

The decisions should be completed before the next review if possible.

If you are unhappy with what is decided you have the right to complain. You can ask your social worker, IRO or carer how to make a complaint. You can also talk to an advocate.

Who is the IRO?

The IRO is an independent person. That means they do not work in the same team as your social worker. They have two main jobs:

- 1 – To chair the reviews (if you do not want to).
- 2 – To monitor how you are doing on an ongoing basis.

Equalities Statement

Your IRO will ensure that the review takes account of your particular needs, especially those relating to disability, race, culture, religion and sexuality. We will take account of anything that is leading to you being treated unfairly and will give you support to overcome it, including anyone treating you unfairly because you are in care.

Your rights

- 1 – You have the right to apply to the court to discharge (end) a care order.
- 2 – You have the right to make a complaint.
- 3 – You have the right to have an advocate.
- 4 – You have the right to apply, with leave, for a S.8 order.

The IRO must establish whether there is an appropriate adult able and willing to assist you to obtain legal advice or bring legal proceedings. If no one else can do this the IRO will do this.

Contact Details:

Qualify Assurance Unit, St Blaise,
Civic Centre, Bromley, BR1 3UH

Tel: 020 8313 4017/4634

Website: www.bromley.gov.uk



Looked After Children's Reviews and You

Information for Young People

What is a Looked After Child (LAC) Review?

A LAC review is a meeting that will give you a chance to say what you want to happen in your life. This is the plan for your care (Care Plan). The care plan should only change at a review unless there is an emergency.

A review must happen within 4 weeks of you first becoming looked after or if you change placements unexpectedly. Then 3 months later; then every 6 months after this.

But you, your carer, your social worker can request a LAC review whenever any of you think you would like one.

The LAC review would usually happen at the place you are living, but you can have your say where you would like to hold it, who should attend and what time it should take place. Your social worker should speak to you about this 4 weeks before the review.

You can ask for an advocate to come to the review. This is someone independent who can support you in saying what you want said.

A LAC review is for and about you to ensure you are being well cared for.

What happens at the review?

All the people who are important in your life are invited to the review. This meeting is chaired by either an Independent Reviewing Officer (IRO) or you.

At the review the agenda (what will get talked about) will be:

- 1 – Being Healthy
- 2 – Staying Safe
- 3 – Enjoying and Achieving
- 4 – Making a Positive Contribution
- 5 – Achieving Economic Well-Being

If there is something else to say then that can be said as well.

Everyone will get a chance to give their views, including you. That may not mean you get whatever you ask for but everyone will know what you think and you will know what they think.

How does it affect me?

At the end of the review you should know:

- 1 – What needs to happen next, who will be responsible for doing it and when they are supposed to have it done. Some things you will be expected to do, other things other people will be expected to do.
- 2 – What the outcome will be for you.
- 3 – How to speak to an advocate.
- 4 – How to make a complaint.
- 5 – How long you will be in care.
- 6 – What your care plan is.
- 7 – After the second review what your permanent plan will be.
- 8 – How you can call for a review yourself.

After the review, what then?

After the review the IRO will write a report about the meeting. They will summarise what was said, record the decisions/actions and who will do what by when. You will get a copy of this report.