

Advice regarding the implementation of CCYPCCG proposed recommendations

CCYPCCG Final Recommendations	Child Safety Services Actions	Status
<p>1. I recommend that the department provide professional development or training to officers at CSSC, in particular CSO1, in the gathering and recording of information and the level of detail to be included in the CPN. Additional mentoring or training is recommended on the Structured Decision Making (SDM) tools, specifically all harms to be screened and recorded and a detailed rationale for the outcome of these screening processes to be documented.</p>	<p>Intake practice reflection will be provided within the CSSC. Training on Structured Decision Making Procedures and Tools, will be facilitated by the CSSC Senior Practitioner on a date to be fixed in the first half of 2012 and annually thereafter to ensure this practice is maintained, embedded and current.</p>	<p>Commenced</p>
<p>2. I recommend that the Department review and/or develop strategies and procedures implemented at the CSSC for Investigating CSO's when a child discloses abuse being perpetrated by the parent, primary caregiver, or household member.</p>	<p>The Department provides entry level CSO competency based training, regular supervision and ongoing training including, where appropriate ICARE training, which addresses the nature of disclosures.</p>	<p>Complete</p>
<p>3. I recommend that the Department provide professional development or training to officers at the CSSC, in particular CSO2 and the relevant Team Leader (at that time), in relation to the obligation to ensure the child's safety and complete a safety assessment prior to leaving the family home. It is of utmost importance that such mentoring or training emphasizes the need for the investigating CSO to discuss the outcome of the safety assessment has been determined to be unsafe.</p>	<p>Any safety assessment practice reflection will be provided within the CSSC training on Structured Decision Making Procedures and Tools, facilitated by Senior Practitioner on a date to be fixed in the first half of 2012. In addition the subject of timely and continued safety assessments has been discussed at team meetings.</p>	<p>Commenced</p>
<p>4. I recommend that the Department provide professional development or training to relevant officers at the CSSC in the use of SDM tools to improve practice and promote consistent decision making. The mentoring or training should provide the opportunity to reiterate to departmental officers at the CSSC that each assessment must review and document the progress made by the parents</p>	<p>CSSC training on Structured Decision Making Procedures and Tools will be facilitated by the CSSC Senior Practitioner on a date to be fixed in the first half of 2012. The introduction of Practice Panels is being implemented and will also assist in ensuring consistency in decision making.</p>	<p>Commenced</p>

QCPCI

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Exhibit number: 92

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<p>during the intervention period</p>		
<p>5. I recommend that the Department provide professional development or training to officers at the CSSC in relation to the appropriateness of assessment care agreements being undertaken rather than a temporary assessment order.</p>	<p>Court Services have recently provided training to the Bundaberg Management Team and the Training unit also provided training in December 2011 to all staff regarding orders. Additionally the new Practice Panel model being implemented in January 2012 will provide ongoing opportunities for practice and knowledge development to occur for all CSOs and Team Leaders.</p>	<p>Complete</p>
<p>6. I recommend that the Department review and or develop a written explanation of the interim custody process provided to parents to promote their understanding of court proceedings and in particular rulings in relation to interim custodial periods.</p>	<p>Departmental officers provide verbal explanations of court processes on a routine basis. Clients are encouraged to seek legal representation, whose responsibility it is, to inform clients of the court processes and considerations. Further it is also the responsibility of the Magistrate to verbally inform clients regarding their rights and the nature of particular orders or adjournments.</p> <p>The nature of court proceedings are such that they are so diverse that no one written document could deal with all eventualities.</p>	<p>Complete</p>
<p>7. I recommend that the department take steps to ensure that mediation occurs between the mother and departmental officers who will continue to have case management and case decision making responsibility for the child to resolve the impact of previous communication issues on the working relationship between the mother and departmental officers.</p>	<p>The Department considers that mediation is not required in this instance as there are no working relationship issues present in casework that are not anticipated in an environment where a parent is anxious to have reunification occur. A decision was made in December 2011 to transfer this case to a new CSO and Team Leader to demonstrate our commitment to transparency and case management.</p>	<p>Complete</p>
<p>8. I recommend that the department take steps to arrange for the child's psychologist to be consulted to develop an appropriate incremental contact schedule, including milestones/goals to be reached to support contact progressing to unsupervised contact and the mother being given the opportunity to demonstrate appropriate and parenting skills.</p>	<p>The child's psychologist is consulted regularly to provide input as to the child's wishes and needs regarding contact.</p>	<p>Complete</p>
<p>9. I recommend that the department provide training</p>	<p>Case planning reflection will be provided within the</p>	<p>Commenced</p>

