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Access to Placements Team

NOTES – do we need anything about Taurus?

Remand to Local Authority Accommodation (LAA)

Where a child is remanded to local authority accommodation, the designated local authority is responsible for identifying a suitable placement. For as long as they remain looked after, these children are entitled to the same care planning and review processes as other looked after children.

Children who are already looked after, as they are subject to a care order or because they are accommodated under section 20 of the 1989 Act, may also be remanded under section 92 of the LASPOA. There may though be little point remanding a child who is already looked after to the care of the local authority unless the court wished to impose a condition on where they should live whilst remanded, e.g. prohibiting their placement with named persons.

In developing the care plan for children who become looked after solely as a result of being remanded, the local authority is not required to prepare a "plan for permanence", as required by Regulation 5(a) of the Care Planning Regulations9. This amendment to local authority care planning duties recognises that some children will only be looked after for the period they are remanded. In many cases this period will be relatively short. However, consideration must be given to what longer term support or accommodation the child will need following the remand episode. If children need to remain looked after once the period of remand has ceased, then the local authority must comply with all the requirements of the Care Planning Regulations. The child's social worker must develop a 'plan for permanence' as part of the process of developing the care plan for the child concerned.

Children remanded to local authority accommodation may also be subject to other conditions set by the court, such as a general curfew. Some of these conditions may be monitored electronically.

It will be good practice that wherever possible, working with the child's solicitor and the responsible YOT the local authority should actively work towards securing bail for the child.