

A guide for Carers' To be used when completing Individual Risk Assessments

Risks to Child:

1. Risk of Harm as a result of lack of ability when independent of carer out of the home.

This issue asks us to consider the ability of the young person experiencing life outside of the home in an unsupervised capacity and the risks that they may encounter even within the immediate vicinity of the home or in the geographical area the child may come into contact with. This may take on board specific issues within specific homes e.g. the proximity to the town centre or main road etc. The most obvious risks initially being the child's ability to cross a road safely, their awareness of the environment and their ability to return safely, their understanding of how to be able to appropriately ask for directions or to get help should a situation arise, where for some reason they are unable to find their own way home.

Low Risk

This would describe a young person who was quite competent at getting to and from town safely, perhaps may be able to use public transport, have the communication skills to be able to find directions, appropriate routes for public transport etc, fully aware of how to cross a road safely and able to maintain concentration during such times so as it is unlikely to encompass difficulties.

Medium Risk

This would describe a young person who has the above skills particularly in relation to being able to cross the road safely, however is sometimes forgetful, tends to lose concentration on occasions where the level of risk is considered to be acceptable and evidence does not suggest that it is justifiable not to allow unsupervised time but that specific advice should be given on how far they may be able to go, when they should be returning, by what route, with whatever necessary precautions.

High Risk

This would describe a young person who if allowed to go out of home in an unsupervised capacity, is most likely to experience difficulties that may result in harm, or injury due to not possessing the skills outlined above.

GREEN: Staff to be aware.

AMBER: Structures strategies to be put in place and carefully monitored.

RED: Crisis thought to be imminent - Situation to be discussed with other agencies - consideration to alternative placement.

2. Risk of being sexually abused within the home.

The key questions in this area are identified in the risk assessment format. The most significant is number (4) as young people may be sexualised with each other, which is inappropriate and requires work and attention but the issue becomes abusive if there is an unbalance of power.

Low Risk

This describes the young person where there is no evidence that this kind of situation may occur if they are in an unsupervised capacity.

Medium Risk

This describes the young person who may have displayed this kind of behaviour in the past but where it is thought that progress has been made in this area, and positive evidence of a contradictory nature applies that there is every likelihood that this would not be relevant and is thought worthwhile allowing the young person the opportunity to be independent, to continue to build on their skills as and when appropriate, but should be carefully monitored by those responsible for their care.

High Risk

This describes the young person who it is thought when left in an unsupervised capacity is likely to experience the kind of difficulty described above within a short period of time

GREEN: Staff to be aware.

AMBER: Structures strategies to be put in place and carefully monitored.

RED: Crisis thought to be imminent - Situation to be discussed with other agencies - consideration to alternative placement.

3. Risk of being sexually abused within the school environment.

The key questions in this area are identified in the risk assessment format. The most significant is number (4) as young people may be sexualised with each other, which is inappropriate and requires work and attention but the issue becomes abusive if there is an unbalance of power.

Low Risk

This describes the young person where there is no evidence that this kind of situation may occur if they are in an unsupervised capacity.

Medium Risk

This describes the young person who may have displayed this kind of behaviour in the past but where it is thought that progress has been made in this area, and positive evidence of a contradictory nature applies that there is every likelihood that this would not be relevant and is thought worthwhile allowing the young person the opportunity to be independent, to continue to build on their skills as and when appropriate, but should be carefully monitored by those responsible for their care.

High Risk

This describes the young person who it is thought when left in an unsupervised capacity is likely to experience the kind of difficulty described above within a short period of time

GREEN: Staff to be aware.

AMBER: Structures strategies to be put in place and carefully monitored.

RED: Crisis thought to be imminent - Situation to be discussed with other agencies - consideration to alternative placement.

4. Risk of inappropriate sexualised behaviour within the home.

The key questions in this area are identified in the risk assessment format. The most significant is number (4) as young people may be sexualised with each other, which is inappropriate and requires work and attention but the issue becomes abusive if there is an unbalance of power.

Low Risk

This describes the young person where there is no evidence that this kind of situation may occur if they are in an unsupervised capacity.

Medium Risk

This describes the young person who may have displayed this kind of behaviour in the past but where it is thought that progress has been made in this area, and positive evidence of a contradictory nature applies that there is every likelihood that this would not be relevant and is thought worthwhile allowing the young person the opportunity to be independent, to continue to build on their skills as and when appropriate, but should be carefully monitored by those responsible for their care.

