

## **Child Protection Chairs authority to overrule the decision in Child protection Conferences.**

**04/06/2020**

**NB In exceptional circumstances the Chair of the Child Protection Conference, in their role as independent Chair who has statutory responsibility for safeguarding the child(ren) , can formally change the decision that conference members have made regarding the threshold for a child protection plan.**

**Exceptional circumstances will include where no agreement can be reached within conference and with due regard for threshold or where the Chair believes that there is a safeguarding need to override the majority or consensus view of the members of the conference in relation to making a child(ren) subject of a Child Protection Plan.**

**This decision should be based on their assessment of risk for the individual child(ren) involved and the rationale for the Chair's decision should be clearly recorded in the Conference minutes. Professionals are able to formally dissent against this ruling, which must be recorded on the Conference minutes. Any decision by the Chair to change the conference decision should be formally notified to the Director of Children's Social Work, the Service Manager and the Team Manager for Quality Assurance & Review Service within 2 working days of the decision. The Team Manager for Quality Assurance & Review Service will review the decision and determine whether there is a need to reconvene the Child Protection Conference or whether the decision should stand.**