Process for safely managing risk through Family Group Conference (pre Initial Child Protection Conference) Version 7
(Please read in conjunction with practice guidance document)

Purple boxes - ‘Working Together’
Flow Chart 4
Orange Boxes - prototype

Social worker leads assessment under section 47 of the Children Act 1989 and other professionals contribute. Assessments follow local protocol based on the needs of the child within 45 working days of the point of referral.

Decision to initiate section 47 enquiries

Decision made that the FGC principles are not met. Outcome of s47 is: **Follow ICPC process** Social work manager convenes child protection conference within 15 working days of the strategy discussion at which s47 enquiries were initiated.

Strategy Meeting held within three weeks (15 working days) to coordinate findings from the s47 enquiry; to identify the ‘Bottom Line’. Areas of disagreement noted and as required addressed through the **Concerns Resolution Process**.

Child in Need visits begin and continue throughout process – frequency determined by social work TM.

**Visit undertaken by FGC service and outcome fed back to social worker**

Decision made that this case meets the FGC principles and can proceed with FGC process. Outcome of s47 is: **Referral to FGC service**

**Decision made that it is safe to continue with FGC process**

**Decision made that it is not safe to continue with FGC process**

**Decision made that the FGC principles are not met. Outcome of s47 is: Follow ICPC process** Social work manager convenes child protection conference within 15 working days of the strategy discussion at which s47 enquiries were initiated.

Strategy Meeting held within three weeks (15 working days) to coordinate findings from the s47 enquiry; to identify the ‘Bottom Line’. Areas of disagreement noted and as required addressed through the **Concerns Resolution Process**.

**Decision made that it is not safe to continue with FGC process**

**Decision made that it is safe to continue with FGC process**

**Meet with the parents to discuss what support services may help and to confirm the ‘Bottom Line’**

**Family Group Conference (FGC) held within further six weeks (nine weeks 45 working days) since s47. Family Plan is developed**

**Strategy Discussion – to confirm the plan is safe and the ‘Bottom Line’ concerns are being addressed**

**Phone or other verbal check in with other agencies involved at eight weeks following FGC** Record in CiN Review episode

**FGC Review held** - check that family are receiving support services and that progress is being made

**Check in with other agencies six weeks following FGC review**

**Plan ends when an FGC review finds that all needs are being met. The CiN Review is updated**

**Case Decision is recorded**

**Child and Family Assessment completed within 45 working days. Family Plan is Child in Need Plan**

**Child is ‘Child in Need’ by default of not being CP or CLA**

**Plan is shared with all relevant agencies**

**QA by Child Protection Chair Team Manager - Does the plan address the ‘Bottom Line’ concerns?** Consultation available throughout the process.