

NIROMP - Audit of the quality of permanency plans presented to the second statutory review

2019

Source: National IRO Managers Partnership (NIROMP)

Abstract: NIROMP is proposing that each of its regional IRO networks use this standard audit pro forma to inform and support the area of “driving permanence” by examining the quality and progress of permanence plans presented to the second statutory review. Please share your views via our online feedback by going to: www.niromp.org. Your responses will help us shape our future work plans and support IRO services deliver key improvement priorities.

Securing better life chances and choices for all children and young people in care and leaving care.

Audit of the quality of permanency plans presented to the second statutory review

Background and rationale for the work

This audit tool was developed as part of NIROMP's audit / improvement work commissioned by the regional West Midlands Social Care Assistant Directors Group - to contribute towards the West Midlands regional business improvement plans.

NIROMP is proposing that each of its regional IRO networks use this standard audit pro forma to inform and support the area of "driving permanence" by examining the quality and progress of permanence plans presented to the second statutory review.

Aim of the audit

To audit a sample of care plans presented to the second statutory review in order to:



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- Form a judgement on the effectiveness of planning towards permanency for looked after children.
- Form a judgement on areas for improvement to inform continuous improvement plans both within individual Local Authorities and regionally.
- Identify factors that support or hinder effective permanency planning
- Consider whether the development of a regional quality standard would aide practice improvement.
- Agree any future monitoring and performance reporting arrangements.

Methodology

- The audits will be undertaken by IRO Managers.
- The sample will be chosen from cases reviewed within each of the participating Authorities over the previous six month period.
- Electronic case records and child looked after review documentation will be examined to complete this standard audit pro forma.
- The data will be collated by NIROMP to provide both individual and regional local authority outcomes.



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Sample Group

A total of **six cases** will be selected where the child has become looked after over the previous six month period. The sample will include **two cases** within the following age groups: **0-5yrs | 6-10yrs | 11-15yrs**

Timeframes

- Our proposal is for the audit framework to be agreed by each region and presented to the regional improvement alliance by a date agreed by each of the regions.



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Audit of Permanency Plans standard pro forma

Local Authority:	Click or tap here to enter text.
Childs ID:	Click or tap here to enter text.
Age Range:	Click or tap here to enter text.
Team:	Click or tap here to enter text.
IRO (initials only):	Click or tap here to enter text.
Standard:	



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One of the key functions of the care plan is to ensure each child has a plan for permanence by the time of the second review. As set out in the statutory guidance to the 2002 Act. Permanence means making a long term plan for how a child will be cared for which lasts throughout their childhood. Permanence is the framework of:

- Emotional permanence (attachment)
- Physical permanence (stability)
- Legal permanence (the carer has legal responsibility for the child)

The key objective of planning for permanence is therefore to ensure that children have secure, stable and loving families to care for them throughout their childhood and beyond.

Evidence:	Yes/NO	Comments
Has the permanency plan been achieved at the second (four month) review?	Choose an item.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Quality of care plan presented to the review	Yes/NO	Comments
Does the care plan identify a clear permanency plan?	Choose an item.	Click or tap here to enter text.



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Does the care plan cover the seven dimensions of the child's needs and how these will be met in the plan (health, education, emotional and behavioural development, identity, family and social relationships, social presentation, self-care skills)?	Choose an item.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Overall Judgement of the Care Plan	Grade Choose an item.	Comments Click or tap here to enter text.
In the Auditor's view is the plan written in a format that has clarity and transparency?	Yes/NO	Comments
The plan is easily understood by child and family?	Choose an item.	Click or tap here to enter text.
The child's needs and services to meet needs are identified?	Choose an item.	Click or tap here to enter text.
The rationale for choice of placement is clear?	Choose an item.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Child focused outcomes are clearly identified?	Choose an item.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Plan includes realistic strategies to achieve change necessary for planned outcomes?	Choose an item.	Click or tap here to enter text.



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Specifies roles and responsibilities?	Choose an item.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Has a clear contingency if the permanency plan is not achievable?	Choose an item.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Does it include the wishes and feelings of child, parent and relevant others?	Choose an item.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Overall Judgement of Clarity within the Care Plan	Grade Choose an item.	Comments Click or tap here to enter text.
Quality of the Health Plan	Yes/NO	Comments
Have Statutory Assessments been completed?	Choose an item.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Is there a clear plan to address any ongoing health issues?	Choose an item.	Choose an item.
Does the plan promote the child's general health and well-being?	Choose an item.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Does the plan include a named health professional in relation to the health needs identified in the plan?	Choose an item.	Click or tap here to enter text.



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Overall Judgement of the Health Plan	Grade	Comments
	Choose an item.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Quality of the Education Plan	Yes/NO	Comments
Have all assessments been undertaken to inform the PEP?	Choose an item.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Is a clear plan of support in place?	Choose an item.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Is the plan aspirational in supporting the child to achieve their potential?	Choose an item.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Does the plan include a named educational professional in relation to the education needs identified in the plan?	Choose an item.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Overall Judgement of the Education Plan	Grade	Comments
	Choose an item.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Quality of the Placement Plan	Yes/NO	Comments
Does the plan specify what needs to happen in the current placement to progress towards the permanence plan?	Choose an item.	Click or tap here to enter text.



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Is the plan clear about how the child's day to day needs will be met?	Choose an item.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Has the plan been developed in partnership with the child, carer, parent and social worker?	Choose an item.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Overall Judgement of the Placement Plan	Grade Choose an item.	Comments Click or tap here to enter text.
Quality of assessment informing the Plan	Yes/NO	Comments
Is the plan based on an up to date assessment of the child's needs?	Choose an item.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Does the assessment include a robust analysis of need?	Choose an item.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Does the plan logically flow from the analysis and identification of need?	Choose an item.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Overall Judgement on quality of assessment	Grade Choose an item.	Comments Click or tap here to enter text.



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Multi-agency contribution to the plan	Yes/NO	Comments
Are roles and responsibilities for an effective multiagency group clear in the plan?	Choose an item.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Overall Judgement on the effectiveness of multi-agency contribution to the plan	Grade	Comments
	Choose an item.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Participation	Yes/NO	Comments
Is there evidence of engagement and discussion and views of the child on the permanency plan?	Choose an item.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Views of carer?	Choose an item.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Views of parents?	Choose an item.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Anyone else relevant to the plan?	Choose an item.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Overall Judgement on the effectiveness of participation	Grade	Comments
	Choose an item.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Effectiveness of the Review Process	Yes/NO	Comments
Were clear decisions made to drive the progression to permanence?	Choose an item.	Click or tap here to enter text.



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Were any blocks to achieving timely permanence identified and addressed within the review process?	Choose an item.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Did the IRO take action to escalate and resolve any blocks to permanency issues?	Choose an item.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Overall Judgement on the effectiveness of the review process	Grade Choose an item.	Comments Click or tap here to enter text.

Key areas of improvement recommended:	Actions to be completed	Date for completion
Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.

What are the key factors which support quality permanency planning? (based on the audit findings)



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