High Risk

This describes the young person who it is thought when left in an unsupervised capacity is likely to experience the kind of difficulty described above within a short period of time

GREEN: Staff to be aware.

AMBER: Structures strategies to be put in place and carefully monitored.

RED: Crisis thought to be imminent - Situation to be discussed with other agencies - consideration to alternative placement.

5. Risk of being physically abused within the home.

The key questions in this area are identified in the risk assessment format. The most significant is number (4) as young people may be physical with each other, which is inappropriate and requires work and attention but the issue becomes abusive if there is an unbalance of power, distress and/or injury.

Low Risk

This describes the young person where there is no evidence that this kind of situation may occur if they are in an unsupervised capacity.

Medium Risk

This describes the young person who may have displayed this kind of behaviour in the past but where it is thought that progress has been made in this area, and positive evidence of a contradictory nature applies that there is every likelihood that this would not be relevant and is thought worthwhile allowing the young person the opportunity to be independent, to continue to build on their skills as and when appropriate, but should be carefully monitored by those responsible for their care.

High Risk

This describes the young person who it is thought when left in an unsupervised capacity is likely to experience the kind of difficulty described above within a short period of time

GREEN: Staff to be aware.

AMBER: Structures strategies to be put in place and carefully monitored.

RED: Crisis thought to be imminent - Situation to be discussed with other agencies - consideration to alternative placement.

6. Risk of being victimised/bullied by other children/adults in the community- unaware of stranger danger or desire to be victimised by the community

This issue asks us to consider the risks attached to a young persons behaviour that may come about by attracting attention to themselves, placing themselves in vulnerable situations and perhaps encouraging hostility from a community by inappropriate behaviour, staring, shouting, abusive language. Unaware of their own personal presence when trying to attach to a group of young people, lack of social skills in this area that would lead to that young person attracting unnecessary and undesirable attention to themselves.

Low Risk

This would describe a young person who has the social skills and abilities to be able to mix appropriately with new groups of people in a variety of settings. They are aware of when it is appropriate to try and make friends, and when it is appropriate to be aware of stranger danger, demonstrate the ability to try to make themselves fit into a community and possibly be even rewarded or promoted within that community.

Medium Risk

This would describe a young person who is striving to achieve the above qualities but less able in some areas. Who may find some difficulty in appropriate interactions, may on occasions attract unnecessary attention to themselves and on some occasions may not have a clear enough understanding of relationships with other adults in different contexts that indicates that more work needs to be done on stranger danger. However there will be insufficient evidence to suggest that precautions needed to be taken that would result in a young person being unable to experience independence within a community whereby they may not be able to obtain the skills necessary to achieve the above qualities as mentioned under low risk category.

High Risk

This describe a young person whose behaviour would immediately attract inappropriate attention by either other children or adults whose awareness of adults and other young people in different contexts would be insufficient to modify their own behaviour and whose inabilities to recognise stranger danger would likely lead them into and possible harm in any given period of time.

GREEN: Staff to be aware.

AMBER: Structures strategies to be put in place and carefully monitored.

RED: Crisis thought to be imminent - Situation to be discussed with other agencies - consideration to alternative placement.

7. Risk of self harm - either within our home or when independent of carers.

Any actions that may cause physical injury. Examples:-

- Scratching
- Cutting
- Tie ligatures
- Overdose
- Suicide attempt
- Alcohol/Substance abuse
- Failure to take medication or basic health care

Low Risk

This describes the young person where there is no evidence of self-harming behaviours either within or outside of the home.

Medium Risk

This describes a young person who may have experienced or displayed self harming behaviours at various points of time due to distressing experiences but as a result of a change in circumstances or overcoming previous difficulties, these issues are not thought to be constantly prevalent but may require careful monitoring.

High Risk

This would describe a young person whom it is likely in an unsupervised capacity may indulge in self harming behaviour in one form or another.

GREEN: Staff to be aware.

AMBER: Structures strategies to be put in place and carefully monitored.

RED: Crisis thought to be imminent - Situation to be discussed with other agencies - consideration to alternative placement.

8. Risk of sexual exploitation, returning to potential abuse- to previously known adults or to frequent areas where child/young person would be identifiable as familiar with sexual abuse (sexual exploitation).

