

Words you may hear

Accommodated - This is when a young person who is looked after by the Local Authority but the responsibility for that young person remains with their parents.

Care order - is where a young person is looked after by the Local Authority and the Local Authority shares responsibility for making decisions about a young person with their parents.

Residence Order - This is where a court decides who a young person should live with and who should share responsibility for bringing up this young person with their parents

Special Guardianship - The Court decides that the young person can live with a special guardian and they make most of the decisions about the upbringing of the young person. The young person's parents can still make some decisions about the care of the young person.

Adoption - this is where a young person goes to live permanently with a person, couple or family other than their birth mother or father. The young person's parents aren't able to make decisions about the young person's upbringing when they are adopted.

Court Order - The judge could make a decision about anything, for example - where the young person lives, who is to look after the young person or who can see the young person.

Assessment - Information is gathered about you and your family to find out what needs you and your parents may have and what can help you.

Both you and your parents might be spoken with and you will be asked what you think about your life.

Family Group Conferences - This gives you and your family the chance to get together, to find out what is happening in the family and to discuss how to sort out any problems.

For further information contact

The independent Review Team

Children's Services

The Annex Tel: 01325 388895

Central House 01325 388896

Darlington 01325 388919

DL3 6JX Fax: 01325 388070

If you need help from Children's Services in an emergency after normal office opening hours, the emergency duty team can be contacted on 0870 2402994.

Translations

This document will be made available on request to Children's Services in Braille, large print, and on audio cassette, also available in other languages. Telephone 01325 388979



BRAILLE



Bengali

যদি আপনার ইংরেজী ছাড়া অন্য কোন ভাষায় এই প্রকাশনাটির দরকার থাকে, তাহলে: **01325 388979** নম্বরে ফোন করুন এবং সূত্র নম্বর উল্লেখ করুন।

Cantonese

如果你需要其他語言的版本，請與以下電話聯絡並撥出參考號碼: **01325 388979**

Punjabi

ਜੇ ਇਹ ਪਰਚਾ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਅੰਗਰੇਜ਼ੀ ਤੋਂ ਬਿਨਾਂ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿਚ ਚਾਹੀਦਾ ਹੈ, ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਸਾਨੂੰ ਨੰਬਰ **01325 388979** ਤੇ ਫੋਨ ਕਰੋ ਅਤੇ ਰੈਫਰੈਂਸ (ਹਵਾਲਾ) ਨੰਬਰ ਦੱਸੋ।

Polish

Jeśli chciał(a)by Pan(i) otrzymać potekłą wersję językową tego dokumentu, proszę zadzwonić pod numer **01325 388979** i podać numer identyfikacyjny dokumentu.

Children "Looked After" by the Local Authority The Looked After Review

কাউন্সিলের "হেফাজতের (লুকড আফটার এর)" অধীন বাচ্চারা - আপনার হেফাজত ব্যবস্থার পুনর্বিবেচনা
兒童由地方當局「照顧」——照顧服務評論
समानक पुपिकरन वॉले "देखराल हेठ" घंठे - डुवडा देखराल हेठ घांठे रीविडु
Dzieci „objęte opieką” władz lokalnych – Przegląd opieki nad Tobą

Your questions answered

What is a Looked After Review?

A Looked After Review is a meeting to discuss your care plan. It will give you the chance to say what you want to happen in your life.

What are Care Plans?

Your care plan is about setting out what you need and how you are going to be cared for. The plan should also say what needs to be done and when the plan will be looked at again.

Your social worker will write the care plan out after talking about it with you and everyone involved in your well-being. Care plans should be kept safely in case you need them in the future or you want to look back on the decisions and plans that have been made.

If what is in your care plan does not happen, you can talk to your carer, Social Worker, Independent Chair or family member. If you are really not satisfied you can make a complaint - ask your Social Worker for leaflet "Something to Say?"

What is written in the Care Plan?

Your care plan should state:

- Your name and date of birth, where you are living and, if possible, how long you will be staying there.
- Details of any court orders which concern you.
- What it is hoped will happen to you in the future.
- Whether you are going to see or have contact with your family and, if so, how often.
- Where you will go to school and any help you may need with this.
- Any medical or other help you might need.
- What activities you like to do.

When do Looked After Reviews take place?

A review meeting must be held within four weeks of you first becoming looked after by Children's Services. The next review will be three months after the initial review and then every six months after that.

The review will be held at a place where you feel comfortable and at a time to suit you. Your social worker will tell you who has to be there and will ask you if there is anybody else who you would like to attend.

If a lot is happening or there is a problem, the review meetings may be held more often. You can ask for a review to take place if you are unhappy or want to talk about the arrangements that have been made. It is important you attend the review as the meeting won't be as good without you. The meeting will still go ahead but decisions may be made without you having your say.

The Looked After Review

The reviewing officer will ask you if there are any issues you wish to raise before the meeting starts. They will ask, if you wish, to do this privately.

During the meeting the following things will be discussed:

- What the local authority thinks needs to happen to keep you safe
- Your legal status
- Your health
- Your education
- Your placement
- Contact with your family
- Activities you are interested in
- How you are feeling
- Your wishes for the future

At the end of the meeting the Independent Chair will make recommendations based on what has been discussed and agreed in the meeting.

The Independent Chair will have taken notes during the meeting and these will be typed up and sent to you by your social worker.