



Item No: 12

Meeting Date: Friday 9 December 2016

Glasgow City Integration Joint Board

Report By: Susanne Millar, Chief Officer, Planning, Strategy and Commissioning / Chief Social Work Officer

Contact: Susanne Millar

Tel: 0141 287 8847

FAMILIES FOR UNACCOMPANIED ASYLUM SEEKING YOUNG PEOPLE

Purpose of Report:	The purpose of this report is to outline the proposed process for Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership to work with faith communities and Positive Action in Housing to identify families who can provide accommodation and support to young unaccompanied asylum seekers (UASC), who are currently either in England or those in refugee camps in Europe.
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Recommendations:	The Integration Joint Board is asked to: a) note the ongoing progress in this work; b) approve the next stages of this work; and c) approve ongoing negotiations with partners.
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Implications for Integration Joint Board:

Financial:	The Home Office has provided assurance that there will be funding made available for this work, with further detail to be provided on the level of this funding. Initial costings are provided in the report at Section 5.
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Personnel:	Additional personnel will be required to augment the existing UASC team.
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Legal:	Legal advice has been sought and the advice given is that there are no legal barriers to the Partnership accepting UASC, with further work underway with the Care Inspectorate and
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	Scottish Government to facilitate and support our approach.	
Economic Impact:	No impact	
Sustainability:	No impact	
Sustainable Procurement and Article 19:	No Impact	
Equalities:	This proposal is intended to extend the rights of UASC to family life.	
Risk Implications:	If Glasgow City HSCP are unable to progress this proposal the Home Office may compel us to take UASC and our only option would be to purchase external residential or fostering places at significant expense, outstripping the Home Office funding, and not meeting the needs of UASC.	
Implications for Glasgow City Council:	The Council are able to respond effectively to the needs of UASC.	
Implications for NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde:	No impact	
Direction Required to Council, Health Board or Both	Direction to:	
	1. No Direction Required	
	2. Glasgow City Council	✓
	3. NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde	
	4. Glasgow City Council and NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde	

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to outline the proposed process for Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership to work with faith communities and Positive Action in Housing to identify families who can provide accommodation and support to young unaccompanied asylum seekers (UASC), who are currently either in England or those in refugee camps in Europe.

2. Background

- 2.1 Glasgow City has a long history of supporting asylum seekers and refugees, including UASC. Within Glasgow we have a specialist social work UASC team, currently supporting around 100 young people of varying ages from 14-21, and with varying support needs. In addition there are well developed support services in Education, Health and the third sector with skills and experience in supporting UASC. Specifically, there is a guardianship project,

operated by Aberlour, funded by the Scottish Government, to provide support and advocacy for UASC in navigating the immigration system. The social work UASC team hold the statutory responsibility for assessment and support to UASC.

- 2.2 Glasgow City are supported in their work with UASC and the wider refugee population through their membership of the COSLA Strategic Migration Partnership who are the primary point of contact for the Home Office with Scottish Local Authorities. Although the Scottish Government are engaged in discussions relation to UASC, the decision making remains with the Home Office and Local Authorities, as immigration is a reserved matter for Westminster at this point.
- 2.3 The Home Office approached the COSLA Strategic Migration Partnership in July 2016 to bring discussions about the potential dispersal of UASC, currently in the South West of England to Scottish Local Authorities. Through the Immigration Act 2016, the Home Office can and will compel other English and Welsh authorities to take UASC from South West, but at this stage the legislation does not allow for them to compel Scottish local authorities. It is expected that the legislation will be altered to include Scottish local authorities to be compelled to take UASC, but timescales on this remain unclear. It is widely accepted that due to the volume of need, the South West authorities are unable to properly meet the needs of the number of UASC presenting there, and there is a need for other authorities to assist.
- 2.4 In addition to the UASC currently in the South West, the previous Prime Minister, Mr Cameron, did pledge to take a further cohort of UASC currently living in various refugee camps in Europe. It is unclear if and how the current Prime Minister intends to meet this pledge. However there was an additional commitment from the current Westminster Government to relocate UASC from the Calais camp who have family in the UK with their families, and also to offer support to UASC who were left in Calais following the recent camp clearance.
- 2.5 The Home Office will offer financial support to local authorities who are able to accept UASC from the South West, and from Calais, although there remains some uncertainty as to the extent of this financial support and whether it meets the actual costs of care.