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<p>to officers at the CSSC, in particular CSO3 and the relevant Team Leader in the use of SDM tools and formation of comprehensive case plans, based on evidence and underpinned from a strengths based perspective.</p>	<p>context of the CSSC training on Structured Decision Making Procedures and Tools, which will be facilitated by the CSSC Senior Practitioner on a date to be fixed in the first half of 2012 as well as through Practice Panel discussions. Specific officers such as CSO3 and Team Leaders will attend such trainings and Practice Panels.</p>	
<p>10. I recommend that the Department review the current case plan for the child and update it to include more specific actions required of the mother to address outstanding concerns held by departmental officers that indicate the child is at risk of emotional harm</p>	<p>A Review Report was completed on 10 October 2011 which articulates the issues to be addressed and how they are to be addressed.</p>	<p>Complete</p>
<p>11. I recommend that the Department take steps to ensure that individual and joint counselling is undertaken with the mother and the child with the view of establishing a healthy parent-child relationship and to meet the child's attachment needs to the mother, his only living relative willing to care for him.</p>	<p>Joint counselling has been discussed with [redacted] psychologist and will occur in the New Year according to the progress made by [redacted] and the mother in her individual counselling sessions. A separate service has been recommended by [redacted] psychologist to undertake these joint sessions.</p>	<p>Complete</p>
<p>12. I recommend that the department take steps to engage an appropriate therapeutic service to provide support to the mother and the child until it has been assessed by the treating psychologists that goals of therapeutic sessions have been met.</p>	<p>Permanency planning with either reunification to parent or long term out of home care is based on children's needs and their sense of timeliness. Appropriate therapeutic services will be provided to the mother and the child, but these cannot continue indefinitely, if the case plan goals are not reached.</p>	<p>Complete</p>
<p>13. I recommend that the Department take steps to ensure that the child's psychologist inform departmental officers on what form and level of contact is in the child's best interests.</p>	<p>Psychologist continues to provide therapy to [redacted] provides feedback to the Department regarding [redacted] wishes regarding contact and also his professional assessment of [redacted] safety and care needs in relation to contact with his mother.</p>	<p>Complete</p>

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<p>14. I recommend that the Department take steps to ensure that the child's and mother's psychologists articulate how reunification should be progressed and what specific goals the mother would need to achieve before consideration be given to unsupervised contact and/or reunification occurring.</p>	<p>The Department considers all therapeutic input and the child's wishes in decision making regarding the nature of family contact and the processes for sustaining reunification.</p>	<p>Complete</p>
<p>15. I recommend that the Department provide professional development to Team Leader 1 and CSO3 in relation to refraining from making subjective comments to other professionals and if they are going to express an opinion, to ensure the other professionals document contextual information that supports his/her opinion. I also recommend that the Department have a written agreement with report writers specifying interview material obtained from departmental officers must not be transcribed as comments without including the relevant contextual information.</p>	<p>Training regarding how to interact with individuals such as Separate Representatives is provided by Court Services, further, the Child Safety Practice Manual also refers to confidentiality and information sharing provisions. The CSSC will ensure that the importance of report writers being fully aware of their responsibilities will be reflected in practice supervision.</p>	<p>Complete</p>
<p>16. I recommend that the Department provides professional development to Team Leader1 and CSO3 on how to clearly articulate to clients each concern held by the Department, even those concerns that differ from other professionals, such as the treating psychologists or therapist commissioned to undertake a social assessment.</p>	<p>The Department is satisfied that both Team Leader 1 and CSO3 have been reminded of their responsibility to articulate to clients regarding each concern held by the department. No further action is required.</p>	<p>Complete.</p>