**SOCIAL SERVICES AND WELL-BEING (WALES) ACT**

**HANDOUT**

**Content of a Part 6 Care and Support Plan**

# Introduction

The Part 6 care and support plan is the central and overarching plan for the looked after child, which incorporates required multi agency contributions, assessments and plans into one integrated single plan. There are specific requirements, set out in the Care Planning Placement and Care Review (Wales) Regulations 2015, regarding the preparation and the content of the Part 6 care and support plan for a looked after child in addition to the common requirements set out in the code on Part 4 of the Act. The Regulations also require the preparation of a health plan, personal education plan and a placement plan for the child, but these should all be incorporated into, and form an integral part of, the overall Part 6 care and support plan. It will also include the placement plan for the child. This will set out how the placement will contribute to meeting the child’s needs and personal outcomes from the care and support plan. By the time of the second review a long term plan for the child’s upbringing (previously called a permanency plan) should be in place and included in the overall plan.

# Building on Part 4 Content

The Part 6 care and support plan will build upon any plan previously made for the child under Part 4 of the Act. The code on Part 4 specifies that a care and support plan must contain:

* The outcomes which have been identified in relation to the person to whom the plan relates
* The actions to be taken by all to help the person to achieve those outcomes
* The needs that will be met through the delivery of care and support
* How progress towards achieving those outcomes will be monitored and measured
* The review arrangements and date of next review

Where appropriate care and support plans should also set out:

The roles and responsibilities of the individual, carers and family members and practitioners

The resources required from each party

# Part 6 content

In addition to the requirements set out above, the Regulations specify that the Part 6 care and support plan should set out:

The information about the long term plan for the child, including timescales (the permanency option)

The arrangements to meet the child’s well-being and developmental needs

Arrangements for contact with a brother or sister or step-brother or step-sister who is also looked after but not placed with the child

Details of any court orders made under Section 8 or Section 34 of the Children Act 1989

Arrangements for promoting and maintaining contact with a parent and anyone else with parental responsibility

Details of the placement and why the placement was chosen, unless the child is in care and not provided with accommodation by the local authority

The name of the child’s Independent Reviewing Officer

Details of the health plan and personal education plan

The wishes and feelings of relevant people about the arrangements for the child

The wishes and feelings of these people about any proposed changes to the care and support plan

## Health Plan

The health plan is developed from the assessment of the child’s health needs and forms the health element of the Part 6 care and support plan. It must include:

The child’s health history, including as far as is practicable, the family health history

An assessment of the child’s state of health, including physical, emotional and mental health

The effect of health and health history on the child’s development

Current arrangements for medical and dental care, and any planned changes

Arrangements for routine checks of their health, including dental health

Arrangements for treatment and monitoring for identified physical, emotional or mental health or dental care needs

Arrangements for preventative measures such as inoculation

Screening for defects of vision or hearing

Advice and guidance on promoting health and effective personal care

The health plan should specify those actions to be taken, and services provided to meet the health needs identified in the health assessment, the person or agency responsible for each action or provision of each service, the likely timescales, and the intended outcomes.

## Personal Education Plan (PEP)

Local authorities must make sure that every child they look after has an effective and high quality PEP which will form an integral part of the Part 6 care and support plan and interrelate with other parts of the overall plan. The PEP must include:

A chronology of the child’s educational history, providing a record of the child’s educational experience and progress in terms of National Curriculum levels of attainment, and including:

* Details of the schools and colleges attended, and the reasons for leaving
* An indication of the extent to which the child’s education has been disrupted before entering care or accommodation
* Information about attendance and disciplinary record at each school attended
* Information about academic progress, achievements, and any special educational needs including details of any statement.

Objectives and targets for the child, owned by the child, which relate to educational aspirations and leisure interests

Existing arrangements for the child’s education and training, including details of any special educational provision or specialist support, such as 1:1 support, which is put in place to promote their educational achievement

Details of the child’s leisure interests

Details of the arrangements in place to minimise disruption of the child’s education or training where a change in their educational arrangements is unavoidable, including transition and integration support

Role of the carers in supporting the child’s educational achievements and leisure interests

Detailing who is responsible for supporting the child in relation to implementing each aspect of the PEP

## The Placement Plan

The content of the placement plan is set out in regulations and must include essential information the carer needs to know in order to safely care for the child. It is an integral although distinct part of the overall Part 6 care and support plan.

The placement plan should:

Set out how the placement will contribute to meeting the child’s need

Provide the carer with essential information about the child – health, education, emotional and behavioural needs and management

Ensure the carer understands the child’s likes, dislikes and routines

Provide clarity about how the day-to-day tasks will be shared between the carer and local authority as corporate parent

Clarify roles and responsibilities, particularly about decisions made on behalf of the child

Set out financial arrangements for the care of the child

Ensure the child and carer receive appropriate help and support to meet the needs of the child

## The Long Term Plan

Consideration and identification of how permanence will be achieved for the child is essential from an early point in the placement. By the time of the second review a long term plan for the child’s upbringing (a permanency plan) should be in place and included in the overall plan. This should clearly state what permanency option would best meet the needs of the child, such as return to birth family, placement with a relative or friend, long term foster care or adoption. The long term plan should detail agreed actions and timescales for achieving the planned permanency outcome for the child.