3. Glasgow's Response

- 3.1 In response to all of the above, Glasgow Health and Social Care Partnership have:
 - Provided an urgent humanitarian response to the UASC left in Calais following the camp clearances, and have offered to take up to 35 young people. These young people will initially be accommodated together, to allow for assessment of their needs to take place. To date we have accommodated 19 young women in response to this crisis.

- Provided support to the UASC identified from the Calais camp as having relatives settled in Glasgow to reunite with those families. To date 5 such young people have been identified and supported.
- Developed a proposal working with faith communities and Positive Action in Housing (PAIH) to identify families in communities able to provide accommodation and support to UASC. It is this third element of our work which this report now describes.

4. Glasgow's Proposal

- 4.1 Essentially our proposal is to develop a kinship response for UASC. By definition, these young people, who do have looked after status do not have access to the option of kinship care, unlike our indigenous looked after children where our first response to parents being unable to look after them, is to explore the possibility of extended family caring for them. This option of family life is not available for UASC, and the proposal is to create kinship type placements from within our own communities, and extend that right to family life to UASC.
- 4.2 Based on our extensive experience, and following agreement at the Integration Joint Board in September 2016, we have developed a proposal which would involve the HSCP working with faith communities and PAIH to communicate with faith congregations and the PAIH volunteer host families for Refugees, to invite interest from families who are able to offer accommodation and support to UASC. It is the intention to offer information events to those families interested, and from there to undertake assessments, based on the current kinship assessment to then identify families suitable to offer accommodation to UASC. Thereafter, based on the information from the Home Office on the needs of these young people we would match families with young people. Families would receive a payment at the same level as the kinship payments.
- 4.3 Following the matching of families and young people the existing Social Work UASC Team would provide support to families, safeguarding for young people and access to other services as required. It is also envisaged that the Guardianship project would support young people, specifically in their interaction with the immigration system, and also to facilitate the development of support networks across the young people placed in different families.
- 4.4 There are a number of drivers to this approach. Based on our long experience of working with UASC, we know that the majority of young people, despite experiencing recent trauma and conflict, have had secure childhood experiences and are able to establish strong attachments, showing great resilience and they should have access to family life. In the main they are very committed to their education and focused on making the very most of any opportunity. They do not, in general terms, present the same challenges as the indigenous population requiring formal care. Further, given that the care system in Glasgow, and Scotland is at capacity, if we only offer registered care placements then we could only offer support to very small numbers of UASC. Lastly, this approach allows communities, supported by

the state, to offer solutions and care to UASC, rather than the solution being a statutory state based response.

- 4.5 Essentially then, whilst these UASC do come with 'looked after' status, it is our intention to place them in communities and not in formal registered care settings. There will be an assessment and matching process, but this will not be at the same level as fostering or residential care placements.
- 4.6 Our discussions with faith communities and PAIH have been very constructive and positive to date and we will be moving to provide formal communication to these wider communities in December 2016, regarding the information evenings.

