completed within 35 working days.

#### Eco map

An eco-map is a shorthand method for recording social information. It helps clients and workers gain insight into problems in an easy to read visual depiction of a family's support systems.

#### Family Support (Team around the Child)

These are children/ Families whose needs are met at Level 3 but where the threshold is not met for social care involvement.

#### Geno-gram

A geno-gram is basically a family tree that is used to display visually the emotional and or biological bonds between individuals in a family or social unit.

#### ICS

Integrated Children's System is the electronic recording system for children used by social care and related services.

#### Initial Assessment

This is a brief, holistic assessment undertaken using the 'Assessment Framework' model. Social workers have the lead responsibility for Initial Assessments. The purpose is to determine whether the child is a child in need and if so whether the child is eligible for services. Initial Assessments should be completed within 7 working days.

#### Private Fostering

Children and young people sometimes live with a carer who is not a close relative. This could be a family friend, a neighbour or a more distant relative. If this is likely to continue for more than 28 days then there is a legal requirement for the Local Authority to assess the suitability of the arrangement and to keep in regular contact with the child/young person concerned.

#### Referral

A referral is a request for assessment or services.

#### Risk to Children

Adults convicted of certain offences are designated as a 'risk to children'. Adults who fall into this category who have close contact with children may be subject to action to ensure the safety of any children with whom they have contact.

### Section 17

Provision of services for children in need, their families and others (Children Act 1989)

### Section 47

Section 47 of the Children Act 1989 places duties on the Local Authority to make enquiries into the circumstances of children considered to be at risk of 'significant harm' and where these enquiries indicate the need, to undertake a full investigation into the child's circumstances.

### Team around the Child (Family Support) Meetings

These are children/ families whose needs are met at Level 3 but where the threshold is not met for social care involvement.

### TSCB

Trafford Safeguarding Children Board is a statutory partnership which is responsible for ensuring effective inter-agency arrangements for safeguarding children

### Unborn Child

Unborn children can also be 'in need', assessments undertaken pre-birth and services provided.