

**Ceasing to be a looked after approval request- Aged 16 or 17**

Where a young person is aged 16 or 17 and is Section 20 looked after, the decision to cease to look after the young person must not be put into effect until it has been approved by the **Strategic Director for Children's and Adult Services**. A young person's looked after status should not cease simply as a result of a move from a regulated to an unregulated placement. (*The Children Act 1989 guidance and regulations, Volume 2: Care Planning, Placement and Case Review, June 2015*).

The agreed process:

- CAFAS to be completed / updated, evidencing that ceasing to be looked after will safeguard and promote the young person's welfare. A LAC risk assessment to be completed.

OR

- If eligible for after care services, pathway plan to be completed / updated, evidencing that ceasing to be looked after will safeguard and promote the young person's welfare. A LAC risk assessment should also be completed.
- The CAFAS / pathway plan assessment must be shared with the relevant **Head of Service** and then the **Strategic Director for Children's and Adult Services**. The ceasing to be looked after approval request form will be completed and saved onto Documentum. A Management Decision will be placed on care first to evidence the decision making.
- The IRO must review the assessment / pathway plan and a LAC review should take place prior to the young person ceasing to be looked after.
- Relevant review date of 6 months identified at final LAC review.

**Please see attached flowchart**

Young Person's name:	D.O.B:
Care First Number:	Allocated Social Worker and team details:
Team Manager: Service Manager:	Date Care Episode commenced:
Details of current placement:	Young Person's Independent Reviewing Officer:
Circumstance leading to the young person becoming looked after (please include all	

identified risk and protective factors):

How have the risk factors reduced and protective factors increased to safely allow the young person to cease to be looked after (please state the risk analysis from your assessment):

What is the proposed accommodation for the young person and how has this been assessed as suitable (include date accommodation visited):

What services and support are needed for the young person and carer / parent/s once the young person ceases to be looked after (please include the date of the pathway plan review):

Child's wishes and feelings:

Parent's wishes and feelings:

View of the child's IRO and date when the consultation with IRO took place:

Recommendation of the relevant Head of Service

Decision and any comments by the Assistant Director

Signed:

Date:

Process for 16 and 17 year olds when considering to cease to look after the young person

