

## What Recommendations can the Panel make?

### The Panel can make one of three recommendations:

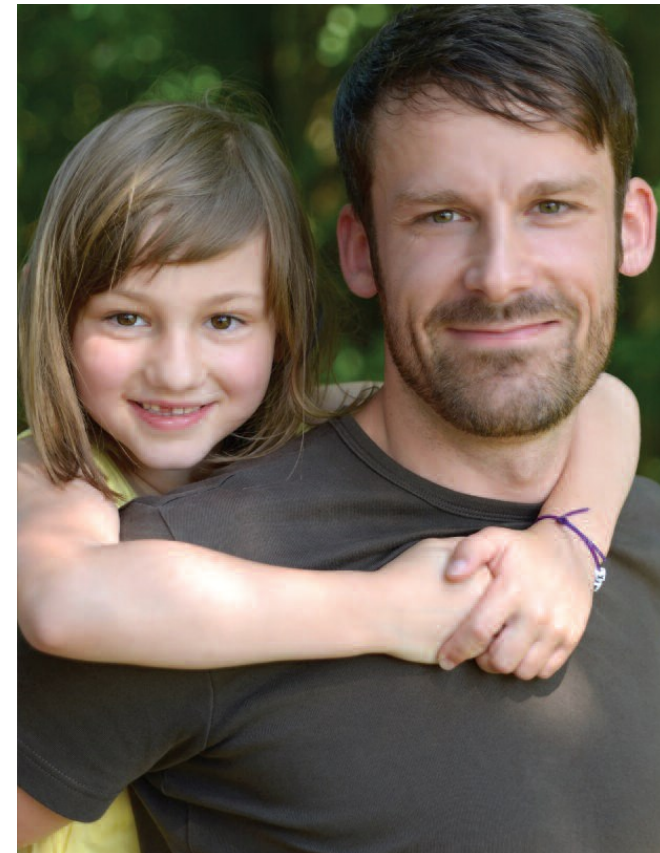
- To agree with the recommendations in the reports submitted
- To disagree with the recommendations in the reports submitted
- To defer a recommendation until further information is provided

## 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 within 21 days of the Panel.

## ADOPTION AND PERMANENCE PANEL INFORMATION FOR PARENTS



## **Introduction**

West Dunbartonshire Health and Social Care Partnership Adoption and Permanence Panel is different and separate from the Children's Hearing System. It considers plans proposed by Social Workers, which would mean that a child in foster care or residential care would not return to the care of his or her family .

This is such an important decision to make that Social Care and Health is required to seek the views of an independent panel of people, appointed by West Dunbartonshire Health and Social Care Partnership.

## **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. Your child's Social Worker will ensure you are aware of the contents and record your views. Your child's Social Worker and Senior Social Worker will attend to present information about your child's needs and circumstances.

Panel members must take account of the views of the child when making recommendations about a permanence plan. Generally, the child will not be in attendance and his/her view will be represented by the Social Worker and foster carer or residential worker. There may be circumstances where it is appropriate for an older child to attend part of the Panel or to make his/her views known in writing.

## **Birth Parent Meeting**

Panel members will want to hear from you about your views on what would be the best way to plan for your child's future security and well-being. You will be invited to meet with a member of the Adoption Team who has not been involved in your child's case usually the week before the Panel. You are welcome to invite a family member or friend to accompany you for personal support. You can also put your view in writing.

The purpose of this meeting is to gather your views which will be presented at the Panel. It is also to ensure the child knows that, whatever decision are made in their lives, their parents were consulted and their views heard.