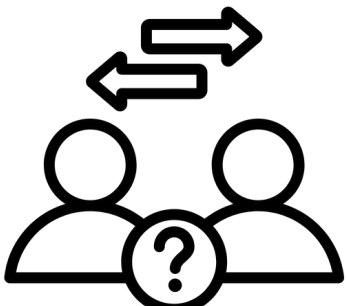


Decision Making Responsibility Expectations in Multi-Agency Meetings

Things to remember:

- Family led, needs led and strengths focused approach.
- The decision must always be in the best interest of the child/ren.
- Be clear on purpose, why are we here?
- All partners at the meeting have a joint and equal responsibility to confidently contribute to and own the decision, there will be different perspectives to consider.
- If there has been difficulty connecting with the family, or the family has not complied, this is **not** a reason to close a case.
- Family members, or the child themselves, should always have an opportunity to contribute.



Child Protection Conferences

Specifically for Child Protection Conferences, our procedures state that the Conference Chair has the authority to veto or override a decision if it most clearly reflects the best interests and wellbeing of the child/ren. Contrary to the majority decision, the Chair may decide to make the child subject to a Child Protection Plan where, in their opinion, the criteria for significant harm are met, or equally decide not to do so. [Child Protection Conference Procedures](#)



SSCP Escalation/Dispute Resolution Procedure

If there is a difference of opinion, including decisions at a multi-agency meeting, and it cannot be resolved at the time, the [SSCP Escalation/Dispute Resolution Procedure](#) should be followed. This also applies if, after some reflection, an attendee decides they no longer agree with a decision.