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| Date  Version No. | March 2021  V2.0 |  |  |

**Permanence Planning Meetings**

Permanence planning meetings will be taking place on all cases where children are received into care, and will take place around the second week a child comes into care.

The aim and goal of the Permanence Planning Meetings is –

* To ensure clear direction in respect of permanence for the child at the earliest stage
* To ensure all avenues and options for permanence are discussed, explored and assessed to frontload or avoid delay in proceedings
* To allow for tracking and reviewing of case progression toward achieving an objective of permanency by the second CLA review
* Most importantly to avoid drift and delay in a child having stability and permanency in placement and care proceedings being concluded within a 26 week timeframe

These meetings will initially be chaired by CLA Strategic Lead or Service Manager with requirement from the Social Worker to complete a short form to present information on the case. This information will be discussed within the meeting with a permanence plan being identified and approved within CLA review.

The planning meeting will be attended by CLA Strategic Lead or Service Manager, Team Manager, Case Supervisor, and allocated Social Worker. Representatives from fostering and adoption, and IRO service will also attend. This meeting will not replace CLA Reviews but will inform the child’s first CLA review. The agreed permanence plan will be incorporated into the child’s care plan/pathway plan in line with statutory requirements.

This plan will be tracked and reviewed on a fortnightly basis by the CLA Lead or Service Manager until the permanence plan is approved at the child’s second review to ensure progress is being made to achieve permanence.

Please see workflow for the process and stages and how this fits with CLA reviews -

**Permanency Flow Chart** - <https://www.proceduresonline.com/nelincs/cs/files/nelc_perm_flowchart.pdf?zoom_highlight=permanency#search=%22permanency%22>

**Permanency Planning Meetings –** <https://www.proceduresonline.com/nelincs/cs/files/perm_plan_meet.pdf?zoom_highlight=permanency#search=%22permanency%22>

The business support contact for this process is Fallon Middleton

This process will be completed using word documents and may be revised once the pathway is built within Liquid Logic. Until then, business support will add the permanence planning record to the child’s file following the permanence planning meeting. Social Workers will be expected to complete the actions agreed in the meeting.