This describes the young person who in an unsupervised capacity may make efforts to return to adults who may have been involved in previous abusive situations, or a young person who may seek out places within the community or wider geographical area that may be frequented by adults that may be abusive to them. The young person may not perceive the relationship as abusive and may believe it to be a 'worthwhile relationship'. Key indicators would be receiving money or gifts that cannot be accounted for, from known or unknown others.

Low Risk

This describes the young person where there is no evidence that this kind of situation may occur if they are in an unsupervised capacity.

Medium Risk

This describes the young person who may have displayed this kind of behaviour in the past but where it is thought that progress has been made in this area, and positive evidence of a contradictory nature applies that there is every likelihood that this would not be relevant and is thought worthwhile allowing the young person the opportunity to be independent, to continue to build on their skills as and when appropriate, but should be carefully monitored by those responsible for their care.

High Risk

This describes the young person who it is thought when left in an unsupervised capacity is likely to experience the kind of difficulty described above within a short period of time

GREEN: Staff to be aware.

AMBER: Structures strategies to be put in place and carefully monitored.

RED: Crisis thought to be imminent - Situation to be discussed with other agencies - consideration to alternative placement.

9. Risk of being cyber bullied, groomed or victimised by other children/adults in the community - through use of the internet or mobile phones

This issue asks us to consider the risks attached to a young person's behaviour that may come about by a young person attracting attention to themselves; placing themselves in vulnerable situations and perhaps encouraging negative attention from an individual or individuals through inappropriate behaviour; abusive language; unaware of their own personal vulnerability when trying to attach to a group of young people; lack of social skills in this area or a young person who may seek out sites within the internet that may be frequented by adults who may be abusive to them and where he or she is aware that they would be identified as being extremely vulnerable and likely to experience further abuse and or sexual exploitation.

Low

This would describe a young person for whom there is no evidence of this kind of behaviour being relevant.

Medium

This describes a young person who has, or may have experienced victimisation at various points in time and suffered distressing experiences, but as a result of a change in their behaviours or overcoming previous difficulties or increased knowledge, these issues are not thought to be constantly prevalent but may require careful monitoring.

High

This would describe a young person who if allowed to use the internet or mobile phone in an unsupervised capacity, is most likely to experience difficulties that may result in putting themselves at risk due to not possessing the necessary self-protection skills.

GREEN: Staff to be aware.

AMBER: Structures strategies to be put in place and carefully monitored.

RED: Crisis thought to be imminent - Situation to be discussed with other agencies - consideration to alternative placement.

Risk From Child:

10. Risks of physically assaulting children/young people in the home

This describes a young person who may physically punch, kick or attack a child in the home. These incidents are beyond lashing out or bouncing off other children out of frustration or expected physical interaction; and demonstrate the intention to harm others.

Low Risk

This would describe a young person to whom there is no evidence that this kind of behaviour would be prevalent, there has been no incidents of this nature for some time and it is thought most unlikely that this would be unlikely to happen.

Medium Risk

This would describe a young person whom this behaviour might have been relevant in the past but who has demonstrated that they are making good progress in this area and there have been no incidents recently and whilst staff are aware of the potential risk it is thought unlikely to be prevalent.

High Risk

This would describe a young person for whom there have been recent incidents of this nature and it is thought that in an unsupervised capacity that this behaviour would be prevalent within a short space of time

GREEN: Staff to be aware.

AMBER: Structures strategies to be put in place and carefully monitored.

RED: Crisis thought to be imminent - Situation to be discussed with other agencies - consideration to alternative placement.

11. Risk of physical assault on carers

This describes a young person who may physically punch, kick or attack a member of staff working for Pear Tree or carers looking after that particular child in another context i.e. teacher, instructor, support worker etc. The issue of assault describes an incident that is beyond a child lashing out with frustration where it is thought injury may occur as a result of their behaviour.

Low Risk

This describes a young person for whom there is no evidence to suggest that this kind of behaviour is likely.

Medium Risk

This would describe a young person to who this kind of behaviour may have been relevant in the past but has demonstrated that they are making good progress and positive steps towards this issue not being prevalent.

High Risk

This would describe a young person to who it is likely that this issue may be of concern, there have been recent incidents and it is thought that future occurrences are likely.

