



Example Analysis Statement for Court

Author's Initial and Surname:

Number of Statement:

Date filed:

On behalf of: Knowsley Borough Council

Case No.:

**FINAL SOCIAL WORK
STATEMENT OF EVIDENCE**

Name of Proceedings: Knowsley Borough Council – v –

Court:

Statement made by:

Status: Social Worker

This statement dated consisting of pages signed by me is true to the best of my knowledge and belief. I make it understanding that it may be placed before the Court.

Signed:

Dated:

Office Address:

This Statement has been prepared for the Court. It will be disclosed to the parties and their legal representatives, but should not be shown to any other person without leave of the Court.
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1.0 **Introduction**

1.1 My name is, I am a social worker within Children's Social Care within the.....

1.2 I gained a Master of Arts degree in Social Work in September 2011, having previously completed a Bachelor of Arts degree in Childhood and Youth Studies and Social Work Studies in July 2007. I have also gained an NVQ Level 3 in Health and Social Care: Children and Young People in August 2009.

1.3 I have been employed by Knowsley Borough Council since 2nd April 2012 as a Social Worker. Prior to my appointment as a Social Worker I was employed as a Residential Support Worker working with young people with challenging behaviours. During my studies I have had experience working with Home Start and Cafcass. My experience working with children and families is wide. During my experience I have accessed numerous courses all related to my profession and my practice.

1.4 I have been working with thefamily since the 6th June 2013 as L's allocated Social Worker. During my case management, I have completed statutory duties for L as a child in care and liaised with all professionals involved in order to plan for permanency for L.

1.5 This statement will address the placement options for the child and an analysis of the benefits and disadvantages to the child of such placement options. This statement is prepared in accordance with Re BS. Application has been made by Knowsley Borough Council for a Care Order and Placement Order in respect of L. This statement will address the four care

planning options available to the court which are rehabilitation to parents, long term foster care, Special Guardianship and adoption.

2.0 Rehabilitation to parents

Benefits	Risks	Outcome
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • L will have the opportunity to live with his family. • L will be able to maintain his family links. • Parents clearly love L and have fully committed to contact and transport arrangements. • Ms B has engaged in the Gateway course. • Mr. B has been engaging with probation. • Parents housing conditions are reasonable and they moved to a two bedroom property to cater for L. • Parents have demonstrated their ability to meet L's basic needs at this age. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Historical involvement with the Local Authority leading to three older children being removed from parents' care. • Long history of domestic violence. Since the previous care proceedings (January 2011) there have been 14 CAVAs involving Mr.B and 5 CAVAs involving Ms B. • History of drug misuse. The parents have been unable to address their drug use both within the pre proceedings process and during the course of the proceedings. • Non accidental injury of L. • Mr.B has a history of offending behaviour. • Mr.B continues to be involved in offending behaviour and is currently subject to a 5 year ASBO (dated Summer 2012). • Mr. B's brothers pose a significant risk to L and Mr.B has not shown enough evidence to suggest he can prioritise L over his brothers. • Controlling nature of their relationship and Mr. B's views and 	<p>The extensive risks highlight that there is considerable concern that has the potential to compromise L's safety and stability if he were to return to his parents' care. There is a high likelihood he will return to the Care System but older and having suffered harm impacting upon his attachment style</p>

	<p>interactions with females.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stability of the parent's relationship. • Both parents' childhoods have had a significant impact on their ability to parent L. Ms B clearly has struggled to deal with past issues. • Parents are isolated from appropriate family support. • The older children have expressed great concern of L's safety if he were to return home to their parents. • The older children are displaying concerning behaviours and making disclosures about the abuse they experienced whilst in their parents care. • Mr.B becomes agitated easily. • Recently Mr.B has refused to communicate with the female foster carer and has become agitated with female contact workers. • There are concerns regarding Mr. B's mental health. • Concerns regarding Ms B's ability to meet L's needs as he becomes older. 	
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3.0 Long term foster care

Benefits	Risks	Outcome
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • L will be safe from significant harm. • L will be able to 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • L would remain a looked after child until he is 18 years old and 	L is a young baby that needs permanency and has a right to family life.

<p>maintain his family links through direct contact with parents and two older siblings which will maintain his identity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allows some form of permanency for L. 	<p>or leaves full time education.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • L would not have direct contact with older sibling, Leona and he will miss the opportunity to be placed with her. • L may be subjected to placement moves – placement breakdown. • Parent's contacts with the older children have been negative and recently reduced. • Does not give L the permanency he requires. • L will not have that sense of belonging to a family and be a full member of a family. 	<p>Long-term foster care can offer L some permanency but with the added risks of placement moves. It would be unfair for L to have such an extensive period of time as a looked after child.</p>
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4.0 Adoption

Benefits	Risks	Outcome
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • L will be safe from significant harm. • Gives L permanency and a sense of belonging to a family. • L will become a full member of a family. • L will have the opportunity to form secure and lasting attachments. • L will no longer be a looked after child. • L has the opportunity to be placed with his older sibling, L because her adopters are open to take L. • L has a right to family life. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Placement breakdown. • Limited contact with parents and older two siblings. 	<p>L will remain safe from harm and will gain that sense of belonging to a family that he requires and has a right to.</p>

5.0 The Fourth option open to the Court to consider is special guardianship, unfortunately there is nobody seeking to be considered as a special guardian for L and as such this is not a viable option.

6.0 Analysis

6.1 The Local Authority has considered all four options, rehabilitation, long-term foster care, special guardianship and adoption for L. The extensive risks highlight that there is considerable concern that has the potential to compromise L's safety and stability if he were to return to his parents' care. There are significant concerns in relation to parents being able to prioritise L's emotional needs over their own issues presented from their own childhoods, instability in parent's relationship, issues of control, Mr. B's continuing negative view of females, Mr. B's unaddressed mental health and presentation, and Mr. B's offending behaviour, which outweigh the benefits of L returning to his parents care. Parents have been assessed by an independent social worker using a PAMS assessment which also concluded as a negative assessment and that L would be at risk of harm if he returned to his parents' care. The Children's Guardian has also come to the same conclusion. L is too young to be placed in long term foster care for such an extensive period of time and he requires a placement that offers him permanency and where his right to family life is honoured.