5. Financial Framework

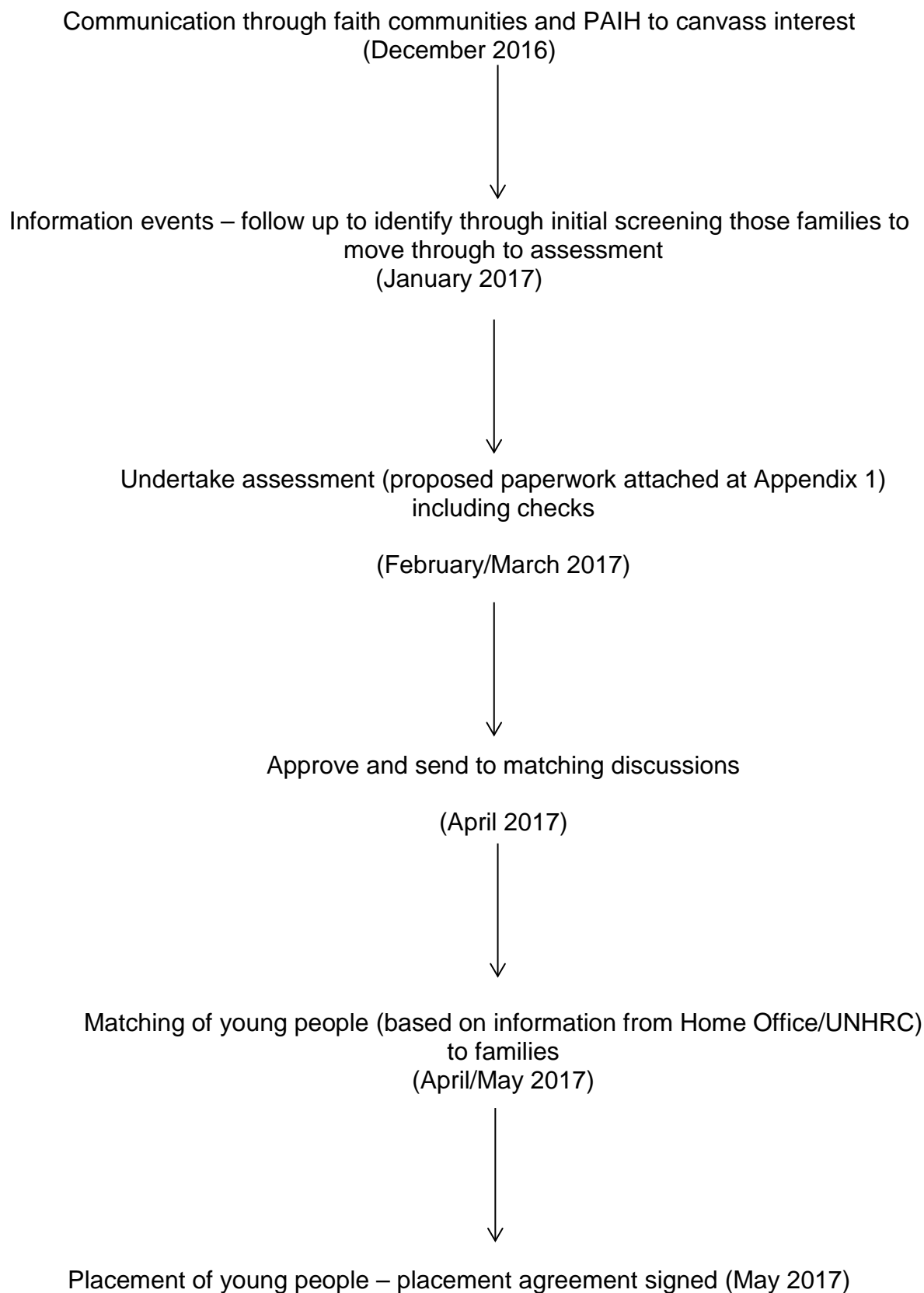
- 5.1 The Home Office currently provide funding for UASC supported by local authorities at a daily rate of £114 for under 16, £91 for 16-17 although there are ongoing discussions that this may be increased. It is expected that clarity on the level of funding will be provided by the end of 2016.
- 5.2 In the interim, we have based an initial costing of this proposal, on accepting 75 young people. Broadly our staffing costs for increasing social work capacity to undertake assessments and provide ongoing safeguarding and support is £252,000.

In addition to the above there is a potential cost once young people achieve leave to remain status and this is estimated at Year 1 Costs £1,362,000; Year 2 Costs £1,275,000; Year 3 Costs £1,478,000, Year 4 to 10 £1,290,000.