GREEN: Staff to be aware.

AMBER: Structures strategies to be put in place and carefully monitored.

RED: Crisis thought to be imminent - Situation to be discussed with other agencies - consideration to alternative placement.

12. Risk of physically assaulting other children - in the community, peers, in a particular group or independent activity- unable to control temper in any given situation.

This describes a young person who is unable to control their temper who may present the risk of physically harming other children or adults in the community.

Low Risk

This describes the young person for whom there is no evidence of this kind of situation happening and plenty of evidence to suggest that it is unlikely that this would occur

Medium Risk

This describes the young person to whom this may have been relevant to in the past, who has made progress and that there are plenty of positive indicators to suggest that it is unlikely that this will be a relevant situation to consider.

High Risk

This would describe a young person who it is likely has been recently involved in this kind of behaviour and for whom there is every indication that in an unsupervised capacity this kind of behaviour is likely to occur again.

GREEN: Staff to be aware.

AMBER: Structures strategies to be put in place and carefully monitored.

RED: Crisis thought to be imminent - Situation to be discussed with other agencies - consideration to alternative placement.

13. Risk of inappropriate sexualised behaviour

The key word here is 'inappropriate' and describes behaviour of a sexual nature that is apparent to others.

For example, masturbation amongst teenagers is expected. It may become inappropriate if others are made aware of when and where it is happening, either as a result of vocalising, or exposure to in public places. It may in some circumstances cause offence or constitute a criminal offence.

This may also include exposure of genitals and in some cases flirtatious behaviour and mild forms of inappropriate touching.

It is inappropriate sexualised behaviour as no-one else is affected other than perhaps visually and as a result may be effected emotionally, but not harmed. In the event that someone is harmed it becomes Sexually Harmful behaviour.

Low Risk

This describes a young person for whom there is no evidence that this issue is relevant.

Medium Risk

This would describe a young person who this may have been an issue in the past that has been involved in therapeutic work with other agencies. They now make great progress within their recovery and intervention plan within Pear Tree and whilst it has been an issue some time ago there is plenty of positive evidence to suggest that it is unlikely to be relevant at this point in time.

High Risk

This would describe a young person to who it is likely that this kind of behaviour would be relevant, who may have been involved in incidents as described above either recently or quite some time ago. Where there is a distinct lack of progress being made in work with other agencies, or their recovery and intervention plan with Pear Tree. Where it is thought likely that in the event of a young person being in an unsupervised capacity that an offence of this nature may occur.

GREEN: Staff to be aware.

AMBER: Structures strategies to be put in place and carefully monitored.

RED: Crisis thought to be imminent - Situation to be discussed with other agencies - consideration to alternative placement.

14. Risk of sexually harmful behaviour with children in the community.

This describes a young person who is likely to display sexually offending behaviour in the community. Who evidence has shown is able to offend outside of the home where limited relationship have been developed and an absence of prolonged intense grooming strategies are required to engineer opportunities to offend. In other words offence may occur with limited or no relationship.

Low Risk

This describes a young person for whom there is no evidence that this issue is relevant.

Medium Risk

This would describe a young person who this may have been an issue in the past that has been involved in therapeutic work with other agencies. They now make great progress within their recovery and intervention plan within Pear Tree and whilst it has been an issue some time ago there is plenty of positive evidence to suggest that it is unlikely to be relevant at this point in time.

High Risk

This would describe a young person to whom it is likely that this kind of behaviour would be relevant, who may have been involved in incidents as described above either recently or quite some time ago. Where there is a distinct lack of progress being made in work with other agencies, or their recovery and intervention plan with Pear Tree. Where it is thought likely that in the event of a young person being in an unsupervised capacity that an offence of this nature may occur.

GREEN: Staff to be aware.

AMBER: Structures strategies to be put in place and carefully monitored.

RED: Crisis thought to be imminent - Situation to be discussed with other agencies - consideration to alternative placement.

15. Risk of sexually harmful behaviour with children and young people in their home

This describes a young person who may have been involved in sexually abusive behaviour within a home setting i.e. Their family home or foster home prior to Pear Tree or have been involved in incidents within Pear Tree of a sexually abusive nature. These incidents were not mutual consenting amongst same age peers. Where imbalance of power was evident and grooming strategies may be evident over a period of time and may be used to coerced a young person into a situation where they become vulnerable to the risk of sexual abuse.

