

Who makes the Decisions following the Recommendations of the Panel?

The Panel recommendations are considered by the Agency Decision Maker. He or she may or may not agree with the recommendations of the Panel. Written notifications of the decision made will be sent to you with 21 days of the Panel.

What happens if the recommendations is not approved?

Where an application by prospective adopters or permanent foster carers has not been approved, the applicants may ask for a review of the decision by writing to the Head of Children's Health Care and Criminal Justice within 28 days of their notification.

The review will be undertaken by a differently constituted Panel or a neighbouring local authority. A decision on the review Panel's recommendation will be made by the Head of Children's Health Care and Criminal Justice.

ADOPTION AND PERMANENCE PANEL INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS



Introduction

West Dunbartonshire Health and Social Care Partnership Adoption and Permanence Panel gives consideration to and makes recommendations on all aspects of adoption and permanent care which relate to decisions about children and applicants.

The Primary functions of the Panel are to consider and recommend to the Local Authority:

A Plan for permanence for a child

- Whether adoption is in the best interests of a child
- Whether an application for a permanence order is in the best interests of a child
- Whether a prospective adopter or permanent foster carer should be approved
- Whether a prospective adopter or permanent foster carer is suitable for a particular child or children for whom a permanency plan has been agreed.

Where and when is the Panel held?

You will be notified by letter where the Panel meeting is held.

Tel No: 01389 776414

The Panel usually meets on the last Monday of each month. Each presentation takes approximately one hour.

What is the membership of the Panel?

There is a pool of panel members from within Health and Social Care Partnership. The Panel is also supported by a legal adviser and medical adviser.

Who attends the Panel?

A copy of the report will have been sent to Panel members in advance of the meeting. You will have contributed to the report and will have read and signed it. Your assessing social worker will attend to present your application.

You are invited and encouraged to attend part of the meeting. It can be helpful for both the Panel and applicants to meet each other. It lets you and the Panel members ask any questions you may have of each other.

What Recommendations can the Panel make?

The Panel can make one of three recommendations:

To agree with the recommendations in the reports submitted

To disagree with the recommendations in the reports submitted

To defer a recommendation until further information is provided

The Social Workers will normally be present when the recommendation is made. The applicants should be informed verbally of the recommendation of the Panel.