In addition, if we were to pay the families involved in the scheme at a rate comparable to kinship care, this would be dependent on any benefits the families receive, and although can't be estimated at this stage would be a cost that would need to be factored into any reclaim to the Home Office.

6. Process

6.1 The following is a summary of the proposed process and timescale.



6.2 The Health and Social Care Partnership are still finalising the suggested criteria for families, but broadly it is:

- Families have a spare bedroom to offer a young person
- Families are willing to offer support to young person
- Families can be two parent, single parent, same sex couples and do not need to be married
- Families can include birth children living at home but careful consideration of age and gender
- Families would participate in an assessment and matching process, and would engage in ongoing contact with a support team while young person is placed
- Families would agree to a police check and would not be deemed suitable if there was someone living in the household with significant criminal convictions

7. Outstanding Issues

7.1 At this stage, a number of issues remain outstanding, including:

- Agreement with the Home Office on the legal transfer protocol to allow young people to come to Scotland and Glasgow
- Agreement with Home Office on financial framework
- Clarity from Home Office on likely status of UASC to allow us to advise families of length of placements
- Internal issues to HSCP around recording of information, written guidance for staff
- Management of issues of geographical boundaries regarding where people are placed and the respective local authority responsibilities.
- Liaison with Disclosure Scotland/Police Scotland to engage their support to prioritise the families involved.
- Potential to utilise Employability services to engage young people/prepare them for future employment when they are post 16 years. Include employability services in planning for unaccompanied young people.
- Additional capacity to augment interpreting services.
- Additional staff will require Age Assessment and Trafficking training.
- Identification of housing/homelessness resource as families likely to be offering time limited placements.

- Clarity from Home Office on decision making process and timescale for asylum claims outlined in section 6.

8. Recommendations

8.1 The Integration Joint Board is asked to:

- a) note the ongoing progress in this work;
- b) approve the next stages of this work, and
- c) approve ongoing negotiations with partners.



DIRECTION FROM THE GLASGOW CITY INTEGRATION JOINT BOARD

1	Reference number	091216-12-a
2	Date direction issued by Integration Joint Board	9 th December 2016
3	Date from which direction takes effect	9 th December 2016
4	Direction to:	Glasgow City Council only
5	Does this direction supersede, amend or cancel a previous direction – if yes, include the reference number(s)	No
6	Functions covered by direction	Children's Services
7	Full text of direction	Glasgow City Council is directed to implement the further stages of the UASC work and continue ongoing negotiations with partners as outlined in this report.
8	Budget allocated by Integration Joint Board to carry out direction	<i>To be agreed.</i>
9	Performance monitoring arrangements	To be agreed.
10	Date direction will be reviewed	31 st March 2017



GLASGOW CITY COUNCIL
FAMILIES FOR UNACCOMPANIED CHILDREN

CARER(S) ASSESSMENT REPORT

Team	
Address	

Social Worker		
Team Leader		
Applicant(s)	Name	Address
1		
Relationship to child		
2		
Relationship to child		
Approval sought for	Childs details; name dob legal status Care First	

Status of Application. Initial/Review	Date of Previous Applications/Reviews and Outcome.

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- 2 ASSESSMENT PROCESS, CHECKS AND EVIDENCE
ATTACHED TO REPORT**
- 3 SUMMARY OF FAMILY BACKGROUND**
- 4 COMPETENCES REPORT**
- 5 ASSESSOR'S SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATION**
- 6 APPLICANT'S COMMENTS**
- 7 SERVICE MANAGER AUTHORISATION**

1. FACTUAL INFORMATION ABOUT APPLICANT

	1 st applicant	2 nd applicant
Current surname (last name or family name)		
All previous surnames		
First name(s)		
Known as		
Date of birth		
Present address	(a)	
Telephone number		
Ethnic origin		
Gender		
Marital status and length of current partnership	.	
Language(s) spoken at home		
Religion (practising or nominal)		
Details of any disabilities		
Currently employed		
Job title		
Hours worked per week	.	
Proposed hours (if to change when fostering)	.	
Hobbies or interests		
Experience or knowledge of children (including work experience, paid or unpaid)		
Can applicant(s) drive (state no. of years experience)	.	

