
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2002 No. 57

The Fostering Services Regulations 2002

PART III

CONDUCT OF FOSTERING SERVICES

Arrangements for the protection of children

- 12.**—(1) The fostering service provider shall prepare and implement a written policy which—
- (a) is intended to safeguard children placed with foster parents from abuse or neglect; and
 - (b) sets out the procedure to be followed in the event of any allegation of abuse or neglect.
- (2) The procedure under paragraph (1)(b) shall, subject to paragraph (3), provide in particular for—
- (a) liaison and co-operation with any local authority which is, or may be, making child protection enquiries in relation to any child placed by the fostering service provider;
 - (b) the prompt referral to the area authority of any allegation of abuse or neglect affecting any child placed by the fostering service provider;
 - (c) notification of the instigation and outcome of any child protection enquiries involving a child placed by the fostering service provider, to the Commission;
 - (d) written records to be kept of any allegation of abuse or neglect, and of the action taken in response;
 - (e) consideration to be given to the measures which may be necessary to protect children placed with foster parents following an allegation of abuse or neglect; and
 - (f) arrangements to be made for persons working for the purposes of a fostering service, foster parents and children placed by the fostering service, to have access to information which would enable them to contact—
 - (i) the area authority; and
 - (ii) the Commission,regarding any concern about child welfare or safety.
- (3) Sub-paragraphs (a), (c) and (f)(i) of paragraph (2) do not apply to a local authority fostering service.
- (4) In this regulation “child protection enquiries” means any enquiries carried out by a local authority in the exercise of any of its functions conferred by or under the 1989 Act relating to the protection of children.