

Dear Team Managers and Social Workers,

We have updated and clarified the panel process for the Resource Panel and CYPERN Panel

Following consultation with Principal Social Workers, Team Managers & Social Workers we reduced panels from 3 to 2 to streamline processes, reduce paperwork & avoid duplication. The 2 panels are

1. Resource (Edge of Care / Placement) Panel
2. Children and Young People with Exceptional and Residential Needs Panel (CYPERNP)

1. RESOURCE PANEL

The aim of the Resource Panel is to provide additional services and funding to support Social Workers in:

- Diverting children and young people from care;
- Stabilising children and young people in Care;
- Reunifying children and young people home to parents or other family members
- Commissioning resources effectively for those at risk or in care

Terms of Reference & flow chart attached re Resource Panel referral process.

Which children and young people will be supported by the Resource Panel?

Four groups of CYP will be supported by the **Resource Panel**, these are as follows:

1. CYP on the edge of care at risk of requiring care within a matter of weeks who require additional support
2. All CYP who require a foster placement (including Remands) ***Apart from emergency admissions, all CYP must be referred to the panel before they enter care.***
3. All CIC where Reunification, SGO or Residence Order are being considered
4. All CIC at risk of placement or school breakdown

All panels require up to date information in order to make an informed decision about what is required: So panel will expect you to :

- Know the child and family
- Have an up to date assessment - core / single assessment (succinct & analytical)
- Have an up to date plan (care plan / CP plan or pathway plan) as appropriate
- Have articulated the voice of the child
- Detailed what has been tried before

Paperwork is required 5 days in advance – panel members need time to read in advance of panel.

Resource Panel will meet fortnightly; you will be invited to attend and will have a scheduled time to present your case; you will receive a date by which paperwork is required. Panel cannot consider cases without paperwork in advance. To refer please email the Resource Panel Form and appropriate assessment and plans to Janet.Boyland@gloucestershire.gov.uk

2. CYPERN PANEL

This panel will focus on supporting children and young people who have Exceptional Needs and or require a Residential Placement. CYPERN will consider all placements costing over £1,500 per week.

Exceptional needs is defined as one or more significant needs that cannot be met by services that are typically available locally and therefore require a specialist placement or a package of local support from a range of specialist services including Education, Health and Social Care.

Residential provision will only be considered when all other options have been explored and the child's needs cannot be met in any other way. Residential placements will be seen as short term interventions; they will be time limited and plans to step down to family based care need to be robust from the outset and actively pursued. Placements must be sought that are as close to home as possible. All placements made by CYPERN have to be formally approved by CYPERN and will be regularly reviewed.

Request for specialist placements or services must be made on the CYPERN paperwork along with up to date multi-agency assessment and MAM minutes. Please email wendy.dyer@gloucestershire.gov.uk with the name of the child or young person to request a place at panel and the correct paperwork will be sent to you. CYPERN Panel will meet monthly

Sharon Davies Service Leader CiC 4th March 2016