DETAILS OF OTHER MEMBERS OF FAMILY AND HOUSEHOLD

1(a)

Children living in the household

Name	Gender	Date of Birth	Ethnic Background	Relationship to Applicant
	blank		blank	blank
	blank		blank	blank
	blank		blank	blank
	blank		blank	blank

Adults living in the household

	blank		blank	blank
	blank		blank	blank
	blank		blank	blank
	blank		blank	blank
	blank		blank	blank

1(b)

Regular visitors to applicant's home who will have unsupervised access to children/young people placed

Name	Gender	Date of Birth	Ethnic Background	Relationship to Applicant(s)
	blank		blank	blank
	blank		blank	blank
	blank		blank	blank
	blank		blank	blank
	blank		blank	blank

DETAILS OF ACCOMMODATION, LOCALITY AND ACCESS TO TRANSPORT

1(c)

Please give brief details of home, e.g. rented, how many bedrooms etc

What are proposed sleeping arrangements for unaccompanied child(ren) placed.

Please give brief details of locality, e.g. ethnic mix, how near home is to amenities like schools, shops, GP etc.

What access there is to public transport. Any obvious dangers nearby?

Does home have any pets? If so, please state what they are, how many and give a brief description

**2.
SUMMARY OF ASSESSMENT PROCESS**

Date application made	Date assessment started	Date report completed

Details of any problems or delays in assessment process (give reasons for delay)

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Interviews/discussions with applicant

Date	Name	where interview took place	Name of agency/other worker involved

Interviews/discussions with other members of family and household

Date	Name	Relationship to applicant	Name of agency/other worker involved

Written information given to applicants

Date	Description/title of information	Name of agency/other worker involved

2(a)

SUMMARY OF CHECKS

Check	1st applicant	2nd applicant	Comments/dates seen and by whom.
Carefirst	yes	yes	
Police check	yes	yes	
Local authority checks	yes	yes	
Health and safety check	yes	yes	
Health visitor	yes	yes	
Medical report	yes	yes	
1st Visit to carers home.	yes	yes	
Carer Agreement signed	yes	yes	
Discretionary Payment made	yes	yes	
Bank mandates signed	yes	yes	
List any other checks carried			

Checks on other adults

Name	Checks carried out	comments

3. SUMMARY OF FAMILY BACKGROUND

Description of the applicant(s) own family history, highlighting significant events and relationships. Describe personalities, family life and interests. State applicants' motivation.

FAMILY BACKGROUND.

ASSESSOR'S NOTES FOR GUIDANCE – WRITING THE COMPETENCIES REPORT.

Under each of the competency headings below, briefly list why you feel the applicants meet the requirements of that competency. Your opinion should be based on the evidence you have collected from different sources, including your own observation,. Your report should be an analysis of the evidence collected and why you feel it demonstrates that the applicant meets the competency, or has the potential to do so. Give examples to illustrate how you have reached your opinion. You may want to include quotes from the evidence collected or make references to the evidence and where it can be found, either attached to the report or in the portfolio.

Remember – avoid jargon, clichés and generalisations. Back up your statements with examples wherever possible and continually cross reference to essential pieces of evidence to avoid repetition. Keep the information brief and relevant – do not give detailed accounts of lengthy discussions with applicants. Your report should ideally be no more than eight or nine pages long.

1 Caring for children and young people

- 1.1 An ability to provide a good standard of care to other people's children which promotes healthy emotional, physical and sexual development as well as their health and educational achievement.
- 1.2 An ability to set appropriate boundaries, and manage children's behaviour within these, without the use of physical or other inappropriate punishment.
- 1.3 A knowledge of normal child development and an ability to listen and communicate with children appropriate to their age and understanding.

