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**CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES SERVICES**

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**4. OUTCOME-FOCUSED CARE PLANNING**

**MECHANICS**

* Plans will set timescales in line with the child’s needs and development. Do not use the term “ongoing”.
* Plans will be written in language that the child and family can understand, avoiding acronyms and jargon.
* Plans will be undertaken in partnership **with** children, young people and families and partner agencies.
* Plans will be shared with key professionals, in line with information-sharing arrangements.
* Cases will not transfer until there is an appropriate plan and handover in place.
* Plans will be reviewed and updated in line with reviewing expectations to prevent drift for children and young people and in response to significant life events.
* Managers, Practice Supervisors, Practitioners and Reviewing Officers’ quality assurance work will be of a high quality.
* Managers will take accountability for ensuring that any plan which is not fit for purpose is rectified.
* Plans will **not** be a long list of actions but will focus on 3-4 key areas at any one time. Plans will be achievable and measurable. Remember- lengthy plans are like offering a suit of clothing to someone who is drowning.

**PURPOSE**

* Plans will be SMART and focused on **outcomes** for the child/young person, rather than actions completed by carers/professionals.
* Plans will be reviewed in a timely manner and subject to professional scrutiny.
* Plans will be undertaken with and shared with families and partner agencies.

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