Low Risk

This describes a young person for whom there is no evidence of the above behaviour being relevant

Medium Risk

This would describe a young person who may have been involved in situations in the past of this nature who have been involved in positive work with other agencies and displayed significant progress in their recovery and intervention programme within Pear Tree. This would suggest that this kind of behaviour is unlikely to be relevant, but the risks are identified.

High Risk

This would describe a young person who it is thought this kind of behaviour in an unsupervised capacity would be relevant, where there is as lack of progress being made, with other agencies or with in the recovery and intervention programme within Pear Tree. Where it is thought that if this young person was left in an unsupervised capacity other children or young people would be at risk within a short period of time.

GREEN: Staff to be aware.

AMBER: Structures strategies to be put in place and carefully monitored.

RED: Crisis thought to be imminent - Situation to be discussed with other agencies - consideration to alternative placement.

16. Risk of fire lighting behaviour

This describes a young person who may be involved in lighting fires, however small within a domestic setting or in the community without the permission of supervising adults.

Low Risk

This would describe a young person for whom there is no history of this kind of behaviour and staff observations around bonfires have not given cause for concern.

Medium Risk

This would describe a young person whom:-

- may have been involved in minor incidents in the past, where staff should be aware of a potential risk, but for whom this kind of behaviour is thought to be unlikely.
- has displayed concerning behaviour in the past but as a result of education is more aware of the risks and shows no intensity around the subject.
- as a result of smoking when independent of staff may be misguided enough to break the rules of the home and hide fire lighting equipment in the home. By doing so increasing the risk that they may use equipment to 'light up' or the equipment may be found by others who may use it.

High Risk

This would describe a young person who has a history of starting fires. Who displays a level of intensity around the subject and it is thought if allowed access to, fire lighting materials presents a very real danger of fire starting. Who does not display any acknowledgment of the dangers or consequences of such behaviour and for who there is little evidence of them conforming to boundaries without staff intervention.

GREEN: Staff to be aware.

AMBER: Structures strategies to be put in place and carefully monitored.

RED: Crisis thought to be imminent - Situation to be discussed with other agencies - consideration to alternative placement.

17. Risk of malicious allegations

This describes a young person who makes allegations for a variety of reasons. Either to distract attention from their own behaviour and to redirect that attention to others. To use this kind of behaviour as a tool to intimidate others, whether children, young people or adults. This describes the young person who is quite prepared to lie to get other people into trouble and is aware of the harm they are causing to others.

Low Risk

- This would describe a young person for whom there is no evidence of this kind of behaviour being relevant.

Medium Risk

This would describe a young person for whom this kind of behaviour may have been relevant in the distant past, but where there have been no recent incidents, or a young person who may make mild mannered unfounded complaints against others on a regular basis without necessarily recognising the seriousness of their actions.

High Risk

This would describe a young person who uses above strategies who has no consideration for the feelings of others or the consequences of their behaviour on others.

GREEN: Staff to be aware.

AMBER: Structures strategies to be put in place and carefully monitored.

RED: Crisis thought to be imminent - Situation to be discussed with other agencies - consideration to alternative placement.

18. Risk presented by the Young person of bullying

This describes a young person acting as a bully. This should cover different types of bullying e.g. On the grounds of race, gender, disability or sexual orientation, which includes name-calling. The use of physical violence, threats, intimidation, physiological and emotional abuse should also be covered. Support mechanisms should be put in place to support children that may be victims of their bullying and the young person who bullies, should be given suitable guidance.

Low Risk

This describes a young person where there has been no evidence, that they have been a bully and that it is felt unlikely, for whom this would become an issue.

Medium Risk

This describes a young person who may have displayed this kind of behaviour in the past, but where it is thought that progress has been made in this area and there is positive evidence. That it is also felt that in the absence of any recent incidents that this kind of behaviour is not likely to occur.

High Risk

This describes a young person who, it is likely has been recently involved in this kind of behaviour and for whom there is every indicator that despite suitable guidance and advice, in an unsupervised capacity this kind of behaviour is likely to occur again.

GREEN: Staff to be aware.

AMBER: Structures strategies to be put in place and carefully monitored.

RED: Crisis beyond any kind of acceptable level - Situation to be discussed with other agencies-consideration to alternative placement.