2 Providing a safe and caring environment

- 2.1 An ability to ensure that children are cared for in a home where they are safe from harm or abuse
- 2.2 An ability to help children keep themselves safe from harm or abuse, and to know how to seek help if their safety is threatened.

3 Providing a safe and caring environment

- 3.1 An ability to communicate effectively.
- 3.2 An ability to keep information confidential.
- 3.3 An ability to promote equality, diversity and rights of individuals and groups within society.

1. OWN DEVELOPMENT.

- 1.1 AN ABILITY TO APPRECIATE HOW PERSONAL EXPERIENCES HAVE AFFECTED THEMSELVES AND THEIR FAMILY, AND THE IMPACT FOSTERING IS LIKELY TO HAVE ON THEM ALL.
- 4.2 AN ABILITY TO HAVE PEOPLE AND LINKS WITHIN THE COMMUNITY WHICH PROVIDE SUPPORT.
- 1.2 AN ABILITY TO USE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES AND TO IMPROVE SKILLS.
- 1.3 AN ABILITY TO SUSTAIN POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS AND MAINTAIN EFFECTIVE FUNCTIONING THROUGH PERIODS OF STRESS.

5. ASSESSOR'S SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATION

5(a) Summary of applicant's family circumstances

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5(b) Summary of strengths (competencies met, experience, skills and qualities, evidence of safe caring)

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5(c) Summary of other issues identified

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5(d) Summary of, development and support needs

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5(e) Matching considerations (comment on child's views from IAF and legal status regarding placement)

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5(f) Recommendation

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Name of assessing social worker		date
Signature		

Team Leader		date
Signature		

6. COMMENTS FROM APPLICANT(s) (attach separate sheet if necessary)

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Name of 1st applicant	
Signature	
date	

Name of 2nd applicant	
Signature	
Date	

7. Authorisation Approval

Date Passed to Service Manager	date
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Approved	Comments
Not Approved	Comments
Date of Kinship Care Review	date

Service Manager	date
Signature	



**WRITTEN AGREEMENT BETWEEN GLASGOW HSCP AND IDENTIFIED
FAMILIES FOR UNACCOMPANIED CHILDREN**

I / We agree to care for..... to promote the well-being of the child in all areas to ensure that they are Safe, Healthy, Achieving, Nurtured, Active, Respected, Responsible and Included.

I / We agree to co-operate and be part of a assessment to assess and demonstrate my / our suitability to meet and promote the needs of the child

The carers must agree:

- To seek medical attention for the child when necessary
- To allow the local authority access to the child at all reasonable times
- To notify the local authority, within a reasonable period, of any significant event or serious illness involving the child leading to hospital admission, medical treatment beyond short-term remedies or of any significant occurrence of any nature capable of having any long term or lasting impact upon the child's physical or mental health or welfare including significant disruption of school attendance, contact arrangements or the viability of the placement itself.
- To notify the local authority of any significant health and personal changes in the household or carer's own circumstances that would impact on the care of the child
- To promote the physical, social and emotional welfare of the child

The local authority agrees:

- To provide support and guidance to carers in promoting the child's well-being
- To provide immediate support with resources needed for practical aspects of caring for a child
- Entitlement to the payment scheme will be paid direct to the assessed carer's bank account
- To provide information on how any allegations or complaints will be dealt with
- To work across local authority departments to access support for the kinship carers
- To ensure as far as possible that there are no organisational barriers to the child and his/hers carers experiencing as normal a life as possible
- To review the placement at least annually.
- To promote a healthy physical and mental lifestyle for carers by signposting to appropriate agencies for support.

Signature Carer

1.....DATE.....

Signature Carer

2.....DATE.....

Signature SOCIALWORKER/CAREMANAGER

.....DATE.....

Signature TEAM LEADER

.....DATE.....

Signature YOUNG PERSON

.....DATE.....