10 CORE PRINCIPLES FOR CHILD PROTECTION SUPERVISION

This statement of 10 core principles for child protection supervision has been designed to help agencies consider what needs to be in place to deliver effective child protection supervision, whilst recognising that this support will vary within agencies or organisations.

They are intended to be used as a basis to develop a supervision model or for agencies with supervision models in place, as an aid to quality assure that current systems and practice are fit for purpose.

1 Supervision is a meeting that provides staff with the opportunity to reflect upon their work and decision making in relation to child protection.

2 Each agency should have a written policy for supervision that is known to and used by all staff.

3 The child should remain the focus of the supervision session.

4 All staff should have access to appropriate advice and support to deal with any immediate child protection issues.

5 All appropriate staff should have regular supervision from an identified person to develop their skills to promote best practice.

6 The child protection supervision session should have identified protected time.

7 Supervision should support and reflect the stresses created by child protection work.

8 Supervision will include a focus on the inter-agency aspects of child protection work including the ability to challenge other agencies or professionals.

9 Supervision will be used to identify development and training needs.

10 The over-riding principle for supervision is to promote and maintain best practice, continuously striving to improve it.