19. Risk of cyber bullying, grooming or victimising other children/adults in the community - through use of the internet or mobile phones

This describes a young person acting as a bully or who is likely to display harmful behaviour and is using the internet or mobile phones as a medium to achieve this; this should cover different types of bullying or sexually harmful behaviour:

- Emotional abuse through use of threats and intimidation.
- Grooming, coercion, sexual exploitation of themselves or others, to engage an individual.
- The use of mobile phones or internet to promote inappropriate relationship, seek out inappropriate relationships or seek opportunities to offend in the future.
- Use material or contacts to reinforce sexually harmful behaviours or beliefs.

Support mechanisms should be put in place to support children who may be victims of bullying or grooming strategies and the young person who bullies or who is grooming, should be given suitable guidance and opportunities to do so removed.

Low

This would describe a young person for whom there is no evidence of this kind of behaviour being relevant.

Medium

This would describe a young person, to whom this kind of behaviour may have been relevant in the past but has demonstrated that they are making good progress and positive steps towards this issue, resulting in this not being prevalent.

High

This would describe a young person who it is likely has been recently involved in this kind of behaviour and for whom there is every indication that in an unsupervised capacity this kind of behaviour is likely to occur again.

GREEN: Staff to be aware.

AMBER: Structures strategies to be put in place and carefully monitored.

RED: Crisis thought to be imminent - Situation to be discussed with other agencies - consideration to alternative placement.

20. Risk of radicalisation

Pear Tree recognises its responsibilities to identify and support young people who may be at risk of radicalisation in all its forms. Pear Tree also recognises that the background of young people who are vulnerable to be influenced by others who can have a negative and harmful impact on them, share many characteristics with the current population at Pear Tree.

- The absence of positive role model leadership.
- The desire to attach to a group to feel a sense of belonging.
- Angry with their life.

The children at Pear Tree have been assessed as being responsive to the influence of our teaching and input. Likewise they would be responsive to the negative influence of others if they were able to have sustained access such as through the use of social media.

Pear Tree recognises these issues as Safeguarding issues and will treat them as such. Your Single Point of Contact (SPOC) is your Safeguarding Officer. David Bartlett.

Whilst geographically Pear Tree operates within a low risk area for radicalisation, only one young person to fall victim to radicalisation is one too many. Also we must remember that our children and young people come from a wider region and their home areas may vary in risk. We already know they are vulnerable.

Low

This would describe a young person for whom there is no evidence of this kind of behaviour being relevant.

Medium

This would describe a young person who may be vulnerable to elements that contribute towards a young person being radicalised.

High

This would describe a young person who is experiencing elements that may lead to realisation or who may have already been radicalised.

GREEN: Staff to be aware.

AMBER: Structures strategies to be put in place and carefully monitored.

RED: Crisis thought to be imminent - Situation to be discussed with other agencies - consideration to alternative placement.

21. Risk of absconding

It must be remembered that absconding is not a risk but a behaviour. This risk assessment considers the likelihood and frequency of this happening. Other individual risk assessments will give an indication as to the problems the young person may encounter whilst unsupervised or during a period of absconding.

Low Risk

This describes a young person for whom there is no evidence to suggest that this kind of behaviour is likely.

Medium Risk

This would describe a young person to who this kind of behaviour may have been relevant in the past but has demonstrated that they are making good progress and positive steps towards this issue not being prevalent.

High Risk

This would describe a young person to who it is likely that this issue may be of concern, there have been recent incidents and it is thought that future occurrences are likely.

GREEN: Staff to be aware.

AMBER: Structures strategies to be put in place and carefully monitored.

RED: Crisis thought to be imminent - Situation to be discussed with other agencies - consideration to alternative placement.

22. Miscellaneous/other

Low Risk

This describes a young person for whom there is no evidence to suggest that this kind of behaviour is likely.

Medium Risk

This would describe a young person to who this kind of behaviour may have been relevant in the past but has demonstrated that they are making good progress and positive steps towards this issue not being prevalent.

High Risk

This would describe a young person to who it is likely that this issue may be of concern, there have been recent incidents and it is thought that future occurrences are likely.

GREEN: Staff to be aware.

AMBER: Structures strategies to be put in place and carefully monitored.

RED: Crisis thought to be imminent - Situation to be discussed with other agencies - consideration to alternative placement.